

The Means to Get To the



the Gospel Czech People

Visa

We got our response from the Czech government, and our visas were denied again. This was no surprise. I was denied because the government felt that the student visa was false pretense since I had already stated that I am there for church planting. They accused me of only choosing an accredited course because I could get a student visa and said that there were other intensive courses available. I had told them in the interview that the course we are in was the only intensive one that I could find. The thing is, there are others that call themselves intensive, but they are not 5 days/week and fall short of what intensive really means. Lisa was denied because they said that she had talked about continuing with history, but that now she is doing English for Education. Honestly, we have no idea what they are talking about with the history as a future for Lisa. While I would love to defend ourselves to them face-to-face, there is no point or opportunity. So, now we are moving forward with our next application. On the 30th we had a meeting with the new immigration attorney that we are using and things seem to be more hopeful for the next application.

Life

So, life was certainly interesting in April. I went to Vsetin for a weekend trip for an evangelism workshop, and when I came back Lisa had a bad headache from getting bumped on the back of her head. She did not get better after being in bed for a couple days, so, on Tuesday she made an appointment with a neurologist. The neurologist sent her for scans at the hospital. Her appointment at the neurologist was at 11am, and by the time that we got home it was 11pm. The hospital wanted her to get more tests, but the test required her to be admitted to the hospital. There were no beds available, so we were sent home with an appointment to come back Thursday morning at 8. The paperwork said that she should be there 8-12. However, first the doctors disagreed with the 2nd one and changed to a different set of tests. They wanted MRIs of the neck and spine and she just had to lie in bed in the hospital and wait. The next Wednesday and Friday she finally had her scans, but doctors don't work on weekends. On Monday, the radiologists had not gotten a report to the doctors and so she had to wait for Tuesday to get released. That was 2 weeks later and 13 days in the hospital for them to do a CT and 2 MRIs, then tell her that because she is on a tourist visa that they would not treat her for anything anyhow and that the scans are probably never going to be shared with another doctor. At this point there is no continuing work for what they found and the typed results, instead of the scans will get sent to her neurologist in America to double check.

To make this more frustrating, we had to head out of the EU for a week so that Makayla would have enough time left on the tourist visa for things that she needed to be physically present for at the end of the year. Our tickets were purchased for Tuesday. Lisa and Makayla had seats together, then I had a separate ticket with a checked bag. With Lisa still in the hospital, we had to head to Albania. It was a great blessing to find out that my randomly assigned seat was right next to Makayla! We were also very thankful for the friends that we have in Brno. A family from Africa that we met visited Lisa a couple of times, and other friends of ours came on Tuesday to check on her just as she was getting released. That was great because she had a ride home, but also could use them as translators for the hospital bills and how to get insurance to work. It turns out that the insurance company likes to make things hard on foreigners and we had to pay the hospital bill and the insurance company will reimburse us if they decide to. Lisa was able to submit the paperwork to the insurance office and they said that a decision would be made in 3 months.

While this has been a pretty negative letter, not all is bad. First, as weather is improving, we have been able to get out and see more people and witness. There was an event in a park near our house (I think that it was Earth Day or something) and we were able to have a few conversations with people. Makayla and I came back with sunburns after spending an hour talking with a young lady who was studying on the grass. There have been no decisions from any of these, but we trust that the seed sown glorifies God. Also, we were able to get an apartment rented in Albania for ~\$260/month. We are going to be helping Kirk and Bonnie King as they seek to plant a church in Fier. They returned from a furlough just before us and were able to arrange an apartment for us. We had to stay one night in a hotel (\$30) before getting into our apartment. The family is finally back together and we are looking forward to being able to partner with the Kings to flier the city. Unlike in the Czech Republic, you can get to people's doors here to distribute literature, and the plan is to get a flier on every door.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We could not be here without you all.

Prayer Requests

- * Steele's medical treatment
- * Visas process
- * Outreach Efforts
- * Salvation of Daniela, Igor, Ivana, Helena, and Marek

Sending Church
Trinity Baptist Church
Big Spring, TX 79720
tbcbigspring.com
Pastor Scott Kirkland

Contact Information
www.meanstoczechia.com
nathan@meanstoczechia.com
(970) 232-8559
f Means to get the Gospel to Czechia