



Sýkoras in Slovakia

Newsletter May 2009; FM Missionaries Europe

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Josef's Ordination & PhD: We are so pleased to announce two exciting new events for



Josef! He was ordained a minister in the Cirkev Bratska church last week at the Czech/Slovak annual conference. This was a very meaningful time, as Josef had to write a thesis and go through interviews to be ordained, as well as prayerfully consider if this was God's will for him. We are also thankful for another answer to prayer: Josef was accepted to pursue post-graduate studies at Durham University (England), studying under OT professor Dr. Walter Moberly. This will be a 6 year process of studying part-time, from a distance, while working full-time and being

daddy and hubby. It is exciting and daunting! Pictured here are Dr. Carl and Betsy Armading, who helped Josef begin his theological studies about 10 years ago! They happened to be visiting the week we got the PhD news!



Welcome to Dick and Sheila Dickinson who are, as of a few weeks ago, now serving as missionaries in Oostende, Belgium. They are working alongside our church leaders, to encourage and guide them in the church planting effort there. Pray for their adjustment to Belgian culture and the language and as they jump into a busy ministry. (Read more at fmwm.org)

FM Carpathian Basin Retreat in Romania, March 2009:

About 50 members and friends of our FM fellowships in Gyor and Budapest, Hungary; Rivne, Ukraine; and Arad, Romania, gathered in Romania for a weekend conference in March. They were there to learn more about the Lord and how to grow in their faith as well as enjoy the fellowship of fellow Christians and the beauty of Romania. Josef was privileged to be the teacher for the weekend, focusing on using the Psalms as prayers for real people-or rather help when life gets messy. Here, Josef is joining one of the group discussions, with Hungarian friend, Sandor. Josef was also pleased that Adam, one of the youth leaders in our Bratislava church, was able to go to Romania with him. He was a great support for Josef and it was a good time for them to deepen their friendship. Below is the group photo!





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Group photo of Carpathian Basin Retreat, March 2009, Romania

Lynette's Counseling Work: It has been a busy couple of months with counseling, but I am wrapping things up now, before our little one is born. I am thankful for the opportunities I have had to counsel various people, both here in Bratislava and abroad, and it is encouraging to see the Lord's work in their lives. Please pray for the people (even though you don't know who they are!) that I have counseled recently, that God would continue their process of healing and lead them to others who can be "friends for the journey."

Prayer & Praise – *Thank you for praying for us and for the work in Europe!*

- ◆ **Pray for our FM fellowships in Hungary, Ukraine and Romania. Missionaries working here are: Larry & Katie Winckles, Jerry and Jan Coleman, Julie Allman, Greg and Brenda Hendrick, Scott and Paula Dunn with kids Stephen and Lydia, Sykoras, and VISA missionaries Spencer and Lynsey Ball.**
- ◆ **Pray for Josef as he steps deeper into the work and calling of a pastor and begins PhD.**
- ◆ **Pray for the Dickinsons, as they adjust to life in Belgium!**
- ◆ **Praise the Lord that Lynette's pregnancy is going well and the baby has a healthy 6 pounds as we enter the final two weeks! Please pray for the birth to go well, to be natural and for mom and baby to be healthy!**

Thank you, friends, for your prayers, for your love for us, for being part of our work here. Thank for you lifting up these concerns to the Father. We thank God for you. May you have a blessed summer! We will let you know how the birth goes, of course, but may not get a real newsletter out for a little while.

*In His embrace,
Josef, Lynette, Simon and baby Sykora*

Psalm 139-We think of this verse as we consider the creation of our new baby, but we are all fearfully and wonderfully made by our Father! And no matter where we are, how far we go, even there, His hand will guide us.