



## Lockdown Roller Coaster

A couple weeks after the nation-wide Covid-19 testing took place here in Slovakia, the cases went down and the government lifted some of the restrictions. Bratislava International Fellowship (BIF) has been meeting in person again the past couple of weeks. We are required to space out our chairs and everyone must still wear masks, but no one cares – we are all just happy to be back together! And yet, as we write this newsletter, the government of Slovakia is poised to impose stricter lockdowns in December. We are praying for wisdom on how to move forward accordingly, and we are thankful for a strong team that can respond in person or online!

## Thanksgiving 2020 – Not Our Favorite

We have always celebrated Thanksgiving with all the traditional food, and plenty of family. This year, however, 2020 crashed the party and we ended up having pizza – just the two of us. It wasn't the worst thing to happen of course, and we actually could have prepared a traditional meal, but somehow we couldn't muster up the motivation to make it happen. Our kids and their families were all together in the USA, so we FaceTimed, got lots of pictures and videos, and actually felt like we experienced a virtual Thanksgiving. So 2020, right?!

## EHS Study with Young Life Europe Leaders



In November we began the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course (online) with a group of Young Life leaders from the Czech Republic and Scotland. You may recall that we had taught English at a couple of Young Life camps in Czech this past summer. During our time there, we had a conversation with a couple of the leaders about doing the EHS discipleship course with BIF, and how much the Lord had used it to minister to all of us. So when these Young Life leaders reached out and asked us to lead it for them as well, we were honored! Now half way through the course, we are so enjoying our time with them!

They are all amazing in their transparency and desire to go deeper with the Lord. Zoom & 2020, what a combo!

## Care Cluster Initiative for FMI Europe Has Begun

Speaking of virtual meetings, our FMI Europe Care Cluster groups have taken off! The leaders are reaching out to those in their groups and are making connections. All is going well, and with time, greater communication and trust will be built. We are so thankful for all the different ways we are able to communicate with one another, helping to facilitate care and the feeling that no one is alone. Merry Christmas and love from Slovakia!

Gary & Joy

Gary & Joy Peiss

Serving Missionaries, Church Planters, & Pastors in Europe

[www.podpora.europa.org](http://www.podpora.europa.org)

