

June 24<sup>th</sup>

Today is our last day with the youth here. On our first day of lessons and games with them it was interesting to see how they would react and interact with us. They seemed pretty comfortable. I think all of them have really enjoyed us being here. We started out the week with about 30 youth and I really think we are going to end the week here with the same 30 youth that started. It has been so good to see them come back day after day. I know I'm going to miss them. Even though we haven't been here that long we've made a very close bond with them. Some of them even have facebook, so we will try our best to keep in touch. Liz and I were talking with some of the girls yesterday and all of them said they would definitely come back next year if we did this again, which was very good to hear.

When we are teaching the lessons they listen so well and they have been participating more and trying to answer the questions we are asking. They really like to hang out with us and do what we are doing, which makes it so much fun. They have been really receptive to everything thing we have been doing, even all the crafts. Everyone including the guys here are really excited to try these new things. It's also been really good to see the majority of them participating in the games we've been teaching them. I think they really like football. So I'm not worried that they won't like kickball, which is the game they'll be learning today. They are so much fun to be with and I'm so happy that we've had this opportunity to be with these kids and teach them the word of the Lord.

We have also had a good time experiencing Lithuanian life. I have had many interesting experiences in a foreign country. Seeing all the people here, we see that there are many similarities but also many differences. They have been very kind and welcoming to us. I didn't realize I would have so much difficulty trying to figure things out like how to flush the toilet! But I am learning.

June 19<sup>th</sup>

We are here and it's been an amazing time! My first plane ride was definitely an experience I'm going to remember. When we first left from Detroit to Chicago everything was great! Then of course when we were landing in Denmark my motion sickness won and all I had was an empty coffee cup. I finally had to let Pastor know I was not doing so well and he was kind of enough to hold my now full coffee cup (which did not have coffee in it, well it did but with other things as well) as I was given a new bag. I will most certainly be prepared for our next flight.

When we finally arrived in Lithuania we got off the plane and onto a bus which drove us about 10 feet to the tiny building. We got through passport security extremely fast (because there was no one there) and found out our luggage had not arrived. Arriving at the hotel made up for it though because standing at the entrance were some of the youth whom we will be teaching very soon.

So far it's been very fun, amazing, and also tiring. We have an excursion planned for tomorrow and we have to leave early. I'm looking forward to it, but I can't wait until Sunday when we are with the youth again.

-Christa