

May 19, 2005
Olson May Mission Moments

Dear Friends of the work in Kazakhstan:

Sometimes the wheels of progress seem to turn veeeeeeeeeeeeery slow. When they do finally move, it is time to rejoice. In our case, we are rejoicing because we have FINALLY received approval to trim the trees in front of the office. How long did the process take? Two years!!! At times we were tempted to do the trimming without getting "official" permission, but it was decided after discussing the issue with our mission staff that doing so would not be a good Christian witness. It is against the law to trim trees that are on public property without receiving an "official" letter granting permission to do so. We now have a letter in our files from the proper authorities to proceed. We thank the Lord for the diligence, patience and Christian witness exhibited by our staff in obtaining the permission.

As for an update on the prosecutor's visit, we have no further news since they have not contacted the office. In the meantime the mission attorney continues to try and finalize the paperwork for the legalization of the second floor. One blessing in this process is that the missing "akt" has been located and only a few signatures are needed to finalize everything. We ask for your prayers that this can be accomplished in a timely manner and without requests for bribe money.

We have a couple of Laborers for Christ arriving this week. They will be here to evaluate the various mission and ELC sites to determine what additions and modifications might be made to enable them to be used in a more effective manner for ministry purposes. We ask that you keep the ELC leadership, Laborers for Christ and us in your prayers as we will be working closely to evaluate the project possibilities.

After having been to the Eurasia missionary retreat in Germany for a few days we returned to a lush, green city--(remember that Almaty is called a "green city"). Although we seem to be getting accustomed to the "natural" look in many of the parks we still have an appreciation for the carefully manicured lawns we see in some areas of the city. Everywhere one goes there are flowers blooming and trees and bushes in full color. These are all positive reminders to us of the beauty of God's creation. We hope that you also find the beauty of God's creation uplifting to you in your part of the world.

Thank you once again for your continued support, encouragement and prayers!

Friends from Kazakhstan,
Morris and Jean Olson
Serving in Almaty, Kazakhstan
LCMS World Missions
www.lcmsworldmission.org

