

## THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT APRIL 2010

With love and appreciation we send you another special bi-monthly E-mail Prayer & Praise Report (E-PPR) about Czech and Slovak ministry: WE ASKED—YOU PRAYED—HE ANSWERED:

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)

Dear Friends and Partners of the HCJB Global Ministry To the Peoples in Czech and Slovak Republics

### Spring is here

After seven weeks we are back home. We arrived into guarded Prague two hours after Air Force 1 landed with president Obama. Together with the Russian president Medvedev they met at Prague's castle to sign a nuclear arms reduction bill. We are sure that you saw the lovely panorama of the city during the news reports concerning this event. Police and Special Forces were making sure that the safety of the two world leaders was provided. A number of streets were closed and regular traffic was collapsing. Fortunately we live between the airport and the castle, so we could get home without any problem.

#### Full speed ahead

The same evening we arrived home Klara had a homeowners board meeting. The next day, we hardly unpacked our suitcases; our dear Chinese friend from Houston arrived. Instead of catching up from our jet-lag, we toured the city. Sunday, after a warm welcome from our church, Pavel was preaching in Řevnice, about 20 miles outside Prague. Monday we had family dinner, Tuesday Pavel visited our ailing pastor, Wednesday regular Bible study ... and from day one Pavel worked on restoration of our failed e-mail service. Now we are back to normal – writing, translating, teaching, preaching, serving and expanding our IT department ...

On April 10, the world was shocked by the news about death of the Polish President Lech Kaczyński, his wife, leading politicians and senior military officers who perished when their plane crashed in Smolensk (Russia). They all were flying to attend the 70th anniversary of the mass murder of 22,000 Polish soldiers and intelligentsia in 1940 at Katyn Forest by the Soviets. This event was never mentioned in any text books and should not be forgotten. To read more you can check Wikipedia "Katyn massacre". Andrzej Wajda's film "Katyn" is a powerful testimony about the Soviet slaughter of thousands of Polish officers and intelligentsia in the Katyn forest. It is rated with seven stars and is worth seeing. It is powerful story of betrayals and only the last part and the closing scenes are gory. For overall understanding of world events, this incident is as important as knowing about the Holocaust. Most of the world leaders were scheduled to attend the burial ceremony in Krakow; however the plane crash cancelled those plans for many.

One week after our return most of Europe's airspace has been closed for days due to a sprawling ash cloud from an Icelandic volcano, keeping many continental and trans-Atlantic flights grounded. All related services, such as airmail, cargo, business travel flying and tourist destinations are affected. All this will have a major economic impact on airlines and other business. As usual we can expect temporary shortages and rising summer prices. It might take weeks before things return to normal. Once again we can see how vulnerable our existence is.

#### Spiritual experience...

Our son Vit is an avid skydiver and for some years he has told me that he will pay for my "tandem jump." A tandem jump is where you skydive while attached to an instructor or experienced skydiver. I was successfully avoiding the opportunity, but this time Vit came to see us in Phoenix and had the plan to do some jumping. This was my opportunity. Our hosting lady was enthusiastic about the whole matter so I could hardly back out. As you can see—I did it!— and it was the greatest thing to say "yes." After it was all over I could relate

spiritually to every step of that special day. At the time we joined HCJB Global and made the decision to leave regular jobs, I have many times related joining the mission to the feeling of putting on a parachute and waiting for when it will open. Now I can say that the actual jump describes that decision much better. This is a true step of faith and as my brother-in-law said, "Now you are truly reborn." Before anyone can jump, he or she is informed about all dangers. The best place to jump in the U.S. is Eloy, Arizona (follow me). Actually reading the six-page-long contracts and signing each paragraph separately stating that you understand all consequences of this hazardous decision is done with trembling heart (count the cost). Next comes harnessing into the jump suit, boarding a tram taking us to the plane, boarding the plane and while rising to the 13,000 ft altitude comes the attaching of your harness with the harness of the instructor. (Trust me, I will never leave you). The next moment is this gigantic plane opening and vast space above, in front and below. There is nothing to reach for or hold on to. Free fall descent is an incredible and turbulent sensation (I am with you always). Then with a jerk the parachute opens and the harness on the lower part is partially released. Suddenly all is guiet and gliding through the air is wonderful. This is how close we should be to our Lord – sharing together one harness. My security was of course in His hands; however my life was in the hands of the instructor. The experience of totally surrendering my will, absolute obedience, trust and reliance on someone else is awesome. I could not see anyone in front of me. My total contribution to safe landing was lifting my legs up to land on my butt. See it live - click on:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK4Ia8EmzHA&feature=player\_embedded



### What is behind and ahead of us?

On April 17, we had our 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. It is time to praise the Lord that He gave us two godly sons and even four grandchildren who are raised in a godly family. It is overwhelming to realize that even before the foundation of the world He knew how He would use us.

We are looking forward to attending the annual HCJB Global conference in June. This time it is not going to be in the next-door Germany or Switzerland but in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. We are looking forward to again meeting our new President and also meeting for the first time the new HCJB Global director for this region. We are planning to drive and visit several friends along the way.

# **Praises and Prayer Request**

- Ø Our thanks belong to the Carl's our hosts and church in Phoenix which provided a rental car for us.
- Ø Love and words of encouragement from all our supporting churches and individuals in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff.
- Ø For increased support from El Camino Church.
- Ø Precious time with our son in Arizona is an unforgettable event.
- Ø Our time with grandchildren during Easter week was great.
- Ø For flawless ministry progress while we were away. It looks like we have a busy year ahead.
- Ø Praises for 8 years of radio ministry in Slovakia. Milan is searching for a new moderator. Also training of new moderators will be done in cooperation with Trans World Radio.
- Ø Preparation for next January mini-theological conference is "under construction".

Thanks for your faithfulness, understanding and love. In His precious name,

Your HCJB Global Voice missionaries in Czech and Slovak Republic With love and appreciation, Klara and Pavel Steiger

