

THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT July 2013

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:

Our dear friends and partners,

AND THE GATES OF HEAVEN OPENED

...it rained and rained for 40 days. That's how it looked most of the May and June. Flood waters increased and once again, as in 2002 and in 2005, many places were swept by waters, infrastructure damage paralyzed the country, the subway system in Prague was shut down, many places had to be evacuated, schools were closed, and power and water service were down in many places. Neighboring countries were under water as well. As the critical situation was watched by the whole country, most of us realized that we cannot do one thing about it. When the rain temporarily stopped and sun showed its face after days of darkness, water was still rising. Cascades of dams are releasing water to prevent overflow or break. With every rain, hail and storm people around rivers are holding their breath. The town of Lovosice, where our daughter-in-law's mother lives, looked like this:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aD5HYMh9THs

We praise the Lord that she lives in higher land and was not affected. However, her work place was totally under water. Also, almost all places we visited and traveled to with our grandchildren in April, like Dresden and Meissen were yet on dry land; later they were under water as well as much of central Europe: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crGaszAiCp0

Even Prague's wonderful ZOO we enjoyed so much with grandkids was flooded and animals from lower parts had to be evacuated to upper elevation:

https://www.google.cz/search?q=povode%C5%88+pra%C5%BEsk%C3%A1+zoo &tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=oG_VUb7NJYKu4QSAl4GgBA&ved=0CGI QsAQ&biw=1920&bih=889

It looks as if there is no end to weather and natural disasters related events here or in the USA. Colorado Springs was battling the serious Black forest fire and lost more than 500 homes. Extreme heat in Arizona and the resulting fires caused the deaths of a whole unit of firefighters, along with more health issues of close friends which changed lives unexpectedly. No wonder that we should pray without ceasing.

TURBULENT SUMMER

For days we were following flood reports and from day to day the country was hit by another event, possibly worse than natural disaster. Several top governmental personalities were arrested and are under investigation. The corruption and rampant diversion of funds from State and European Union redistribution of funds is too tempting to resist. This could not happen during the communist era, however after more than 20 years of democracy, fallen human nature is as vulnerable to sin and failure as ever before. Socialists and communists are ready to play a major role in the future. Since the last election we now have socialist president who is a chain smoker and heavy drinker. The Czech prime minister, known for his Christian stand, has just recently divorced his wife and left four children. It is a pitiful example of a man who lost his political position as well as personal credibility. How descriptive are the words from Proverbs 7:22-23. In the middle of this political crisis came a record tropical heat wave, with Arizona-like temperatures. And more rain and flooding followed after a few days of this. By May 17th we had only 80 hours of cloudless sky since January 1. The previous year it was 417 hours.

Another dark cloud appeared on the sky just before the fall of our government. Finally, the Church's restitution issue was settled. As a result of that, we see a very strange monetary unity rather than spiritual church unity across all denominations. We are thankful for exceptions such as the Baptists and a few others who gave up any State financial restitutions. Worldly "godfathers" call something like that "carving the bear."

THREE IN ONE

In one week we met three key people who stood with us at the beginning of our ministry. Jaroslav and Alena Reznicek from Denver sent Pavel's first book to Trans World Radio to Ota Vozeh, and Ota contacted Pavel to create radio programs. That's how Pavel from Jakarta started broadcasting in 1987. We have continued to cooperate with TWR since that time. Ota was the key speaker at recent Pastoral conference we attended with our ministry group. After more than 20 years of Czech and Slovak ministries, at least half of the attendees were people we know from our first years of ministry. We are happy to report that a new generation of pastors and servants is assuming their responsibility. We cannot stress enough how important it is to build relationships. The best earthly investment is in people. Faithfulness, patience and diligence always pay off. At this time we all are looking toward the 5th Winter Conference in Brno.

"CZECH PARADISE" LAND

This was the place where we met with a group of Brno Christians. Český ráj is a beautiful recreational area about 50 miles from our home. It is a perfect place for hiking, visiting numerous castles and the opportunity to admire natural wonders. One of the highlights was the castle Sychrov, which previously belonged to French aristocrats exiled by the French Revolution who decided to stay in the Austrian Empire. The 125-year-long ownership by the Rohans proved to be the most important in the castle's history. The castle was confiscated by the state in 1945. What an irony, since to this day on all door knobs is the Latin inscription: "It is better to be dead than to live dishonestly."

<u>https://www.google.cz/search?q=sychrov+castle&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&s</u> a=X&ei=e0vJUYe MKjg4QTx64HYCA&ved=0CFAQsAQ&biw=1706&bih=882

Enjoy the mild country side of the Český ráj – Bohemian Paradise:

https://www.google.cz/search?q=cesk%C3%BD+r%C3%A1j+fotogalerie&tbm=isch &tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=NnXVUbmFE86O7AasmYHICA&ved=0CHsQsAQ&b iw=1920&bih=889

ANOTHER SITE IT'S A MUST TO ENJOY

Beauty and rich Christian and Jewish history in Czech Republic is amazing: <u>http://www.magni.cz/en/history/video.html</u>

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Recently we attended a benefit concert of a Czech choir from Slovakia. There we met in person with founder of the Chamakoko project in Paraguay. To share this unbelievable story as short as possible it goes like this. For as long as we can remember the Czech dream was to have a rich aunt in America. The family and descendants of young explorer, traveler and botanist Albert Vojtech Fric had the same dream as he ventured into jungles of Brazil and Paraguy in 1900. In 1905 during extensive floods he met the tribe of Chamakoko and together they searched for higher elevation to survive. They staved together for a while and by the local custom he was "married" to local girl Lorai. This way he became son-in-law of the powerful chief and continued in his ethnographic work. He returned back to his Czech home with a lot of artifacts and research materials and due to circumstance he never went back. Out of this encounter and after his departure was born a girl named Herminia. Lorai remarried ten years later and now we will focus on Rodolfo Ferreira Fric her grandson who was born in 1942. When he was 8 years old he runs away from the family of relatives who were raising him. As a destitute child he was taken in by family of New Tribe missionaries (Petersons). He learned Spanish which enabled him to read the Bible. He became a believer and stayed with Petersons till he was 18. His testimony and understanding is fascinating. Later on he was reunited with his mother Herminia and started to evangelize the "Checomakoko" (Chamakoko) people and later he translated the New Testament into their language. In 1999 two Czech anthropologists and documentary makers were following the steps of Albert Vojtech Fric and found the tribe Fric described in his studies. They met Fric's 94 year old old daughter Herminia, her grandson Rodolfo and about 200 descendants and relatives.

After their return this discovery became a big story for media and Fric's family here in Czech Republic finally found out that they truly have an aunt in America... Riches did not come from America, but help was expected from European relatives. Anyway, it became a wonderful project for both families and grandsons of A.V. Fric. Rodolfo wrote his life, family and mission story and together with the original research papers from Fric expeditions, paint a fascinating picture.

And because we know that so many of our friends are fluent in Spanish, they can enjoy this unbelievable story: <u>http://www.checomacoco.cz/espanol</u> Or let your translator translate it into English.

PRAISE AND PRAYER NEEDS

- We have new pastor. It looks like he loves the Word and is a gifted preacher. He is going to assume his administrative position in September.
- Our present pastor Daniel officially stepped down and second time he is in remission.
- We Praise the Lord for great times during Hebrew Bible study. We will resume in September.
- We published another powerful booklet in Pocket Theology printing, this time written by D. Scott Meadows: God's Astounding Grace. Praise the Lord that we had funds to publish.
- Pavel completed his two books; now is the time for those involved to comment, edit and publish. We pray that by the end of the year it all comes together.
- Merging our radio and magazine ministries with publishing ministry is another of His blessing.
- Our team is going full speed ahead toward summer activities and English camp outreach.
- In July we are going to the airport several times per week as different friends and friends of friends arrive. Last minute surprises are not uncommon. At the time of highest traffic plumbing in our master bath is leaking. It looks that our bathroom will have to undergo major reconstruction.

Thank you for standing with us, for your love, prayers, support and concerns.

HCJB Global Voice missionaries in Czech and Slovak Republic

Klara and Pavel Steiger

