



AUGUST 2018
DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF THE REACH BEYOND
MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES IN CZECHIA AND SLOVAKIA

REJOICE AS WE REACH BEYOND

The greatest burden and pain of Christians are unsaved children, spouses, siblings, relatives, neighbors, coworkers and friends. We all can express passion for the lost and those who never heard but we should not neglect those who are living next door to us. Not all of us are called to go to the “whole world” but “into every city and place” (Lk 10:1). All of us are called to serve and love our neighbors, those we share the same language, culture, experience, closeness etc. They need salvation as much as those who are lost far. If we are not missionaries in our families and neighborhoods, with whom we share the same language and culture, then we will not reach those far away. Foreign missions are not an excuse to neglect local mission and neglect those close to you. We may find multitudes around us who never heard. We should focus on personal outreach, local ministries, church planting, disciplining and encouraging.

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. (Ga 5:14).

The summer heat is over, the harvest is in, school has started and church is returning to normal schedule. Most of our summer activities were close to home. We enjoyed visitors from near and far. Pavel preached several Sundays nearby. We became close to some friends we knew more or less formally. We attended several summer activities of different church groups. Since it was unusually hot and no rain for a month, the mountains were a nice escape.

A number of you expressed interest in our commentaries on current events in places where we live and minister. Here are some more:

- The refugee situation in Western Europe is becoming a critical issue. In the name of progress, European Union is pressing in the name of compassion, solidarity and economic globalization to surrender the national interests and cultural identity. This sounds noble and correct however there is another side. Those who are not granted asylum are caught in difficult situation. Without legal status, they are becoming nothing else but slaves. A German documentary about inhuman and catastrophic work conditions and exploitation of “agricultural workers” from the ranks of illegal migrants in Italy and Spain shows the severity of this problem.
- Human smuggling is led and controlled by organized crime. Smugglers load tens of thousands of people who have paid for their passage on flimsy inflatable boats. As soon as they are in site of NGO patrolling ships, the refugees often puncture the boats in order to be rescued and brought to European shores. This is a multimillion- dollar business and the question remains: who will take care of the multitudes of people who left their homes and culture. There is raising tension and crime among the refugees and all kind of migrants who are already in the countries.
- The refugee crisis is a major issue in upcoming election in numerous countries. We are caught up in an atmosphere of distrust in centralized decision about quotas. We live in days where sharing ideas and thoughts is becoming risky. Communication is broken on so many levels, while force of hatred and distrust is becoming universal. It does not matter where we live tension is growing. We do not despair since we know that our Lord is in control. Gospel is the only solution for disunity in families, states, nations and as far as we can reach.

PRAISES AND PRAYER NEEDS

- Pavel finished his Pocket Theology booklet. He continues to work on another book.
- Klara continues serving through hospitality, translating and video producing.
- We rejoice that Radio LOGOS in Slovakia is on the air again.
- We rejoice that MacArthur’s book “Slave” is ready to be printed as we are gathering finances together.
- In October, we are hosting a theological conference with Geoff Volker speaking on “Blessings of the New Covenant” (Jer. 31:33).
- Several of our supporting churches are changing pastors because of their retirement or health issues. Our prayer is that this will not be detrimental to our status.

**Thank you for your prayers,
Support and participation
In our life and
Czech & Slovak ministry.**

**In His Sovereign Grace,
Pavel and Klara Steiger**

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