

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, And marked off the heavens by the span, And calculated the dust of the earth by the measure, And weighed the mountains in a balance And the hills in a pair of scales? Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has informed Him? With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge and informed Him of the way of understanding? Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales; Behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust. (Isaiah 40:12-15)

#### November 2012

#### Dear Friends and Partners Of the HCJB Global Ministry to the Peoples In Czech Republic and Slovakia

#### **HOME MINISTRY**

We flew October 1, from Prague to Boston via Frankfurt and Toronto. We reunited with our sons, daughter-in-law and grandchildren.



Our son from Denver flew to Manchester, NH to join us all. On October 3, we celebrated Klara's birthday. This was just the second time in 22 years our family was together for someone's birthday. We all "celebrated" together all the family's birthdays of the year 2012.

A week later we flew from Boston to Fresno, CA. We rented a car and drove to Madera. We are grateful to Madera's Grace Community Church for the idea to gather all its missionaries at the same time. All arrived since the Church paid airfare for all. Finally, we met each other and saw how we are together reaching the world. We all were received by the church with great love and hospitality. All events were blessings to us as well as to the church. Some of us attended a meeting of the Madera pastors and city officials. They work together hand in hand to reach out to many needy people and the community. The Madera area is the largest agricultural producer of almonds, pistachios, nuts, etc. It is amazing what all is grown in central California.

One of the missionaries was Dale Losch, president of Crossworld Ministries. He just published book "A Better Way to Make Disciples Wherever Life Happens". For the last twenty years missions were focused on 20/40 windows. Dave Losch and Crossroad ministries are answering questions:

- 1. Who is really called to full-time ministry and,
- 2. The concept of unleashing the power of all believers.

He is talking about all of those who live in the "925 WORLD or 925 WINDOW". He is talking about a natural window of opportunity that allows Christians to enter the ordinary world of people that Jesus did to seek and save. The 925 Window is an opportunity most believers have from "9 am to 5 pm" every day, being salt and light in an unbelieving world. Today, with few exceptions, the majority of the world's least-reached places with the highest concentration of non-Christian religions are places that will not allow one to enter as a religious worker. What an opportunity for profession-based disciple-makers who will take a job in their area of expertise as a means of establishing placement and credibility in the least-reached marketplace. Years ago it was a book written by K.P. Yohannan, "Revolution in World Missions," which touched our hearts. We need vocational cross-cultural workers, people whose experience and training cultivate a more focused attention on the spiritual development of teammembers and new disciples. We live in changing world of missions and Dale's book should be read by all God's servants who have mission on their heart.

From Madera we continued to Santa Rosa. Calif. to meet with the mission chairman and friends of Santa Rosa Bible Church that have supported our ministry faithfully since 1992. The next stop was in San Leandro, Calif. Then we drove to Simi Valley to fellowship with our supporters and the pastor of the Lighthouse Bible Church. The pre-election visit to the Ronald Reagan Museum was one of the highlights. After a short stop in Los Angeles we drove to Fallbrook, Calif. for Sunday morning service at the First Baptist Church. It was quite funny; as we appeared to be greeted with the words: "hammer and marshmallow," the same words we used in our last prayer letter describing a Biblical counseling seminar we attended. The first Sunday message of the interim pastor was encouraging and inspiring. Right after the Sunday message and lunch we left Fallbrook and started the long drive toward **Tucson**. Monday morning we had a mission meeting with dear El Camino Church friends who were asking about our "retirement." That was surprising news to us as well. WE ARE NOT RETIRING, WE ARE NOT MOVING, WE **CONTINUE** as always. The church bylaws stipulate when a missionary starts drawing a Social Security check its support ends. That explains the "retirement" questions. For years we have been using a larger and larger portion of your support for the ministry. The personal support goes mostly for our health insurance and other mandatory mission required expenses. About 60-70 % of total support is directed toward Czech and Slovak ministries to pay for broadcasting time, publishing, partial salaries of two full time workers, translating from English into Czech, etc. This is a big loss. We have recently lost \$1,300 of your monthly support that cuts the total by 30 %. We visited our next two supporting churches in Tucson; they understand that their support is used mostly for the ministry. We do not know how many disciples were drawn by God through our ministry; but we have excellent indigenous Czech and Slovak co-workers who are fired up for the ministry. Together, we are excited that the Lord is touching the hearts and lives of people who were hardened by their past atheistic upbringing. It is crucial to keep going. Without you the ministry and those who are involved would not be able to multiply blessings to those who listen, read and grow in their faith. Postcommunist countries are lured into socialist tenets once again. No socialist establishment has a positive attitude toward Christianity. We need to be faithful proclaiming His gospel, justice and peace, rather than to build humanistic heaven on earth without God.

The last side trip from Tucson took us to Sierra Vista, down to the Mexican border. Our reunion with John Adams, the person who was the one to tell us (with tears in his eyes) that Czech and Slovak short wave broadcasting from Quito came to the end. Our good Lord opened to him and us new and better ways to continue in Radio ministry. We have to rely upon Him at any circumstance.

From Tucson we drove to Phoenix, AZ to continue our Home ministry tour. For four weeks we had two or three daily appointments, visits, and/or contacts with supporters and friends. From Phoenix we made two side trips. one to **Prescott**. Arizona and the other to Flagstaff where a major part of our ministry originates. Klara is translating Pastor Cole's sermons and transforms them into 20-minute radio programs. They are translated from the Czech language into Slovak then recorded by native Slovak speakers and broadcasted in Czech Republic and Slovakia. Presently, we broadcast expository teaching from Romans in Slovakia; and from James in Czech Republic. We use Hebrew programs in our Bible study. We touched base with three supporting churches in Phoenix. One of the big surprises came through our reunion with Bill and Harriet Bathman. They were in the mission field for 60 years in Europe and South Africa. They did not lose a bit of their spark and sense of humor. Since they are now "octageraniums", as they call their new milestone, they are working on their mission archive. To our surprise they came up with a shoe box of organized slides from their time of smuggling Bibles and Christian literature to Czechoslovakia. They were there during the Russian occupation in 1968. What a treasure of historical value. Now the pictures are digitized and ready to be shown.

From Phoenix we flew via Chicago to New York. We were received with loving and sacrificial care by members of the North Shore Baptist Church. We arrived there one week after the storm Sandy. The electrical power was already restored however, the situation at gas pumps remained critical for the whole week. Trying to help our hosts, we stood for three hours in a line for gas with a one gallon container (larger ones were sold out). This was a déjà vu to us since we experienced the same in the 1950's and 60's in communist Czechoslovakia, standing in line for three hours to buy two pounds of meat each Friday. The Railey's met us at the airport and took care of us. How can we thank all of you?

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

- Church of Madera for 22 years of faithful support, friendship, hospitality and providing airfare. Virgil and Karen who were our hosts.
- Santa Rosa church for 22 years of faithful support, and to the Bensons for their hospitality
- Simi Valley, Pastor Willy Rogers and Christopher's family.
- Our friends and hosts in San Leandro and Los Angeles.
- Fallbrook First Baptist and their prayer and support faithfulness.
- Tucson to El Camino Baptist Church for 22 years of prayers and faithful support. Our "retirement party" was a true expression of love. We were able to thank in person each one of our dear friends who helped us to start in 1991. Special thanks goes to Marie Taylor, Vi Caramichael, Ruth Coykendall, Anna Marie and Egon Noth, Margie Miller and many long-time friends, supporters or representatives of HCJB Global.
- Our thanks go to Craycroft Baptist Church for their 22 years of prayers and faithful support.
- In Phoenix area, special thanks go to Carl's family – "mi casa su casa", Geoff and Priscilla Volker and their New Covenant Fellowship friends, Palmcroft Baptist, and West Side Heights Church.
- Our supporters and friends are truly a multigenerational and multiethnic group of very special people. They range from well over 90 years old down to two years old.
- We were on the road for six weeks, drove over 2900 miles and not once did we have to look for a motel or hotel – He prepared for us many mansions.

## **BACK HOME**

From New York we flew to **Brussels.** My morning "prayer" before I got out of the bed was: "It would be nice to fly with this bed." Well, I had four seats and I spent the night in a hori-

zontal position! In Brussels we had 8 hours layover. Thus we hopped on the train (next day there was a strike) and spent enough time downtown to see the historical section. Our six weeks of travel came to the end.

We arrived to Prague Tuesday Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> after dark. One hour later Klara went to a homeowners meeting. The next day we did grocery shopping and had a Bible study in the evening. Thursday Klara met with two girlfriends from Indonesia. Friday we had a meeting with Jarda, our ministry chief of operations. He just came from the printer with a new issue of the magazine, a book for the January conference and Spurgeon's Catechism, a Christmas tract and several other publications. We Praise the Lord for the dynamic team we have.

While we were away, the election took place and some Communists regained the control on a communal level—the spirit of redistribution is rising all around the world... The 17<sup>th</sup> of November was the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Velvet Revolution. Sad to say, a number of people miss those "good old days under communism." The new generation, those with no memory of the "iron curtain" went to the streets to protest against present government. It is insane.

## **A BIT OF HISTORY**

November 8, 1620 is the date to remember as the "White Mountain Battle" where Protestants were beaten by Catholics. In the early 17th century most of the Bohemian estates, though under the dominion of the Catholic Holy Roman Empire, had large Protestant populations and had been granted rights and protections allowing them varying degrees of religious and political freedom. After the battle, in 1621, the Emperor ordered all Calvinists and non-Lutherans to leave the realm in three days or to convert to Catholicism. The next year, he also ordered all Lutherans (who primarily had not been involved in the revolt) to convert or Before the war about leave the country. 151,000 farmsteads existed in the Lands of the Bohemian Crown, while only 50,000 remained after the year 1648. The number of inhabitants

decreased from 3,000,000 to 800,000. The Thirty Years War still had another 28 years to run, and Bohemia was often the scene of much bloodshed.

Now you understand why during the Habsburgs rule 1621–1918, and even before the German or Russian occupation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century the Czechs were probably the most skeptical people who perfectly mastered the way of survival. That's why they are so suspicious, even of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in whose "name" they experienced so many atrocities.

#### PRAYER REQUEST

- Continue to pray for Czech Republic.
- For our team and speakers at January conference in Brno.
- Please pray for the ministry support.

We wish you a close encounter with our Savior Lord Jesus Christ and a lot of God's providence during the upcoming Christmas season and the entire year 2013. With love and grateful hearts, Klara and Pavel

## Your HCJB Global Missionaries In Czech Republic and Slovakia

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