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If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also. Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you. You have heard that it was said. 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:40-48)



OCTOBER 2016

DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES IN CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA

THE FALL AND THANKSGIVING TIME IS HERE

We definitely put aside summer clothes. trimmed back flower boxes, and turned on the heating system. Most recent report on Klara's shingles episode is-it is a very slow and painful recovery. As one day looked like a step forward, the next day felt like a step back. Living with bearable pain is one thing but the lack of energy is the other one. Over and over she was learning to say to herself-I do not have to do this or that, it can wait. This is hard for someone who previously had never stopped. Now she knows how it may feel some ten years later. Every day she thanks the Lord that he gave her so many great years and hopes that He will grant her some more. Her time to translate is again here and the first attempts were discouraging. She did two or three paragraphs and was exhausted. After a few days it got better. Recently, she was able to send her monthly commitment to broadcasting. In the last prayer letter from the former HCJB president Ron Cline he shared with us that his wife Barbara

had a major back surgery and later she broke her leg. Ron explained in simple words the reason for the mission name change: HCJB is now called Reach Beyond because we are actually trying to reach beyond where our radio signals used to go. And, we are adding—we need to reach beyond our own strength to continue serving.

RECENT EVENTS

We are following pre-election events and debates in the US as well as here in CZ. There are some similarities since so many global problems of the world unravel in front of our eyes. The world is in one big mess and no one knows what to do about it. Millions of refugees, migrants as well as human trafficking business are going on in large numbers. It is very hard to determine how many terrorists are among them. So many of them are undocumented, however, all of them have smart phones. They are able to pay thousands of Euros to smugglers. The European Union is so far unable to determine where its outer border is, and who should guard it. In all critical areas there are clashing interests of different groups of the nations, religions, and other interests. The idea to create the European Army especially when most of the countries are part of NATO is odd. Czechs in their black humor have already named it-"Eurowehrmacht". Recent Mid-East turmoil goes back to both WW and the end of colonialism.

On the other end, Pope Francis as well as his "holiness" Tibetan Dalai Lama (he really has Czech Republic on top of his favored countries) are calling for peace, compassion and love. Those are words that people love to hear from religious leaders since politicians are somewhat incapable to give any hope. In this atheistic country we can see that people are spiritually hungry and they have sympathy for Buddhist teaching. The local church is lame and losing its direction. Not too many people understand that compassion and open arms of Western Europe to welcome Muslim (invasion) is interpreted by Muslims themselves as submission and recognition of their superiority over all unbelievers.

WE SHARED IN OUR E-PRAISE AND PRAYER LETTER

Before we had a chance to send out our special prayer request, the Lord took care of the matter. We sub-rent our Sunday meeting auditorium from an English speaking Church that rents the place from the Czech Railroads. We meet in a former presidential lounge. Unexpectedly, the Czech Railroads transferred ownership and new owners now have different plans to use the building. The last meeting there is October 30. Thus both Churches had start looking for some other meeting to place(s). Our Lord gave us a place at different location in a small theater that is named "The Stone" (sounds almost like cornerstone). Now we pray that this change will not discourage anyone from attending. For some it will be closer, for others farther, but it is close to a subway station, which is always good.

- We praise the Lord that we have an office space and place for our Bible study. Our bible studies are well attended. We started monthly ladies classes based on curriculum of BEE International. It is nice that we have several mothers and daughters attending.
- We also mentioned that we had two out of town visitors; a mother and daughter we have known for many years. Vlasta is one of the original listeners of HCJB Radio broadcasting from Quito. After the service Vlasta said: "I took communion after 23 years, and my daughter took it for the very first time." It really touched our hearts.
- On the other hand we had two couples which started with us and left for different reasons. A Board member we started with felt that our theology is not aligned with the Old Testament, since he leans toward Theonomy. It looks that it is best for both sides. Yarda, our pastor started teaching from 1 Tim 1 that triggered this event.
- Also we are finding how a number of Facebook discussions and ideas shared there

can create self-taught and self-centered individuals as they have a hard time to join or stay in regular Christian fellowship. The enemy will use any method to cause disunity.

CHRISTIANS UNDER FIRE

Over 400 million Christians live in the 67 countries of the world which severely restrict, or persecute, believers. This year over 300,000 Christians have died as martyrs for Christ. Christian brothers and sisters are being persecuted for their Faith in: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Burma, Red China, Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lagos, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, North Korea, Pakistan, Palestine territories, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. (Dr. Peter Hammond, Frontline Fellowship)

Previously we mentioned imprisonment of a Czech Cristian in Sudan. He is already for 10 months held among hard criminals. Today (Oct. 17th) his trial and three Sudan Christians should begin. Court charges were pressed now they wait for defense hearing in the future. As of now he is not in solitary confinement or among criminals but with other imprisoned Christians. We had an opportunity to listen to the letter he sent to his wife. She shared it with close friends and praying churches. His letter, words of encouragement and love for Lord sound like written by Apostle Paul. The attached link is in Czech however you can see a video clip of Christian women in the front of Court house supporting Christian issues

http://www.hlas-mucedniku.cz/pnp.php?datum=2016-10-01

PRAISES AND PRAYER NEEDS

- We enjoyed three girl visitors from Midland TX, especially Hannah a little girl we know since she was 2, now 30 and still little. We will never forget her amazement and enthusiasm as she was sharing with us story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.
- Dear and brave Pavel and Klara. Thank you

very much for the program "It is Written" that you prepare for Radio 7 broadcast. A special thank for the episode "Eternal Assurance." Glory to God! Vlastimil of TWR

- Pavel will be one of the speakers at youth conference in Lovosice.
- Please pray for all of us. To build a body of believers with many needs is tedious work. We see how damaged are believers coming from liberal churches.
- Pray for spiritual growth and increase in numbers so that we will become a selfsustaining body of believers in the near future.
- Please pray for those who are preaching and teaching in the sending church and sister churches praying for this church plant. Small and independent churches have to overcome many hurdles to exist.
- Please pray with us for Peter Czech Cristian worker (Voice of Martyrs).
- Pray that the Lord will give us opportunities to reach the unreached.
- Together lets pray for His will in the election results.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Here is quite comprehensive presentation about the country we live and serve:

http://videacesky.cz/video/geography-now-ceska-republika

RECOMMENDED READING

Please read a most interesting book written by a Czech John Amos Comenius in the 17th century. It's online: <u>http://www.labyrint.cz/en/</u>.

Below is one of the fifty-four chapters:

Our illumination comes from above

I considered these things within myself, and awaited what would follow. Behold! a bright light burst upon me from above. I looked up and saw the upper window full of dazzling light, in which brilliance I saw a man, in outward appearance like unto us men, but in his effulgence, truly God, descending toward me. His face, though dazzingly light, could yet be looked upon with the human eye; nor was it terrifying. On the contrary, such loveliness radiated from it as I had never experienced anywhere in the world. He then, all kindly, all benign, addressed me in these most gracious words.

The source of all light and all joy is there

"Welcome, welcome, my dear son and brother!" Saying that, he embraced me affably and kissed me. He filled the air with such an exquisite fragrance that I was overcome with ineffable joy and tears gushed from my eyes; nor did I know what to reply to such an unexpected welcome, so I sighed deeply and gazed humbly at him. Seeing me so terrified with joy, he went on speaking: "Where have you been, my son? Where did you tarry so long? Where have you been wandering? What have you been seeking in the world? Happiness? Where should you have sought God but in His temple? and where is the temple of the living God but the living temple which He has prepared for Himself, your own heart? I have watched you, my son, while you were straying, but I did not wish to see you stray any longer, and have brought you to me by leading you into yourself. For here have I chosen a palace for my dwelling; and if you dwell with me, you will find here all that you sought in vain in the world -peace, happiness, glory, and an abundance of all good things. I promise you, my son, that here you shall not be disappointed as you have been in the world."

Total consecration to God

Hearing this speech and surmising that this was my Savior, Jesus Christ, of whom I had heard something even in the world, I clasped my hands joyfully and trustfully — not as formerly, fearfully and doubtfully — and stretched them toward Him. "Here I am, my Lord Jesus, take me to Thyself," I cried. "Thine I desire to be and to remain forever. Speak to Thy servant and grant that I may obey; reveal what Thou wilt, and grant that I may find pleasure in it; lay on me what Thou pleasest, and grant that I may bear it; use me in whatever task Thou desirest, and grant that I may not fail Thee: command what Thou pleasest, and what Thou commandest, grant; may I be nothing, that Thou alone mayest be all in all."

OUR LINKS

Our newly planted Church:

http://www.krestanepraha.cz/

Here is the link to our publishing efforts:

http://knihy.reformace.cz/books/bjmm/#p=1

Those of you who receive this hard copy Prayer Letter and not by email, please e-mail us so we can mail it to you electronically.

Thank you for your prayers, Support and participation in our life and Czech & Slovak ministry

In His Sovereign Grace Pavel and Klara Steiger

<pavel.steiger@gmail.com>

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You may mail your U.S.

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