

THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT FEBRUARY 2006



Dear Friends,

Sorry for the summer picture. This year's winter is too harsh and the picture is our way to invite a little bit warmer spirit though, you people in AZ and CA must be in warm spirit all the time. February is the time for another special monthly E-mail Prayer & Praise Report (E-PPR) about Czech and Slovak ministry:
WE ASKED—YOU PRAYED—HE ANSWERED:

WINTER AND OTHER MAJOR EVENTS:

Recent news concerning the bird flu danger, floods, and severe winter storms, disruption of energy or violent reaction eruption in connection with the publication of cartoons in Denmark seem to be as gloomy days without sunshine. Once again we can see, how vulnerable and dependent our world is on God's ability to control wrath of sinful men. We are grateful for each day we live and serve in His presence.

This year's winter in Europe was marked by abundance of snow and record low temperatures. Numerous tragic events happened and a number of lives were lost. Because of icy snow weight the flat roofs caved in, people were trapped and crushed, avalanches buried skiers and hikers, road accidents, overturned trucks, derailed trains ... and many broken bones. The prognosis of global warming and extreme nature outburst are proof that we live in fragile world. It looks like the Olympic games in Italy were the only relief in generally severe winter events.

WINTER VISITORS:

The US team from Soar Mission based in Alaska was returning from a traditional New Year's tour to Russian orphanages and on its way back stopped once again in Prague. We had the privilege to attend its dinner the evening before departure and enjoyed its members' debriefing. The team of about twenty people of all ages arrived from Russia physically exhausted nevertheless spiritually changed. The leader reminded the people that after their arrival home, they would most likely experience burn out.

Our dear friend and "patron" of HCJB Czech ministries Dub Page was part of the team. Dub was a pilot during the World War II. You can calculate his age and admire his stamina to serve the Lord even in harsh Russian winter conditions. His on going ministry description is to be available. He was sharing with us how he enjoys attending camps for kids as a camp grandpa. Children are very attached to him and open their hearts to the Gospel.

The Grant's from London, friends of our friends, came to enjoy Prague for a few days. Winter airfare and hotel packages make trips like that very attractive. In the worst case you spend more time in lovely hotels and rest. While Pavel was in the bed with very bad cold Klara spent an afternoon with the Grant's walking carefully on quite icy streets. They enjoyed our office, met with Gabi and a few days later they both met again in London.

Our children gave us for Christmas a DVD "Beyond the gates of Splendor." We also received a DVD biography of Rachel Saint. A number of you e-mailed us about the US release of the movie "Beyond the Spear." We hope and pray with all of you that the glorious story of reaching with Gospel Waorani tribe and the martyrdom of five missionaries will touch many hearts. Another great movie we attended recently was about the father of reformation – Martin Luther. The attendance in the church in Prague was adequate. Yet, we think only Christians attended to see it and in any case they were richly blessed. The last movie we saw was Spielberg's "Munich." It was an eye-for-eye movie about Palestinian – Israeli conflict depicting violent aftermath of the Olympic games in 1992 when Palestinian terrorists killed about a dozen of Israeli athletes. We remember that event vividly, since we were visiting Pavel's brother in Munich during the Olympics. Wrath and violence is spreading through Middle East and Europe. We see that without His intervention on the cross two thousand years ago human kind has no future.

During the month of January we were taking care of general office paper work like accounting, end-of-the-year reports, etc. We are not particularly fond of such engagement. We prefer much more creative and spiritual work.

As we were bundled up at home and in the office, we started undertaking first steps of preparation for the Dworak's arrival. It was a time to start major reduction of filed

magazines, numerous books and general paper glut we accumulated over the years. It is a heart breaking task just to dump lots of materials into the trash container. We presorted several banana boxes of Christian books we no longer have use for. We are donating them to a Christian library in Prague. The time when every printed piece of spiritual material was precious to us is long gone. Now days one can find almost anything on Internet. Even more heart breaking decision is what to do with hundreds of audiotapes. Our program files were digitalized. We have hundreds of program tapes in English. Please pray that we find a way for decent "disposal". It's easy to accumulate "stuff" nevertheless it's very difficult to pass it on anybody. This reduction will take more time and effort, however it does not mean that our bookcases will be empty. In February Pavel made all the plans to move our office furniture, computers and "all the stuff" from the office into our apartment. We have no guest room any more since it became Pavel's office. We have no TV room since it became Klara's office. It will take a while before everything settles down. Praise the Lord, we are getting ready for the next step—Dworak's arrival.

PRAISES:

- Major event for February was three days meeting in Prague with Eric Moore, the HCJB World Radio director of the HCJB Euro Asia region. Together we took care of numerous mission and legal related issues as part of preparing for the arrival of Mike and Ellen Dworak.
- Another important part of the meeting was brainstorming about the situation with the Slovak studio. We are working on agreement that our Prague office will carry the rental cost for the studio in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia, and HCJB World Radio will help to equip the studio. We praise the Lord that Slovak programs broadcasted by Radio Lumen are now part of satellite and Internet broadcasting on Radio 7, Slovakia.
- Ministry support for Mike and Ellen Dworak is about 80% accomplished. They are encouraged and looking forward to arriving in Prague at the beginning of May. Prayer for their residence paper work is ongoing and urgent request.

FRIENDS:

We must admit that our Christian social life is lately a bit dormant. For a long time we were planning to meet with Vladimir's mom and her husband. It became a reality and together we visited our former church in Ricany. It was nice to see old friends. We were amazed how the children grew up and how we have changed. The church is vibrant and we are happy to know that they outgrew their second location. The pastor invited Pavel to preach anytime in the future.

Since the roads were treacherous we went by train to see Pavel's college mate Jan (John) and his wife Jana (Johanna). They are great travelers and it is always nice to

share memories, pictures and videos about the places we visited at another time. They love Nepal and Himalayas, panned gold in Alaska as well as in Australia. At last named places Jan was part of the Czech Gold panning championship team. It is amazing how Czech people love to travel. They visit the most odd places on the Earth and for sure the guardian angels are with them. The friendship and common interest keeps us together, however spiritually we are as far as it can be. Jan's spiritual condition can be described as type of Buddhist self-improvement. Jan believes that there is a loving God, since he had a dream of a personal encounter with this Supreme Being while in Nepal. He understands the salvation message very well but his conclusion is that Jesus Christ does not deserve such unjust punishment for our sins. So, he does not want to be as malicious as Christians who put their dirt on an innocent One. Christ deserves respect that's why he would never do to Him what Christians have been doing to Him... This is self-righteousness par excellence. Well, we must admit that many churchgoers do not understand the Gospel as deeply as our non-Christian friend! How thankful we are for His mercy that He saved us. Some 28 years ago we were as "honest and just" as self-righteous as Jan and his wife Jana. We left several Christian books with them and pray that the Lord will give them new heart.

We befriended another young couple and we are building bridges. We also keep in touch with other three couples that have children so we can play grandparents since our grandchildren whom we miss so greatly are in NH.

Thank you for your love and prayers.

In His Sovereign Grace and Service,
Klara and Pavel Steiger

<°))))><