

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. (John 14:12-17)

# AUGUST 2025 DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES OF CZECHIA AND SLOVAKIA

Both our July and August prayer updates have been filled with eager anticipation, followed by a series of unexpected surprises.

#### **SUPRISE No. 1**

Our long-time, faithful friends from Texas happened to check Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble, and discovered that Pavel Steiger's book *My Glory I Will Not Give to Another* was already listed for pre-order. It took us several days to fully absorb this incredible moment. Open amazon.com and enter 'Pavel Steiger'.

### **SUPRISE No. 2**

Pavel was first encouraged to make My Glory I Will Not Give to Another available in

Polish through past contacts, partnerships, and his participation in Czech-Slovak-Polish youth mission programs. The Polish translation is already in print and will be released for distribution on August 25.

### **SUPRISE No. 3**

Aneta Krzywicka, the typesetter of the Polish edition of Pavel's book *I Will Not Give My Glory to Another (Mojej chwały nie oddam innemu)* and a sister in Christ, wrote:

I'm very glad that my work is appreciated, and I'm also happy that this book will be published in Polish, because it is truly valuable. While working on it, I read a lot. I want to personally thank you, Brother, for your research and for presenting your conclusions in such an accessible way. May God bless you with a long and good life, full of strength and health—all for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, because many people still need encouragement and direction.

#### **POLAND NEED MISSIONARIES**

Poland has a population of about 38 million. According to a 2018 Pew Research Center survey, 87% of Poles still identified as Christians. While Poland remains predominantly Catholic (just over 70% in 2021), the number of practicing Catholics has dropped significantly in the last decade. About 7% of the population now openly identifies as athesist.

According to Poland Evangelical Mission (PEM), less than half a percent of the population are evangelical Christians. Furthermore, more than 100 Polish cities with over 25,000 residents have no evangelical church presence. PEM focuses on short-term missions and strengthening local churches.

## PROTESTANT POPULATION IN POLAND (excluding Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, etc.)

According to the 2021 Polish census, various Protestant denominations—including Lutherans, Pentecostals, Baptists, Seventh-

day Adventists, and others—collectively make up approximately 0.35% of the population, or about 130,000 people:

Lutherans (Augsburg Conf.) ~65,400
Pentecostals ~30,100
Baptists ~5,200
Seventh-day Adventists ~3,100
Other Protestant groups ~26,200

### THE LEGACY OF JOHN MacARTHUR'S MINISTRY

Like thousands of believers around the world, we owe much to the ministry of pastor and teacher John MacArthur. In the late 1970s, Grace Community Church became our spiritual home. It was there that we received our theological foundation through faithful expository preaching—both in person and through radio and tape recordings. In one of the early sermons we heard, John said:

Let me assure you, we will not expand this auditorium, and we won't build a balcony. We don't need more pew warmers. You are here to be equipped and to carry the Gospel beyond these walls.

This statement stayed with us—though it took time before we fully accepted the challenge. But it was this very calling that eventually led us toward full-time ministry. After a message on the role of women in society, Klara came to faith. She later became the last woman, and our sons the first men, to be personally baptized by John. John MacArthur referred to a letter Pavel sent him after his message on the family. In it, he described life under the communist régime and the breakdown of the family under communist rule:

My wife and I experienced the dissolution of the family unit by the communist government. From our own experience, the godless doctrine pumped into our little children's souls brought up the most cynical generation you can imagine. Most young people do not believe in anything, not even God. The godless system destroyed, in great part, the will of the people and produced an obedient array of cynical, indifferent, disposable robots. The same thing

is beginning to happen to us now in this country.

— Cited by John MacArthur in his Commentary on Ephesians 6:1-4

Though we moved several times afterward, John MacArthur remained close to our hearts—serving as a guide and example of how to make the most of every sermon, every opportunity to teach, and every moment of service.

During a theology student conference in Singapore, while we were living in Jakarta, Indonesia, we spent an afternoon with the MacArthur family. In one of the sessions, a student asked:

How do I handle the fact that, even when I faithfully prepare my sermons, the response is minimal? How do I know what went wrong?

John replied:

You're asking the wrong question: Who is the object of your preaching—the listener or God?

Those words left a lasting impression on us. Not every effort yields immediate results, but if your heart is set on serving the Lord—who sees and knows all—then He is the one who prepares the soil for the sower. It is He who brings the growth, sending others to water and tending what has been planted.

That moment helped confirm our decision to leave a professional career in the international oil industry and to respond to the unique opportunity created by the fall of communism in Czechoslovakia.

After taking that step of faith, we received a personal recommendation from John Mac-Arthur, which opened doors to churches we could never have reached on our own.

On several later occasions, during brief stops in Los Angeles, we had the opportunity to meet with John MacArthur in person. His longtime assistant, Pat R.—with whom we had shared a home Bible study group in the early days—was always kind enough to make those special meetings happen.

John continues to live on in our hearts, as we use his commentary almost daily during

our morning Scripture readings. He has left a profound impact on Czech-speaking believers, with many of his teaching materials and commentaries translated into Czech.

We wouldn't say we introduced John Mac-Arthur's ministry in the former Czechoslovakia, but we were among the first to assist U.S. missionaries in promoting the European Bible Seminary in the region and the Czech Bible Institute. We remain in close contact with many of its graduates.

### **THINK ABOUT THIS**

The Christian Church today needs believers who are saturated with the Word, shaped by the gospel, and empowered by the Spirit to live lives of faithful witness. The path of maturity, mission, and holiness begins and ends with God's Word—breathed out, Christ-centered, and Spiritfilled.

-Moe Bergeron

### **PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST**

- Poland needs our prayers—yours as well as ours.
- Pavel's walking routine is back to normal, with no pain; however, there are some other issues to take care of.
- Klara's vision is still unclear. The procedure for secondary cataracts did not help much, and her vision remains blurred. In the coming days, she will consult with a specialist about macular issues.
- Pray for the unsaved souls in the Czech Republic. The situation is basically the same as in Poland. May God call His church to powerfully proclaim His Word.



### WHY EVERYONE TALKS ABOUT PRAGUE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftcN E2Wz9-4

Your Support and Prayers Are Appreciated!

Thank you for your prayers, support and participation in our life and in the Czech and Slovak ministries.
In His sovereign grace,

Pavel and Klara Steiger <pavel.steiger@gmail.com>

### You may mail your U.S.

Tax-deductible contributions to:

REACH BEYOND P.O. BOX 39800 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80949-9800 U.S.A.

Attach to your check the following note:

FOR THE MINISTRY OF PAVEL & KLARA STEIGER ACC # 11329