

THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT AUGUST 2007

With love and appreciation we send you another special bi-monthly
E-mail Prayer & Praise Report (E-PPR) about Czech and Slovak ministry:
WE ASKED—YOU PRAYED—HE ANSWERED:

***I know that everything God does will remain forever;
there is nothing to add to it and there is nothing to take from it,
for God has so worked that men should fear Him.
(Ecclesiastes 3:14)***

**Dear Friends and Partners of the HCJB Global Ministry
to Czech and Slovak People,**

"I am living in Praha, huh, huh," is a happy new song in English describing life in different cities of the world. Praha is Prague in Czech. It comes out as one of the "best" places to live – no boredom, lots of fun, reasonably priced, etc. Quite often we think that it is true, since everything is so convenient, mostly in walking or public transportation distance. Prague is culturally vibrant; however, it pays its price. It's a very Godless city. We often wonder why the most beautiful places are populated by so many unbelievers. Look at San Francisco for example. Anyway, we observe that wherever we go, we are the oldest – but who cares, we feel still young.

Summer vacation

time is almost over and we can hardly believe it. Where did it go? We had an enjoyable time, since we met numerous friends which we had not seen for a while. We spent five days with Pavel's brother and their grandkids in Bavaria, about four-hour's drive from Prague. They sure were happy to have a helping hand. We enjoyed our time together and the country beauty. While we were there over the weekend, we watched a huge 100-year anniversary celebration of the "Young Catholic Men's Fellowship." There were about a thousand spectators and more than six thousand participants from all surrounding villages. It opened with mass under the sky, and continued with parades, bands, decorated horse carriages, regional costumes and customs. All ended with massive dancing, jamboree, um-pa-pa brass music, lots of sausages, sauerkraut and beer. Our conclusion is that the Bavarian countryside is preserving traditions and family values quite well.

On the way to Bavaria we stopped for a couple of days to be with our "first fruit converts", dear friends we started Bible study with while we lived in Luhačovice some thirteen years ago. One of the denominations we have close contacts with was spending their vacation time in the Šumava National forest near the Czech-Bavarian

border. This was a nice reunion and we can report that those people are faithfully walking with the Lord. Pavel was one of the two speakers for an evening and morning. Several weeks later we went again to be with our church as they had their vacation at another place. We know each other mostly from Sundays in the church and there is not opportunity for closer interaction. It is always better being in an informal setting. We are pleased to know that some of them are anxiously waiting to resume Bible study in September. Pavel preached several times lately, and we worked on our publishing tasks, radio programs, etc. Also several visitors, from the U.S. and Spain gave us a reason to change pace. Santiago and his wife from Spain were especially fun to have. Santiago is a walking encyclopedia – he knows the history of our country very well and Pavel was pleased that they shared the same worldview. Now we have invitation to come to see them and enjoy Catalonia, Spain. Next year's HCJB Global conference is scheduled to be in Spain, so we may extend it by a few days to spend some more time with this lovely couple. No wonder that the summer time passed so fast.

Slovakia

In our prayer letter we mentioned a new development about the radio license in Slovakia. Broadcasting in Slovakia is an ongoing process and for several years we have had ups and downs which are hard to overcome. We need to explore the legal aspects of the arrangements and pursue further negotiating in order to be ready if the license becomes available. There will be more hurdles to overcome, especially on a personnel level. Most mission organizations are financially struggling and territorially careful. True cooperation is hard to come by, probably out of fear of sharing pieces of the pie of contributions. By the new rules of HCJB Global projects Slovakia does not qualify for any help. Local churches have no funds to get involved. We move on only when the Lord opens the door. You can pray for unity and His guidance.

Broadcasting "Conclusion"

Our conclusion is that broadcasting on Christian radio might be substituted by a new era of communicating – we are amazed how many good articles are created locally on the internet and the cost is so minimal. We continue to produce radio programs for two FM stations and they are also available at web archives. This makes our ministry viable in spite of all difficulties. This is at the present time the most optimal way. We can see what topics are popular and enrich our magazine with the most important and current issues. Actually, for this reason, we added eight more pages to our magazine. It now stands at 60 pages total.

Open forum conferencing – Pavel was invited to be on a panel to discuss different theological issues with people from different countries. The first was with a pastor from Canada, next with one from Ireland. Geoff Volker in Phoenix is host and mediator. While this goes on in our bedroom, Klara falls asleep – the time of discussions starts around 11 PM our time.

Klara's MRI

For some time I have a neurological problem concerning the right side of my face and eye. About a year ago I had my first brain scan, followed by two others, and it was discovered that I have a malformation of vein touching my eye, facial and trigeminal nerves (neurovascular conflict). Half of my face is affected and I have hard time reading and working at the computer screen. Most of my work is doing just that. The neurosurgeon here theoretically knows what to do – however, my condition is so rare that they do not have hands on experience with that. After consultation with a Czech-American neurologist here in Prague (he is also certified and teaching in the USA) he has recommended that I should have a brain decompression procedure done in the USA. I am scheduled to have a specific brain scan done in Prague on August 27th to decide exactly how to proceed further. The recommendation of neurosurgeons is not to postpone the procedure since my right eye vision can become permanently damaged to the point that I will not be able to drive. This Czech-American neurologist will make an appointment for me in Boston where they do minimally invasive neurosurgery routinely. Our prayer is that this malformation can be properly treated.

Internet Problems

If you feel for some reason that we neglected to answer or send a thank you note, we have an explanation and apology. We mentioned our difficulties with internet in June. Vladimir was out of reach for six weeks. Vladimir is now back from China and our internet network is again working. We usually get our monthly statements a month late and this time we were late more than two months. If this was not enough, on the June 27th one of the HCJB Global staff, head of finance office, was murdered right in the front of the Colorado Springs office by her former boyfriend. This was a terrible shock to everyone there. Because of this, our thank-you note for special gifts could not be mailed.

For unknown reasons, some e-mailing is returning back to us. It is possible you have some anti spam filters and we get bounced out. Also, Calvary Press might have closed office for the month of August. It is possible that our regular prayer letter will not be printed and sent out until September. If you did not hear from us for a while, this might be one of the reasons.

Hopefully we will be synchronized soon.

With love and appreciation,
Klara and Pavel Steiger

Your HCJB Global Voice missionaries in Czech and Slovak Republic

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