

## **THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT DECEMBER 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:

***The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them. You shall multiply the nation, you shall increase their gladness; they will be glad in your presence as with the gladness of harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. For you shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian. For every boot of the booted warrior in the battle tumult, and cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire. For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2-6)***

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

Praying your Christmas is blessed with what matters most ... we are sure that heart desire for all of us is to see that all our family and friends are part of God's family. His birth and our new birth is the greatest gift to the world.

### **How do people react to Christianity in Czech Republic?**

This is a common question among our numerous visitors. They mostly know that we live and serve in one of the most atheistic countries. Klara has just returned from New Hampshire. She visited a church plant there. It is our son's church. The people meet in a historical building of a Baptist church. Another group meets in this building – a Ukrainian congregation. As Klara talked to its pastor it was exciting to learn that there are four Russian speaking congregations in Manchester alone. She also learned that there is a Russian speaking Baptist seminary in Tulsa, OK. And the most exciting thing to learn was that more than 100 graduates of it are already serving back in their native countries in the former USSR. Some of them serve also in Africa. Because of this experience she changed her answer focus from atheists to Christians. Harvest is ready and the Lord is providing helpers. This shows that churches should open the doors for those who come to us and encourage them to get involved in ministries in their native language. We praise the Lord that he enabled us to come back to serve in our native country almost 16 years ago. It is hard to believe that it has been 37 years ago since

we changed continents, language, and most important that we were consequently saved. We can't express our thankfulness to you, that we have the privilege to represent you in His kingdom. Today, with nations at our door through the Internet and all kinds of e-chats and websites there is no place on Earth that cannot be reached. We sure praise Him for all the changes and available technology at our fingertips. We have to live our Christian life also outside of our churches and go to meet the people where they are. If we wait for them to come, we might grow old without seeing any results. It is sad to see an aged congregation, with no new blood. Christians should be more alive, excited thus exciting for the rest of the world. It seems there is not much difference between US and EU. We all attend our perfect Christian services, we enjoy fellowship with other Christians, we pray together, we might have some small community ministry outreach, we try really hard, we invite people, we pray for the lost. However, there are not too many visible changes. It appears that non-believers are avoiding Christians and Christians are avoiding non-believers. We Christians must be among them but not of them. His Gospel can be shared in many different ways. Our daily life is the most effective and best witness how to bring light to the dark world. The Lord prepares opportunities in very unique ways. How do we react under pressure?

Relatives of our daughter-in-law were involved in serious car accident here in CZ. Lydie spent five weeks in a hospital. Her Christian testimony in the middle of a few surgeries was amazing. She was praising Lord for saving her life, the doctors for their skills, and nurses for their care. She was light in a dark situation. It was appreciated by all who were involved, including police and the insurance liquidator. Their accident was caused by a police car that was arriving to a scene of a multiple-car accident. The police car was going the WRONG WAY in a freeway exit. In an attempt to stop oncoming traffic by driving on the freeway exit in the opposite direction, the police caused two other accidents.

### **Big changes:**

Czech Republic is now part of the Schengen treaty, 27 countries without borders and passport controls. Passports are going to be checked only at the Czech airports arriving from non-EU countries. This is perfect timing for Klara to get a new passport. Her old passport was really obsolete. Its picture was pasted, number was perforated, no bar codes, not a page was unstamped. She always blocked the immigration queue. The new passport is really fancy.

### **Dilemma: Bake or not to bake?**

As the days are getting shorter and shorter, baking special Christmas cookies is a big part of the tradition. Since Pavel lost about 24 pounds and Klara does not want to gain 20 pounds, we will try to have lean holidays. Klara's energy is focused on decorations.

Baking is stored in the freezer for Bible study weeks. At Christmas day we will have Klara's mom with us. It will be her first visit and stay with us since she moved to the retirement place. We will prepare traditional dinner with all homemade treats for her.

### **Family Update**

Klara spent the month of November in New Hampshire. She had a consultation with a neurosurgeon in Boston on November 19<sup>th</sup>. He confirmed that a surgical solution to her neurological problem presents a risky option. He assured her that her vision is not in danger. A one month break from her daily routine in front of a computer screen helped to show that a lot of the problems are caused by eye strain. His recommendation was to try botox treatment. It should provide temporary relief. We shall see.

The time together with Filip, Lenka and grandkids was great. Klara enjoyed two birthday celebrations. Samuel turned 7, Nathan 6. Two years old, Emma is a charming lady. Her smiles and eye tricks are powerful skills to get loving attention. All three of them still love listening to the stories – Cinderella and Snow-white were favorites. And of course to see home schooling progress is always exciting.

The next family update is related to adoption news from Ethiopia. At this time we know that the girl was born on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007, she was placed in a transitory house and is well taken care of. The court date was not yet determined. Because of coming holidays no one knows when the paperwork will be completed.

### **Communication gaps explanation**

Since we were kind of bragging about all the technology, this year we had our share of troubles with e-mails, internet, printer, delays in reports, etc. We were not able to do all our entries and to say our big THANK YOU. Now we learned that Calvary Missionary Press in Tucson who took care of our Prayer Newsletter mailing is closing down. They served us faithfully for over 16 years. We will try to put our records together after the New Year. We have to do a major upgrade on our data base and find another provider. We know that communication is the key and we try hard to let you know what is happening in the ministry and in our lives.

### **Saying good by to the Dworak's:**

A month ago Mike Dworak submitted his resignation to HCJB Global and a week before Christmas Mike and Ellen left. It is just one more change and resignation in HCJB Global's ranks. This is a difficult year for the organization. Euro-Asia Region is facing numerous changes and limitations. We praise our Lord that Czech and Slovak ministry

goes on without any major disruption. We were never budgeted through Regional budgets due to your generosity and faithfulness.

### **Slovakia Report**

Milan, our Slovak key person for broadcasting licenses, proceeded with required frequency measuring and it was found that our signal interferes with radio signal in Hungary. This is an international issue and application for the license could not be submitted at the time. Milan is working with proper authorities to solve this problem and is planning to submit application in the spring term. We extended our broadcasting contract with Radio Lumen where we are buying broadcasting time for another year. We praise the Lord that we have translators and producers to keep Slovak programs going.

To conclude, we are looking forward to the next year's challenges which He prepares for us. We pray for His protection, wisdom and blessings to all and Happy New Year.

With love and appreciation,

Klara and Pavel Steiger

Your HCJB Global Voice missionaries in Czech and Slovak Republic

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