

# THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT October 2010

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:

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

(Habakkuk 3:17-19)

# Dear Friends and Partners of the HCJB Global Ministry to the Peoples in Czech and Slovak Republic

The following is the latest picture of what the Lord is doing in answer to your prayers for us

### **Busy days and busy weekends**

As I am gathering events of the month I can see that our weekends are most busy. In the last letter we described one of the perfect days. Just a week later the perfect weekend started. We left home Friday morning to be part of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Czech Trans World Radio celebration. The first stop was in a small town of Kralice, the place where the first complete Bible in the Czech language was printed. The first edition had six volumes and was published between the years 1579 and 1593. The New Testament translation from the Greek used till now had been published already in 1564!

From Kralice we drove to Třebíč. This is a UNESCO site of the Jewish Quarter, the old Jewish cemetery and the Basilica of St. Procopius built in early 13<sup>th</sup> century. We were absolutely delighted and amazed by the historical co-existence of Jewish and Christian

communities. Actually, the Jewish population was steadily dropping from 1770 souls in 1799 to 300 souls in 1930. The sad part was to walk through the cemetery and see that out of about three hundred Jewish inhabitants, only 12 returned from the concentration camps. After WWII the synagogue was used as storage for potatoes and was designated for demolition to make room for a panel apartment construction. Fortunately that did not happen; the synagogue was purchased by a Jewish man, he restored it, and instead the whole town is now visited by tourists from around the world.

The third event scheduled for Saturday was Pavel's program recording in Brno, while the day was dedicated to visitors and celebration. He recorded some ten programs. In the late afternoon we were invited to the wedding reception of a 25-year old man we "met" in his prenatal stage in Los Angeles. At that time his mom was undergoing chemotherapies for cancer and her pregnancy was picked up at the 5<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy. Her faith and the fear of the doctors who did not know which was more endangered, mother or child, left everyone breathless. The baby was born healthy and this was the day he got married. His mother is still alive and she praises the Lord that He gave her extra years (already celebrated her 55) while all doctors predicted that she would not live longer than 40. The groom and bride met a few days later with our son Vit in Denver.

On Sunday we worshipped in the Baptist Church where we were first welcomed in 1990. From there originated the now-famous saying: "I imagined that Pavel's radio voice belongs to someone young, tall, and with thick black hair, ... and he looks just like me – bold."

The same morning we went to an event where everyone who attended could learn how to be thankful. Nick Vujicic from Australia is a young man who was born without arms and without legs. Over the last several years has been traveling the world as an evangelist and he is touching the hearts of millions of people who are asking the Lord WHY? Nick gives the best answer anyone can give. If you watch YouTube videos of Nick Vujicic you will never be the same. One of many links are:

## <u>YouTube - Nick Vujicic: Life Without Limbs - CBN.com</u> <u>http://www.lifewithoutlimbs.org/</u>

The busy weekend was concluded by the official TWR presentation and 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration where we met with numerous co-workers and friends, some of which we hadn't seen for a long while. Before we left for home we were presented with a box of plums and Klara made a yummy preserve out of it.

The next event we want to share with you was a weekend with Christian Czech military families. This association is part of ACCTS in Action (Association for Christian Conferences Teaching and Service). The organization has contacts in over 130 countries. Pavel was the main speaker. It was amazing to see the transformation and appreciation in those who attended. They were mostly of Catholic background. We met several

military chaplains and a priest who used to be a military chaplain. Among the attendees were some soldiers from the Rapid Deployment Unit of the Czech Army that have just returned from Afghanistan. They were decorated for their support and excellent professional conduct. This was already the 12<sup>th</sup> annual gathering and the two main founders are from our church. We have known them very well for years. Part of the weekend gathering was an outing to see the newest and the oldest Catholic Church buildings in the area. The newest one was built in a small village nine years ago. Its architecture, stained window and paintings related to the Stations of the Cross was very nicely done. Construction of the church was financed by local people, with no government or church contributions. The whole project drew people together, but for some reason the unity is now gone and the church building remains almost empty.

The oldest church in the area we visited was in Velká Bíteš. History of the church goes back to 1240. Velká Bíteš is very dear to our heart because it was the distribution center for our magazine for years. We called our friends there and as they were returning to town to meet us, church bells were ringing. The priest took us to see the bells and he turned on the switch. Instead of just a couple bangs the bells went through the whole cycle and we were covering our ears. It is interesting that those bells were not melted for cannons during the WWII because of their historical value. Before we said goodbye to everyone, one of the military officers came to thank Pavel for the provocative lecture back in 1990 that took place in the same Baptist Church in Brno mentioned above. Pavel's sermon led to his salivation then. We can say how important it is to reach and serve to people from all ranks of life. We are encouraged that a similar Christian organization is forming in Police ranks.

Special guest, the youth pastor and his wife from Flagstaff Christian Fellowship spent weekend with us. We had a really nice time together; especially all theological discussions and their commitment were inspiring.

Our Pastor Daniel underwent the transplant of his own bone marrow. As Daniel said it all went well, like out of the textbook. A few days later in his sleep one of the tubes he was attached to slipped out and he nearly bled to death. A "guardian angel" woke him up and he got proper help on time. After the pre-transplant chemotherapy he had quite a few hard days when his pain was controlled by morphine. Now his mucous membranes are healing and we all are looking forward to his return from the hospital. This shared experience is great encouragement to all of us and we are looking forward to when Daniel resumes his pastoral privileges.

Prague's astronomical clock at the Old Town Square got a new historical light show. Enjoy the show at the link below:

http://gizmodo.com/5663685/pragues-15th-century-clock-gets-a-21st-century-light-show

#### **Praises and Prayer Request**

- Our new editorial team wrote: We realize that during the past year we accomplished a lot. "Spurgeon's messages," "Conference's digest" and "CDs" were published. We are almost done with Lloyd/Jones "What is evangelical?" Preparation for the next conference is underway and we are looking forward to even greater quality. Our web archive is not yet done, but we are working on it. We have daily about 120 visitors on web pages. All this is great encouragement to all of us. We want to praise the Lord for numerous opportunities and we want to say thank you for wonderful cooperation with you. It is a pleasure and joy to serve together. Wishing you many days in His closeness.
- > Once again we Praise the Lord for all of that and all of you far and near. Our love and greetings to all of you; thanks for standing with us. Your faithfulness, understanding and love are precious to us. In His precious name,

Your HCJB Global Voice missionaries in Czech and Slovak Republic Klara and Pavel Steiger



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