



THE STEIGER'S E-PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT

April 2013

**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:**

Our dear friends and partners,

We are in mid-April and there is no sign of spring; no birds singing, just freezing cold days. Actually, migrating birds are starving since there are no flies in the air and no bugs on the ground because of the frozen soil. Under the green energy craze/scheme we have the most solar panels per capita in the world. They are installed on prime farm land. This winter we had only about 100 hours of sunshine, a full four days! Solar barons are counting their profits guaranteed by the government and in the long run paid in higher energy prices by consumers. Being part of the European Union makes life a little bit more exciting. What warms our heart is that we can listen to “our” programs which originated in Flagstaff Arizona and are now broadcasted in Slovakia on “our” internet radio. We mentioned many times that Klara translates Pastor Steve Cole’s Sunday messages into Czech language; from Czech, thanks to Google translator, into Slovak. Edited texts are recorded by Milan Hudec and his team. It takes many steps and people to make the original written message into a radio program. To listen to something you know by heart and almost by memory is the greatest blessing. But this is not all. The same texts are made into Czech programs and broadcasted by the Trans World Radio team. Since we have hundreds of programs ready in text, we can arrange them the way that they are broadcasted in different times in different countries and listen to or download them around the world. We praise the Lord that we can have solid expository teaching on the air and on the web. The third way we use the texts is during our Bible study. Each person reads a paragraph with all supporting verses; anyone can ask the question or comment the text.

AN OBSERVATION NOT COMPLAIN

As we shared in our Prayer needs about our church search for a new pastor, we got a diagnostic question about the pastoral search from our dear friend and Pastor Ed Moore of NYC. His questions usually uncover the root of the problem in one sentence. As we thought about it, several things came to our mind:

During the past two years we had a number of possible pastor candidates but no match. So far the “winner” of the congregation’s approval was the one who shared in his message a story about a Buddhist monk who was raised from dead and was

transformed in a way that he knew Gospel immediately without ever hearing or reading it before. Then the monk became a very successful evangelist. At the end of the message this pastor got standing ovation, while we were in total discomfiture.

Our hearts grieve that, generally speaking, there is a little interest in Bible study or spiritual growth through learning in churches around us. Our Wednesday Bible study is attended by our pastor and three church members. Others are coming from different churches or unchurched people.

The main problem of our church is that a solid Bible teacher / preacher may not even be desired by our congregation. What is even more serious is that some outstanding preachers would not be welcomed by the denominational leadership. They are actually proud that our denomination is accommodating many different opinions and practices. Do you believe in evolution?—no problem; we do not insist that the Bible is verbally inspired by God; we are not theologically and doctrinally distinct, we do not want turn anyone off so we do not address the issues which are dividing believers.

The result of all the freedom we have enjoyed as a country for the past twenty years is that the church is more and more worldly and compromised. Church people would like to have a pastor who will “understand and care”, provides some counseling but not discipline, and most of all does not expect any commitment from the congregation. Many are visiting other churches as well and will come only when it is convenient. Attendance on Sunday is not bad, but consists of different people each week. Now you may understand why we appreciate our cooperation with Pastor Steve Cole and the consistency of his expository teaching and preaching. This is also why we praise God for Milan Hudec and his faithful service and our young team carrying on the publishing ministry we built. How fitting and proper is the title as a description of our magazine ministry—“The battle for the Soul.” Yes, indeed it is.

PRAISE AND PRAYER NEEDS

Thank you for standing with us, for your prayers, support and concerns.

- Our children and grandchildren are coming April 20th. We can hardly wait. We pray that the weather will be a bit warmer. Winter is still holding its grip.
- Please pray for our church. Because of our Pastor's illness and so far unsuccessful pastoral search we feel certain concerns.

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

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