

## **MAY 2014**

#### **DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS**

May—month of LOVE is here. The local traditions are more related to this than other memorable events. Under communism, May Day was the day to demonstrate to the world, and especially to the capitalist and imperialist's West, how superior and strong socialist countries were. May 8<sup>th</sup> commemorated the end of the World War II. The majority of the population did not care much about either. However, it was a great opportunity to have two holidays and extended time off.

Now, without much world attention, the former socialist "peace camp" east of us is about to start a new conflict. The Russian appetite to control nations that used to be under its sphere of influence is back. Remembering 1968's Russian occupation of Czechoslovakia brings back bad memories. One thing is sure. Any clash brings much suffering, hatred, revenge and economic setbacks for all involved. Europe and in a lesser extent the USA will be somewhat influenced. The days of some kind of cold war might be back. The situation between Russia and Ukraine is getting more serious every day.

Our May Day's events are loaded with visitors and activities. Trips to the airport are numerous. We are overjoyed to spend time with our grandsons as well as with old and new friends.

## THE MEDIA MINISTRY OUTREACH

Teaching, pastoring, publishing, broadcasting and web pages ministries are all the result of a team effort of dedicated servants. Let us share a few communications from our first co-worker Jarda Kernal, who is going to be the one continuing the ministry we started 25 years ago in this country:

# Good day.

my name is Miroslav Bradáč. I live in Vrchlabí. I've been listening to the lectures of various preachers and I have to say that my heart is rejoicing because I have heard the pure word of God. A while ago, I had been thinking about ending my relationship with God and with Christ, as I had experienced many great disappointments due to those who are responsible for teaching. I was baptized almost 30 years ago. The lecture on Titus 1:10-12, (Jarda's note: It was my sermon in Kladno Bible Church), encouraged me to such an extent that I have chosen not give up the Christian race.

I am seeking advice as I have no idea where to find a Bible Church in my area. Could you advise me where to look?

I wish you a nice day, and God bless.

Peace to you.

I love your website. Thanks to it I have sensed your great love for God. The topics there have captivated me and I have realized many important things, such as the sovereignty of God, God's election, or for who Jesus Christ died. I need to state very honestly that from this website I have understood for the first time that my love for the Lord Jesus Christ is not from my effort, but only by God the Father's election, which is clearly defined in the Bible. ... I love God the Father that He has chosen me, the Lord Jesus that He redeemed me, and the Holy Spirit that He regenerated me, teaches me, and keeps me in the state of regeneration. I'm sure I am born again.

I don't attend any church. There is a Catholic Church in my neighborhood a SDA Church and one liberal church. Their teaching is contrary to the Bible which means that it doesn't make sense to attend any of these churches. This does not mean that I condemn the people in these churches as they are in the same situation as I used to be. I love God and I am happy that He spoke to me in my life. With best regards and wishes of God's grace and blessing.

Ales

These two letters have one point in common. Both men came to Christ, but neither of them have a healthy church in their neighborhood in a radius of some 35 miles that usually means an hour away. We meet continually with people such as these and with many of them we are in regular contact. The most widespread religion in our country is materialism in conjunction with atheism. Most churches and cults are organized into state registered denominations. About 85% of 10.5 million's population does not belong to any faith or claim to be atheists. About 10% of the population confesses to be Roman Catholic. A larger group of about 2 % of population consists of several liberal denominations. Jehovah's Witnesses and Seventh-Day Adventists represent together nearly 0.5 %, and are by many considered to be evangelicals.

The other denominations, about 0.5 %, are evangelicals and charismatics. Due to the widespread ecumenical movement most congregations are under the influence of the charismatic movement, and most are open to co-working with the Catholics, liberals and the Adventists.

Christian psychology and theistic evolution are also very popular. Only a handful of churches of evangelical denominations, 10 at the most, make the exception. There are also some independent churches, about 30 of them. There are roughly, only about 10 churches in the Czech Republic that practice expository preaching. At the most there are about 10 churches in our country that I can, in a good conscience, recommend to people who are looking for a healthy church.

I am in touch with more people who don't have a healthy church in their location. Please pray that God will give us new healthy churches and will call men who will faithfully preach His Word in truth and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The above information isn't based on the exact research, but based on publicly available information and my limited knowledge of the situation.

http://www.cirkevusti.cz/sites/all/files/prayer-letter/2014-04.pdf

## **OUR MINISTRY GOES ON AND ON AND ON...**

We continue in our ministry tasks on a daily basis. Our board meets regularly and it is always great joy for all involved. We coordinate many things through Skype. We are enjoying our small Bible study group as we see the growth and zeal.

Recently we created a two minute YouTube video about our typical day for North Shore Baptist our partnering church in NYC:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5xR0hj9o1l&feature=youtu.be

## PRAYER CONCERNS AND NEEDS

- Travel mercies for us and grandkids during the Reach Beyond conference in Switzerland.
- A number of close Christian friends, some who are very young, are battling different kinds of cancer.
- Keep praying for ministry outreach, upcoming conferences, arriving teams and speakers and the finalization of summer camp programs.
- Last month gifts toward the ministry were the lowest ever.

With your help reaching beyond

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

Reach Beyond missionaries in Czech and Slovak Republic

Klara and Pavel Steiger



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