



MAY 2016

THE STEIGER'S REPORT FROM PARADISE ON EARTH

It's time for another report from "Czechland". Recently there was a big discussion on how to call Czech Republic in a shortened name. It seems that we have an identity crisis even after 25 years of independence from Russian occupation, communist's domination and the peaceful breakup of Czechoslovakia in 1993. Thus far, there is no shortened single name for Czech Republic. The wise men have proposed to call the country in shortened form – Czechia. They recommend using this single name in English for situations when its formal long name is too inconvenient. A one-word alternative name makes it easier for companies, politicians and sportsmen to use on products, name tags and sporting jerseys.

Historically the largest part of the country is known as Bohemia ("Čechy" in Czech), but there are also other parts, Moravia and Silesia, so one name is needed that does not exclude those historic lands. But not all Czechs are keen on the change. One of the reasons why the new name is not welcomed is that the sound of it is too close to "Chechnya", making it prone to confusion. It sounds to our ears as some petty province north-east of Moscow. The whole problem why Czech Republic does not have its proper name is historical. The land used to be for centuries inhabited by Czechs, Germans, Jews plus some other peoples as in a large multilingual nation like Austria-Hungary used to be common. After WWII when Germans were expelled and Jews disappeared in concentration camps the land became ethnically monocultural as 99% Czech. Bohemia was the geographical name not derived from inhabitants' ethnicity. We think that Czechland is the most suitable name.

The Czech National anthem starts with the words: "Where is my home?". It was written in 1834 and it became a very popular song among people. It was accepted as an informal anthem of a nation seeking to revive its identity in the Austrian-Hungarian Empire. Czechoslovakia was formed in 1918 and the informal anthem became the Czech part of the national anthem. Here it is:

Where is my home? Where is my homeland?
 Water roars across the meadows,
 Pinewoods rustle among crags,
 The garden is glorious with spring blossom,
 Paradise on earth it is to see.
 And this is that beautiful land,
 The Czech land, my home,
 The Czech land, my home!

WE HAVE NEW PRESIDENT

REACH BEYOND, formerly HCJB Global, announced the appointment of Rev. Steve Harling of Foothills Community Church in Arvada, CO, as its new president effective Sept. 1, 2016. Rev. Harling has spent 36 years as a pastor in churches of up to 4,500 members and has served for the last eight years as lead pastor at Foothills Community Church. He has led staff teams of 90 or more employees and thousands of volunteers. The son and grandson of missionaries, early in his career Rev. Harling served internationally as a missionary with SIM and as pastor of the Khartoum International Church in Sudan. He has more than 25 years of mission board experience with SIM, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Global Refuge and Bethany Home.

In addition, Rev. Harling and his wife, Becky, have been instrumental in mentoring and training many missionaries who are now serving around the world. "Perhaps one of Steve's greatest qualities is his ability to motivate and mentor people to maximize their God-given potential in ministry and missions," said Jack Harrison, a member of the Reach Beyond board and chair of the presidential selection and transition team. "We're thrilled that God has raised up Steve to lead us into the next era of ministry to those who have never heard the name of Jesus."

FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY

The donations department announced that during the period of May 15, 2016 – September 30, 2016, for every new monthly partner we recruit, we will receive \$100 for our ministry fund (after they have given for two months) **up to a possible total of \$1500!** That would be a total of 15 new partners. This is for new monthly partners only (one-time gifts or annual gifts are always welcome to you of course, but do not count for bonus dollars). At an average partner gift of \$50/month—that would be approximately \$750/month or more of new support plus a bonus of \$1500 if you get those 15 new partners! Wouldn't this be exciting for you to see those partners involved and praying for your ministry opportunities?

ANSWERS TO PRAYERS

- *We serve in the paradise full of opportunities; however it is not an easy road as we face numerous challenges. It is hard for workaholics to keep balance between ministry and time to rest. The church has its ups and downs in attendance. One Sunday we are full to capacity, the next one we are half full. We have two families associated with our ministries for many years and as they see the "exclusivity" of Word interpretation in their church (they attend for 20 years), they feel that it is time for change and want to join us.*
- *Starting a new church and continuing ongoing ministries of publishing and broadcasting are stretching our budget.*

PRAYER NEEDS

- *Please pray for all of us.*
 - *Please pray for those who are preaching and teaching in the sending church and the church plant.*
 - *Pray for spiritual growth and growth in numbers and that we will become a self-sustaining body of believers in the near future.*
 - *For the conferences ahead of us. We will report in our next Prayer letter.*
- Thank you for your faithfulness, participation and prayers,

In His Sovereign Grace
The Steiger's

You may mail your U.S.

Tax-deductible contributions to:

REACH BEYOND
P.O. BOX 39800
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