

OCTOBER 2017

THE STEIGER'S ELECTRONIC PRAYER AND PRAISE REPORT

It is God who alters the times and seasons, and he removes kings and promotes kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.. (Daniel 2:21)

CATASTROPHIC HURRICANE, CYCLONE, RAINFALL, FLOODING, FIRES ...

How fragile are the days we live in. Our hearts were filled with sorrow and compassion as we followed the news reports about violent weather during the months of September and October. All our friends in Texas, Florida, and Costa Rica were safe as destruction ravaged nearby areas. As if this were not enough, fires in California started to spread. Blazes across Northern California reached the Santa Rosa area. Satellite pictures before and after left one speechless. We were especially concerned for Santa Rosa Bible Church and the people we know there. This is one of our first supporting churches. Five years have passed since we stopped there. The church recently celebrated its 75th anniversary. Our days of engagement with it go back 25 years. We have many special memories of love and generosity of the people, beauty of the country, town, and neighborhoods; now partly reduced to ash and rubble. In November and December, we go on six-week Home Ministry Assignment to see our supporting churches and friends. Santa Rosa Bible Church is on our list. Two and half years ago we visited the Pacific Northwest and Canada which suffered badly with fires. Smoke surrounded us everywhere. It was so sad. Our prayers are always with hurting people.

VOTING HURRICANE IN CZECHIA

Weeks preceding the Czech Republic's general election did not leave one stone in its place. In spite of political commentators and pundits, traditional parties lost ground under their feet to numerous non-traditional parties or movements being called populist or anti-establishment groups. Nine parties crossed the 5 percent threshold to get parliamentary seats.

The election was won by a movement named ANO. The acronym stands for: "Action of dissatisfied citizens." The Czech word ANO means YES in English. Its leader and founder is a billionaire, businessman Andrej Babis. His landslide victory has been referred to by the western media as the "Czech Donald Trump". He achieved election success on a wave of popular support and a widespread distrust of traditional party politics on the left and right. "The movement's charismatic founder and billionaire leader, Mr. Babiš, pushes a populist message from the center of the political spectrum, albeit one free from nationalist or conservative overtones. "His simple message is that he will run the country like a business and root out corruption. He claims to be too rich to need to steal." With an agenda like that, no wonder he has many enemies in ranks of establishment. For the past three years he did very well as the minister of finance however, the inner government circles got rid of him. This was one of the reasons that he won with such popular support amid the comprehensive defeat of the mainstream parties. The record nine parties and groupings made it into Parliament. As leader of the largest party, Andrej Babiš seems certain to be nominated as prime minister. This will be the greatest challenge for his negotiation skills. Days ahead of us will be very interesting to see how the rainbow of parties and ideals will work together.

ADDING NEW MINISTRY

Since the beginning of the Church planting ministry two years ago, our main focus continues to build a healthy Bible believing Church. We are striving to rightly divide the Word and understand the different roles of believers in the Church, Christian Holiness in all relationships to others, and the issues we are facing in the world, as well as spiritual battles. Since some of our people come from different backgrounds and others are brand new believers. We firmly believe that the most important thing is to lay solid foundations at this time. Each Wednesday we have a Bible study where we further explore Sunday's message. Even well-seasoned Christians have an opportunity to go deeper and share their Christian walk with those who are new in faith. We can see progress in better understanding the Scriptures as well as an opportunity to learn how to discuss biblical issues with others.

In October, we added once a month Saturday morning study for men followed by an afternoon study for ladies. Ladies will continue studying what they started last year with Marilyn Farnik. The men do not want to stay behind. They will pay attention to questions dealing with:

- Character of a man and his role in leading the family and church.
- Understanding suffering: what God does in our lives through suffering and how to face it.
- Fellowship with other Christians: supporting, encouraging, exhorting, and solving conflicts.
- Spiritual ministry to believers and nonbelievers.
- Spiritual battle, how to put on the whole armor of God and stand against the wiles of the devil.

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

- This month we had another semi-annual worship service with Kladno Church. What a joy it is to see how we are growing.
- We had another baptism in our church plant.
- Usti church installed a new elder. What a joy it is to see progress and transformation when the Lord calls someone to serve.
- Our old friends and listeners of the Voice of Andes since 1986 recently visited our Bible Church in Prague. They still listen to messages we produce on Trans World Radio. They closely follow video recordings of our Sunday messages on the internet. They read the magazine we produce and they regularly attend our annual conferences. What a joy to fellowship with sisters like that! We experienced the same joy this summer when we once again met listeners and readers from "the old days". We praise the Lord for His blessings so we can serve individuals near and far.
- Please continue to pray for broadcasting in Slovakia. The Slovak pastor from Windsor Baptist Church in Canada was accepted as a missionary with ABWE International. The mutual goal is to reestablish broadcasting to the Slovak minority in Serbia. Also the chairmen of the Baptist Union offered his cooperation with Radio Logos.

- Klara finished translation of 108 messages for broadcasting Steve Cole's messages. This was a true blessing.
- Pray for our Home ministry plans and travel mercies starting mid-November. We plan very quick stop overs with lots of miles to drive. Our first contacts with our previous hosts are full of love and joy expressed by words like: "We certainly look forward to seeing you and welcome you with open arms to our home"

Thank you for your faithfulness, participation and prayers. We need you more than ever.

In His Sovereign Grace, pavel and klara steiger

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