



JULY 2019

**DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF
THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES
IN CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA**

EXTREME SUMMER HEAT COMES TO EUROPE FROM SAHARA

This is the main news of our days. We know that comparing Central European heat to Arizona, California or Texas is not even close, but very few homes in this part of the world are air-conditioned. There are just a few lawns equipped with sprinkler system. On top of dry heat, the water level is very low and there is no rain in sight. Tropical summer temperatures around 100° F become quite uncomfortable, especially in large cities. Since most of European employees have 5 weeks of vacation as soon as school is over, Europeans migrate. Some spend time at their summer homes (cottages) in the mountains trying to escape the heat. Those who do not mind a drive of ten or more hours in never-ending traffic jams migrate from north to south to reach Mediterranean Sea beaches.

For those who stay around, this is the time to pick wild blueberries in the forest, pick sweet apricots from the garden and begin canning a winter supply of wonderful preserves. Our neighbor, whose balcony plants I care for during their summer absence, provides us with yummy creations.

As we stay at home, we welcome a number of visitors who stop in Prague on the way somewhere. Our favorite activity is to take them on a paddleboat ride on the river. Next, we stop to cool off with ice cream, have a cup of coffee and catch up on what is going on in their life. We usually spend a few days or a week with fellow Christians at a mountain retreat.

OUR MINISTRY

- Pavel is preparing a message for a family retreat. The topic is "God's love" and his part is about "Can We Feel Less Loved by God?"
- Klara translated a few more articles for the magazine.
- Another ministry-related task appeared on the horizon: video editing from the conference. Pavel is a big help. He does all the technical groundwork and expertise, and I am then the creative part. This is when I am reminded of how interactive and interdependent our ministry is.
- We remain quite busy. We had another conference with Geoff Volker. For more than 20 years, Geoff travels to Belorussia and Romania to train local pastors. This time he was coming to Romania with a group of 15 people to teach pastors and provide children program. His first stop (plus five of his co-travelers) was in Prague. It is wonderful to reconnect with a faithful servant and friend. The topic of the conference was "The Blessing of the New Testament."



Geoff and his co-travelers

VARICOSE VEINS

After almost 18 years since Pavel's varicose veins surgery, his problem has reoccurred. During the summer, most surgeries are usually postponed because of heat spells. He was able to get a surgery term without waiting until February. The procedure took about 10 hours with local anesthesia. Now for one month, by doctor instruction, he has to take an hour walk four times a day, with two to three-hour rest with his right leg up. He is obedient and healing well. His walking is improving every day.

HOW YOU BECOME AN ENEMY OF THE STATE AS CHRISTIAN

Watch the following testimony of Hana, who grew under communism on Mike Huckabee on TBN show. She and her parents are our dear friends and brothers in Christ who we met when we first arrived as missionaries to Czechoslovakia in 1992. They encouraged us from the beginning. Hana married an American pastor and lives in Georgia. We are almost in daily contact via Facebook. Hana's husband Dr. Emir Caner is the president of Truett McConnell University in Cleveland, Georgia <<https://truett.edu/directory/emir-caner/>>. Hana's testimony is about growing up as Christian under communist domination. Both are devout Christians, their interview is most important message they can share with all who have no experience with their background.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fz8QF4V7Cl8&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0rDD1pkUdda80ZmyXYUpSjs_F4Jg45aZqgYUYq4l0UaQZL5hTnS7Cgxwo&app=desktop#menu

During communism, we were told what to think and how to live. People lived in fear that they can be labeled as enemies of régime. To comply and march silently with shut up mouth to brighter socialist future was a door opener to education, job, place where you would live, what job you will be assigned to and if you will be allowed to cross iron curtain to visit neighboring Soviet satellites.

Blessing to all faithful servants of our Lord who stand with us

**Thank you for your prayers,
Support and participation
In our life and
Czech & Slovak ministry**

**In His Sovereign Grace,
Pavel and Klara Steiger**

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