



**SEPTEMBER 2019**  
**DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF**  
**THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES**  
**OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA**

**BACK TO SCHOOL TIME AND HISTORY LESSON**

**Almost forgotten but making a difference in our days**

Every year America celebrates Labor Day, remembers 9/11 and the loss of some 2,800 lives. The men charged with this crime will be judged on January 11, 2021, at a military court in Guantánamo, nearly 20 years after the devastating attack.

On September 1, 1939, 80 years ago Germany invaded Poland. On August 23, 1939, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a Pact of peace. In a secret protocol of "spheres of influence" was an agreement of possible rearrangement of territories belonging to Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Finland. On September 17, just 16 days after Germany, the Soviet Union also invaded Poland. The territory of Poland was divided between Germany and the Soviet Union. More than one million Poles, those regarded as a threat to the Communist order, were deported to labor camps in the Soviet Union. Small neighboring countries were annexed by the Soviet Union. In 1940, the Nazi Germany war machine conquered much of Western Europe, including France. The pact of peace was terminated on 22 June 1941 while Nazi Germany invaded the Soviet Union.

America officially entered the war after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and had to fight on two fronts: Europe and the Pacific. Those events are history but political consequences are still alive in Europe.

The Revolutions of 1989 was the beginning of the Soviet Union's collapse and the end of its domination of Central and Eastern Europe. After the fall of communism, the European political outcome changed drastically. Countries betrayed, occupied and dominated by the Soviet Union joined NATO. Some of them became members of the

European Union. Poland now became the most reliable NATO partner. After 40 years of communist oppression and officially proclaimed atheism, nations were free and Christians became free to worship.

## **CZECH MINISTRY**

*I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. (1 Cor 3:6-7)*

That is the story of our life. One of our listeners, while we were broadcasting years back, spent time editing program texts from those days. He completed it in an e-book format. What a surprise to us, what an encouragement. His word speaks no matter if it was spoken now or in the past. Planted seed sprouts when the time is right. We know that it never returns void:

*...to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things? (2 Cor 2:16).*

The same goes for Martin Luther's book "The Bondage of the Will" published in the Czech language almost 500 years after it was first published (1525). The eternal word is alive.

## **GREAT BLESSINGS**

### **Alumni connection summer 2019**

A former Reach Beyond President, Wayne Pederson, as he entered the "fourth quarter" of his lifetime, shared words of inspiration: "It's been more like 'rewired' than retired"; serving on the board of seven organizations is never boring.

Jeff Ingram wrote: "I've experienced many different phases of life and have played many different roles—serving in the military, working for a nonprofit, being in organizational leadership, living overseas and being a husband, son, brother, dad, friend, and caregiver."

A description of multiple ministry opportunities for retirees or active missionaries is similar to what we are doing: traveling, visiting, hosting, serving, helping, encouraging, connecting, teaching, editing, translating, with numerous new responsibilities, as well as keeping in touch and attending anniversary celebrations. The funny thing is that many of our activities are connected to those who are entering their second quarter (some grandchildren), third (our children), and fourth (retiring pastors and supporters). Yes,

we miss those days gone by, our children and grandchildren. Loses and gains balance the other blessings. Our most precious moments are those when we see that baton passed on.

One of our heroes is Michio Ozaki's dad whom we met in Quito, Ecuador. Last year we met one of his granddaughters in Prague. What a friend we had in "Kazuo". Recently he celebrated 55 years of radio ministry in Japanese. Even at his age, he goes every summer to Japan to speak in churches and meet with his listeners. What a role model and example of a faithful servant.

Another saint worth mentioning is Martha Brunner, whom we met in Quito. She served in Ecuador for over 50 years. During this time she delivered more than 2350 babies and 20 children became part of her family. She started an orphanage and school as the children in her care reached school age. This was expanded from Pre-kindergarten to High school. Not too many people heard about Martha. Recently she was promoted to be with the Lord. Maybe she can be an inspiration to those who are considering getting involved in mission ministries. A presentation about Martha's life has English subtitles:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJGwy8SDego>

What wonderful memories, and what a wonderful family of God we have.

We conclude this part of our missionary sharing with the reality that we all are getting closer to the heavenly gates. Pastor Ed Moore recently preached to his church a message entitled "Mist opportunity" (this is not a misspelled word) from James 4:13-17 which reminds us that we should hang on loosely to our future plans and prognoses. "What is your life? It is a mist, it is a vapor, like dew, it is a cloud ... Remember Mr. Vapor and Mrs. Mist, we will be soon forgotten."

Praise the Lord that together we can leave some worthy legacy behind.

## **WHAT IS NEW IN CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING?**

### **Radio Logos Slovakia**

We will meet Milan Hudec to get more personal information regarding ongoing ministry in Slovakia this month. The Quarterly Radio expense report relating to broadcasting breaks down as follows: The monthly budget to be on the air is about \$2,100. Out of this sum, the monthly Music copyright fee is \$100.35, internet-streaming fee is \$35, plus studio cost, supplies and of course, taxes and fees. All these needs are a matter of prayer.

## **Trans World Radio**

As of now, this month TWR is starting to broadcast 24/7 on the internet. This July TWR was assigned a satellite license.

## **NEW ONLINE OBSTACLES**

Here and there, we get the message that our mailing could not be delivered or additional action is required. From time to time Klara browses web pages of our partnering churches to see the changes in the pulpit or mission leaders. The first observation is a new design or new branding that most churches have and new secure online rules. To open some of them is not easy any longer. Under those circumstances, following church mission activities or prayer letters is becoming quite difficult.

The biggest surprise is that there is no access to Sunday sermons. Some entries are reserved for members only, and with others, we have to follow a number of steps to connect. With all the changes, we are concerned that our Prayer letters and messages get lost somewhere. Please stay connected.

We understand that we all have to submit to numerous new rules and regulations for churches and individuals. In between, we get cluttered with so much info, ads, and distractions. Those changes are applied globally, especially with the new legislation about "privacy policy". On the other hand, every step is monitored and can be traced back. For example, last time I found out that we recently walked 99 km, over 50 miles. On the global map, there are red dots of places we visited in the past 15 years.

## **PRAYER NEEDS**

- Please pray for our numerous unsaved friends. We rejoice that we can have a part in their lives. However, we mourn for them. We are surrounded by people who live in the same way as in days of Noah:

*They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all (Lk 17:27).*

- Please pray for our church; we have several brothers, sisters and unbelieving friends with a bad diagnosis, prognosis, and ongoing treatments.

## PRAISES

- Our travel plans for November are shaping up. We have air tickets and a general itinerary. We will mail to you all of our travel lists to let you know in advance. It is an exciting time to be with you once again.
- More out of town visitors are coming to the Church of Prague. Some find us through web pages, as they are searching, listening/reading and following sermons, conferences, magazines, publishing activities.
- Last but not least, the first grandchild Samuel flew out of the nest:



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

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

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

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