



JULY/AUGUST 2020
DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF
THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA

Time for a family vacation, summer camps, and all kinds of gatherings which are now in progress as far as COVID regulations allow. As for now, it looks like the European Union tourists are crisscrossing Europe. Prague is full of tourists from neighboring countries and numerous Asian people are coming again. Enjoy Prague on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFKzX7u-3yg>

As for the USA, the ban on travel to the EU is still on. Our webmaster, Vladimír, arrived last Sunday in Prague from New Zealand, where he had been stuck for five months since February. Fortunately, he was able to conduct his business from there; the 12 hours' time difference made it a little bit inconvenient. Now he has to spend two weeks in quarantine.

As far as church gatherings, up to 500 people can meet. Most of the churches here are much, much smaller. During vacation time, much planning has to be done on who will be the next guest speaker in most churches. The normal schedule will resume in September.

THE LORD IS WORKING

After a month of the agonizing situation in the Prague Bible Church, the leadership inability of the sending church to deal openly with the issues led to a no-win situation. The pastor is not responsive or willing to face the problem, and since there is no unity in the sending church elders, both churches remain divided. Some people are leaving or have already left. As for us, we lost all trust and do not see how the church can continue without a radical change. The ministry became isolated, and this is not how we can continue. As far as we are concerned, this is a closed chapter.

The Lord is working in His own way. In the past, He closed for us some doors, but each time he opened exciting new opportunities. This time an encouragement came

from an unexpected direction. Since we know so many believers here in the country, no matter where we go and whom we meet new opportunities are ahead. While “hanging in the air” we reconnected with people from the past to search what to do next. We got in touch with the pastor of the church he has been leading for 13 years in Prague, just on the opposite side of town. He spent three summers with our ministry at the time he was a seminary student. We planned to reconnect and he gladly came to talk with us. Together we spent 4 hours of wonderful fellowship. The following Sunday, we visited the church. There we met some people from our past.

- While we lived in Moravia we ministered to students, and one of them recognized Pavel. At the time he was a new believer of 21 years old, now he is 50.
- A young man, one of five grandsons of a grandma who used to listen to our radio programs from Ecuador, now has a family with 4 children and they attend this church. He comes from a family of four generations of believers touched by our ministry.
- Out of this reunion, we visited a dear friend in Mlada Boleslav, now 97 years old, who we knew from California. He and his wife had been reading our magazine for years. Joseph became a believer at a late age. Each time we were in California we stopped by and they treated us like family.
- We visited the new location of the Prague Christian Library Ministry. It is located right in the center of Prague, 5 minutes walk from the main railroad station. We are overwhelmed with the development and upcoming opportunities.
- A few days later, we went to see a young pastor in another town that we have known for years. He mentioned the need for a college student ministry in Prague. Some believing college students go home for the weekend and there they attend their churches. This double meeting may lead to a new Bible study for students.
- It looks as though the Lord will open the door and the student ministry can start in October. We are excited about the new outreach in Prague.



Jim and Laurie Barns run Christian Library in Prague since 1997

PRAISES

- Our days are busy as always. We keep in touch with believers as well as with nonbelievers. We strongly believe in building relationships with people from different backgrounds.
- We are writing and translating. Steve Coles' A Refuge of Love is almost finished.
- New project Radio Logos in Slovakia: Translation of R.C. Sproul's book Parables of Jesus for programing and publishing. We hope to translate the book into the Czech language as well.
- We continue on several small projects for "Pocket Theology" to encourage pastors and believers.

PRAYER NEEDS

- Please pray for the Prague Bible Church's recovery after recent events. Some of us realize that the church is not prepared to face the reality and crisis of our days. The trial of COVID-19 is just a small example. Should church follow the rules and regulations of the government, or disrespect them because the faith of strong believers will prevail?

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

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

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