

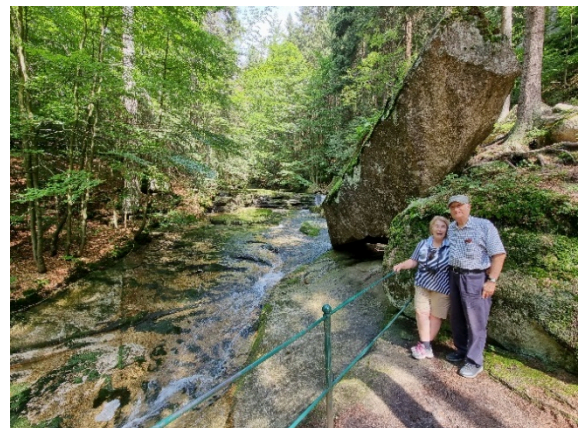


**AUGUST 2021**  
**DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF**  
**THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES**  
**OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA**

**GREEN SUMMER**

No, no, no we did not convert our focus to Planet saving goals, just reporting that instead of scorching summer we have plenty of rain but no major floods. The countryside is green and thriving. No need for hose watering in the yard and Klara's rainwater barrel gets filled regularly.

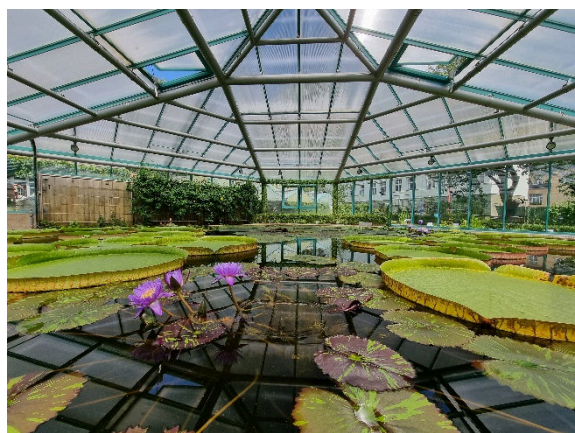
We enjoyed normal summer activities with a couple of church week-long vacations. It's almost touching when we are visited by adults we knew when they were teenagers. Today, they are going through life difficulties and come to us for advice. Our door and hearts are open to show His love. At the same time, we see religiosity and little or no Lordship in the church we visit. As we mentioned before, the church we attend now is troubling us. On Sunday people come and leave without greeting or paying little or no attention to anyone. We took an extra step to bond with this church. We took part in a week-long retreat. The location was perfect:



The preaching was good. However, what we discovered is disturbing. There were about 120 people. We knew about 10 of them. Klara took an effort to get acquainted with some we did not know. She found some people that had the same experience as we did. One couple told us: *"We have attended this church for four years and we do not know most of the people by their name. No one pays attention to us, we feel odd. What is wrong with us?"* And their request to us was: *"Please, stay with us, do not leave this church."* Can you imagine a week-long church retreat where, day by day, morning by morning, people do not greet each other; they do not smile or start small talk to get to know each other? Not even most of those we got acquainted with on Zoom Bible study – total indifference. We do not remember anything like that even during the communist era when we had reason to be cautious about whom we talked to and what we said. The quote from Charles H. Spurgeon, *"Every Christian is either a missionary or a fraud"* haunts our minds.

What is wrong with this church? The pastor is a godly man we have known for a long time. He has preaching abilities, he is communicative, outgoing, his messages are good, but the hearts of some people are cold. From time to time women preachers, church members, step up to the pulpit. On those Sundays, we usually visit another church out of town. We have no idea where we will go next. We have yet one very little home church on our mind. We'll report to you next time how it went.

The week of rest had its positive sides. One of the participants of the retreat came asking if we still had in our archives the series of programs we broadcast from Ecuador (1990-1991). The topic was the Human body and the church. He would like to share it with his foster son. We also visited the botanical garden, took hundreds of macro-micro pictures and slow-motion videos:



The museums also fascinated us. The first was the exhibition of obstetrics, the next was the technical and glass museum, traditional crafts. As always, we met non-believing friends from the past, from school days, or fellow travelers.

## PRAISE AND PRAYERS

- We are aware of scorching heat and fires in the Western US as well as throughout Europe. Fires have so far avoided our little "kingdom" of the Czech Republic. But South Moravia was hit by a powerful tornado, causing major property damage. Tornadoes are very rare in the Czech Republic. We don't remember any at all.
- Except for AFG, BDN, CVD, DLT concerns, everything is under control.
- Alumni Connection conducted the HCJB 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in Elkhart, Indiana. The Zoom link got those who attended in-person to connect with those who were not able to come. This way we could greet several missionaries and friends we knew in Ecuador (1990 and later during conferences in Quito and Colorado Springs). Thirty years ago we all looked different but with some of those, we are in contact till now.
- The first step of Pavel's big translating project of his book "My Glory I Will Not Give to Another" is done. The language similarity is a great help and now it is in the hands of Polish proofreaders. Poland has a population of 40 million, 90% Catholic.
- Please pray for Pavel's brother's spiritual condition. Most of our relatives are not saved and show no interest in Christ.

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

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

[pavel.steiger@gmail.com](mailto:pavel.steiger@gmail.com)

<°))))><

**You may mail your U.S.  
Tax-deductible contributions to:**

REACH BEYOND  
P.O. BOX 39800  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80949-9800  
U.S.A.

**You may mail your Canadian  
Tax-deductible contributions to:**

REACH BEYOND  
3 - 44 SALTSMAN DRIVE  
CAMBRIDGE, ON N3H 4R7  
CANADA

Attach to your check the following note:  
FOR THE MINISTRY OF  
PAVEL & KLARA STEIGER  
ACC # 100-110329