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A man's pride shall bring him low; But he that is of a lowly spirit shall obtain honor. (Proverbs 29:23)

**July 2011** 

Dear Friends and Partners of the HCJB Global Ministry to the Peoples in Czech Republic and Slovakia <pavel.steiger@gmail.com>

### **HOME, SWEET HOME**

No matter how long we travel, each time we get back home we step immediately into our daily routine. First of all, Klara sorts and checks our snail-mail. This time we found out who was born, who graduated and who departed this world. Next, we unpack our suitcases and put everything back where it should be. The third step is grocery shopping to fill an empty fridge. This is the time to buy some goodies we missed while traveling. After that, it is time for Pavel to start our computer network. That task is usually more complex than to just turn the power on. At this time the mirror disk (to maintain double data) was dead. When something like this happens, there is no time to think or feel jetlagged. While Pavel cares about his chal-



lenges, Klara takes care of her ailing plants and checks the neighbor's ailing plants and life returns back to normal.

As our Prayer letters go, we were able to send one electronic report while Stateside. Here is its updated version below:

# MANY MEETINGS, REUNION and Special BIRTHDAY

In May, we attended the HCJB Global Legacy Conference in Colorado Springs. This was a part of HCJB Global's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. There was a marvelous atmosphere of love, unity, passion, excitement and joy. Every one of us felt enthusiasm for the direction of HCJB Global. We are proud to be part of such organization that has vision. No ministry is static and the ministry of HCJB Global is more frequently using a sub-brand for HCJB Global as the Global Voice and Hands of Jesus serving with partners around the globe. Reports of World Offices from Africa, Asia, Ecuador, and Latin America as well as from Europe were encouraging to all of us. It is great to see what is accomplished around the world. We are excited about HCJB's spirit, and challenges ahead of us. We pray that our Lord will bless our new ventures among Czech and Slovak people.

The Legacy Conference was attended by about 200 missionaries and staff from all the World Offices, including both active and retired members. Missionaries present were recognized by years serving with HCJB starting in 1940+, 1950+, 1960+, 1970+, 1980+, 1990+ (like us)... Those retired ones who served with HCJB Global for at least for 10 years were recognized as Hall of Faith Servants. It is a privilege to be associated with the great history and challenging future of HCJB Global. It was wonderful to see so many colleagues we had not seen for 20 years along with those who were at the beginning of HCJB ministry. Now, some of them are candidates for a heavenly promotion, with bodies longing for restoration. Our At times we had hearts were touched. wheelchair and walking cane traffic jams. We noticed some other special marks of age like hearing aids, questions about health, etc... Here is an interesting observation: as we all are aging, some people get shorter and gain some pounds, other shrink and lose weight. In our case we have one of each type.

The younger generation is all about technology. So called "millennials" are using social media and gaming as tools that can be used as an information highway leading to the Gospel. New technologies like smart phones, text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, streaming video, You Tube, etc. are opening doors for direct communication. We sure are glad that our young team of co-workers here in CZ and SK is right at the edge of all of it.

We are praising the Lord that Milan Hudec, our Slovak radio man, was with us at the Legacy Conference. After the conference, he went to AZ to visit Flagstaff Christian Fellowship with whom we work closely together. Meeting with Pastor Cole and the church was a feast of loving care and friendship. A trip to the Grand Canyon with experienced guides like Steve and Marla was the next highlight of his trip. Put in Milan's words: "This was a life-changing event for me."

After Colorado Springs, we returned to Denver. We spent the second weekend with our youngest son Vit and visited Klara's brother and his wife. Together we visited a Russian speaking church and we have to say, that they know how to SING. It was a very special touch since we could understand the songs' lyrics. Our understanding of the Russian language is not as good to follow preaching word by word.

From Denver, we drove north to Jackson. WY to see the maiesty of the Grand Tetons. The next stop was Yellowstone Park. In both places we took marvelous pictures. No one will believe us that the weather was cold and blue sky was not visible for most of our driving time. We continued through Rexburg, ID, Missoula, MT, and to Wallace, ID where we started to live our American dream in January 1970. Beautiful Coeur d'Alene, ID, and Spokane WA was always close to our hearts. We visited several friends and a church which has been sending summer teams to the Czech Republic over the past 10 summers. We admire their love, commitment, dedication, patience and endurance shown to the Czech people. We will see the team in July again in CZ. Our prayer is that their effort will help bring slowcomers to safe haven.

From Spokane we continued west to Portland, OR. This was another encouraging stop to see our long-time prayer partners in ministry and to find out that there are "3.5" Czech couples meeting weekly for a Bible study. Our next stops were Coos Bay, OR, Eureka and Cloverdale, CA. We spent one week in Madera, CA with our faithful supporting church of 20 years. This time we did not have to rush anywhere and we enjoyed good time of fellowship, canoeing on the lake and a lovely trip to Yosemite. It was another cloudy day, but pictures turned out nice. Dark clouds stayed behind our backs.

Our last weekend stop in California was with our supporting church in Santa Rosa. We attended very dynamic adult Bible study. Once again, we had a great time and we thank all for being our partners in ministry.

The NW part of our home ministry and the HCJB Global Legacy Conference was four weeks long. We visited six churches and many individuals, and drove 3,200 miles. We praise the Lord that we could visit so many churches, supporters, and friends along the way. One day we will create our own Hall of Faithfull Supporters.

From San Francisco, we flew with Virgin America to NYC to spend a few days with people in North Shore Baptist Church in Queens. The church and especially Blue Group welcomed us with open arms and a big blue cake for the Pavel's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Time with this church and roaming NYC is always exciting. We love the variety and multi-ethnicity of the congregation. A short trip to NJ reunited us with another lovely couple close to our heart. THANK YOU ALL for showing so much love which made us to feel like we were at home. To hear WEL-COME HOME is so dear to our split personality hearts. It is amazing that while we are traveling, as long as we are united in Christ, we feel like part of family.

## **GRAND FINALLE**

From NYC we took the Bolt Bus to Boston (for an amazing price of \$15 each) and were reunited with our kids and grandkids. We spent a week together and we had a marvelous time. The boys are big sportsmen. To try playing soccer with them would be now life-threatening. The girls love to listen to Klara grandma's reading. It was time to relax and be happy together.

### WHAT STRUCK US

Each time we come to the USA, there are new impressions. We are not talking

about how we change, but how we feel. Listening to media one can get feeling of critical urgency and a state of emergency to take immediate action. The economy, job market, dollar, your health, etc. is in crisis. To protect yourself you need to buy gold, another product or service – right now.

Each time we are in the USA, there is major news played and rehashed from morning to evening, week after week. This time, it was the trial with Casey Anthony and Senator Weiner's conduct. Both news, are truly the last thing anyone should be consumed by.

There's one more observation worth mentioning. Several times we were involved in conversation about neighborhood changes with the following illustration. People do not know their neighbors. They drive home; the remote garage door opener opens and closes "castle walls and doors." Rediscovering the Art of Neighboring is a 50-church initiative of "Who is my neighbor" in Denver to change this. Good neighbors are building blocks of neighborhoods and churches should be playing an active role.

This was an eye opener to us. We have the best memories of all our neighbors, no matter where we lived stateside. They became our friends and with a number of them, we still keep in touch, even though we moved away 20 or more years ago. Not to know your neighbor was the way of living in communist countries. We realize that our ministry experience with American friendships and hospitality is unusual. Europeans often criticize Americans that they are superficial in their friendships. As we understand this accusation, they are mistaking politeness for superficiality. To build true friendship takes a lot of work, energy, commitment, love, and persistence. The same is true in marriage and raising children. We still believe that America is a polite and generous country, however it may change into a country that people will be as hard to reach as is common in our part of world.

For the first time in our life, we rode a yellow school bus. We do not understand how come that in the cradle of the auto industry and high technology, children ride something so ugly and uncomfortable. In rural areas of Oregon, we saw several school buses used as Mexican food stalls.

Another striking change we observed is how ladies' fashion changed for the better. Previously we never saw so many elegantly dressed young ladies, and even teen-agers. Skirts replaced baggy jeans. Many girls look again feminine.

## WHAT IS AHEAD OF US

Hopefully we would like to concentrate on writing, translating and recording radio programs. We will attend several summer camps and spend time with numerous visitors.

### **GREAT BOOK TO READ**

<u>"Slave" The Hidden Truth about Your Identity in Christ</u> by John MacArthur. This was a gift from Pastor Brannon in Madera. We are already making contacts in order to translate, and publish it in the Czech language.

## LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR Which touched our hearts:

Dear Pavel, congratulation on your birthday milestone with wishes of many of His Blessings. I am very glad that I have the privilege to know you closer, and learn much from you. You are one of those people who significantly moved my biblical understanding forward. Be well. I wish you that our Lord will use your gift to teach even more. With brotherly greeting, Daniel

### **PRAISE and PRAYERS**

- For safe travel and loving fellowship during home ministry
- Outcome of summer camps.
- For ministry to individuals.
- We did not meet Georgina, founder of Czech and Slovak broadcasting at HCJB World Radio, in COS, however, we just met her and her husband in Prague.
- We rejoice to know that some preaching and teaching messages on our web are downloaded about 2000 times.
- PTL that we had an opportunity to express our gratitude in person to some of you for the way you touched our lives; thus consequently indirectly influencing many of those whom we minister to here in CZ and SK. Your faithfulness, understanding and love are precious to us.

In His Sovereign Grace with love Pavel and Klara Steiger, Your HCJB Global Missionaries In Czech Republic and Slovakia



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#### XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

## Good morning,

All week I look forward to listening to another radio message. They are superb. I enjoyed most the one about how to converse with nonbelievers. Yes, we should be passionate and respectful; we should not raise our voice. It is possible when we talk to someone outside of our family circle. I have lived for 30 years with my husband who is a Jehovah Witness. You can hardly imagine our communication. Very often we raise our voices. Can you advise me about how to convince him that the catholic faith is true without raising my voice? I am convinced that my faith is deep and I try to live according to church guidance.

Your faithful listener, Lulu