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***Every word of God is tried: He is a shield unto them that take refuge in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. Two things have I asked of thee; Deny me them not before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lies; Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is needful for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is Jehovah? Or lest I be poor, and steal, and use profanely the name of my God. (Proverbs 30:5-9)***

**July 2012**

**Dear Friends and Partners  
Of the HCJB Global  
Ministry to the Peoples  
In Czech Republic and Slovakia  
SUMMER SCHEDULE**

Two months of school and family vacation change the whole country. Many locals leave the city to spend time in their summer houses or with their relatives in the countryside. Church attendance is low and slow. However, Summer camps and various church group vacations are in progress. For July, our team of coworkers planned the English Summer Camp and four day seminar on Biblical Counseling



led by Dr. George C. Scipione, Ph.D. This was an excellent and joyful time to learn about the application of Biblical principles in the multi-generational set up of family and the church. We endured 25 instruction hours and recreation time in a beautiful wooded area of Křivoklát. A special program for children was provided during lectures.

Over 100 people attended and we established new contacts with many families from the whole country. Praise The Lord. This ministry is becoming a valuable Christian media educational outreach. A new Biblical counseling internet portal is now available.

What is most encouraging is to see the new generation being integrated into the ministry. One of interpreters was only 18 years old and he did great job.

As an expression of our appreciation we would like to have a family retreat for our team in September.

**GRADE AND HIGH SCHOOL REUNIONS**

This June Klara had her 50 year High School reunion and her 54-year reunion since she left secondary school. Reflecting on her afternoons and evenings spent with classmates, she felt sad. Not one of them was open for any conversation concerning our Creator and Savior. Not one showed any interest. It is interesting to see how life without God and Christian influence forms a person into a sad, empty existence with loss of interest, ideals and spark for life (no matter what they previously achieved).

### **HERRNHUT (Lord's Hat) and Moravian Brethren**

While we were in the area we visited the small town of Herrnhut. It is located just about 15 miles from Klara's birthplace, on the German side of the border. Its name literally means a place where Lord's people are protected or covered by the Lord's hat. In this town, just 15 miles from the Austro-Saxon borderline (now Czech-German), the Moravian Church found a refuge in Protestant Saxony during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Its history is amazing and surprising to many present-day American Christians:

In 1722, a small group of Bohemian Brethren (the so-called "Hidden Seed") who had been living in northern Moravia (Eastern Czech Republic) as an illegal underground remnant surviving in the Catholic setting of the Austrian Habsburg Empire for nearly 100 years, arrived at the Berthelsdorf estate of Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, a nobleman who had been brought up in the traditions of Pietism. Out of a personal commitment to helping the poor and needy, he agreed to a request from their leader (Christian David, an itinerant carpenter) that they be allowed to settle on his lands in Upper Lusatia, which is in present-day Saxony in the eastern part of modern-day Germany.

The refugees established a new village called Herrnhut, about 2 miles (3 km) from Berthelsdorf. The town initially grew steadily, but major religious disagreements emerged and by 1727 the community was divided into warring factions. Count Zinzendorf worked to bring about unity in the town and the *Brotherly Agreement* was adopted by the community on 12 May 1727. This is considered the beginning of the renewal. Then, on 13 August 1727 the community underwent a dramatic transformation when the inhabitants of Herrnhut "learned to love one another", following an experience that they attributed to a visitation of the Holy Spirit, similar to that recorded in the Bible on the day of Pentecost.

Herrnhut grew rapidly following this transforming revival and became the center of a ma-

jor movement for Christian renewal and mission during the 18th century. Historians identify the main achievements of this period as:

1. Setting up a watch of continuous prayer that ran uninterrupted, 24 hours a day, for 100 years.
2. Originating the *Daily Watchwords*.
3. Establishing more than 30 settlements internationally on the Herrnhut model, which emphasized prayer and worship, and a form of communal living in which simplicity of life-style and generosity with wealth were held to be important spiritual attributes. The purpose of these communities was to assist the members resident there in the sanctification of their lives, to provide a meeting place for Christians from different confessional backgrounds, to provide Christian training for their own children and the children of their friends and supporters and to provide support for the Moravian Mission work throughout the world. As a result, although personal property was held, divisions between social groups and extremes of wealth and poverty were largely eliminated.
4. Being the first church body to begin missionary work; and
5. Forming many hundreds of small renewal groups operating within the existing churches of Europe, known as "diaspora societies". These groups encouraged personal prayer and worship, Bible study, confession of sins and mutual accountability.

Along with the Royal Danish Mission College, the Moravian missionaries were the first large-scale Protestant missionary movement. They sent out the first missionaries when there were only 300 inhabitants in Herrnhut. Within 30 years, the church sent hundreds of Christian missionaries to many parts of the world, including the Caribbean, North and South America (see Christian Munsee), the Arctic, Africa, and the Far East. They were the first to send lay people (rather than clergy) as missionaries, the first Protestant denomination to minister to slaves, and the first Protestant presence in many countries.

Owing to Zinzendorf's personal contacts with their royalty, the first Moravian missions were directed to the Dano-Norwegian Empire. While attending the coronation of Christian VI of Denmark, he was profoundly struck by two Inuit converts of Hans Egede's mission in Greenland and also by an African from the West Indies. The first Moravian mission was established on the Caribbean island of St Thomas in 1732 by a potter named Johann Leonhard Dober and a carpenter named David Nitschmann, who later became the first bishop of the Renewed Unity in 1735. Matthaeus Stach and two others founded the first Moravian mission in Greenland in 1733 at Neu-Herrnhut on Baal's River, which became the nucleus of the modern capital Nuuk.

Moravians founded missions with Algonquian-speaking Mohican in the British colony of New York in British North America. For instance, they founded one in 1740 at the Mohican village of *Shekomoko* in present-day Dutchess County, New York. The converted Mohican people formed the first native Christian congregation in the present-day United States. Because of local hostility to the Mohican, the Moravian support of the Mohican led to rumors of their being secret Jesuits, trying to ally the Mohican with France in the on-going French and Indian Wars.

Although supporters defended their work, at the end of 1744 the colonial government based at Poughkeepsie expelled the Moravians from New York.

In 1741, David Nitschmann and Count Zinzendorf led a small community to found a mission in the colony of Pennsylvania. The mission was established on Christmas Eve, and was named *Bethlehem*, after the Biblical town in Judea. There, they ministered to the Algonquian Lenape. Bethlehem, Pennsylvania is today the sixth largest city in Pennsylvania. Later, colonies were also founded in North Carolina, where Moravians led by Bishop August Gottlieb Spangenberg purchased 98,985 acres or 400.58 km<sup>2</sup> from John Carteret, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl

Granville. This large tract of land was named *die Wachau*, or Wachovia, after one of Zinzendorf's ancestral estates on the Danube River in Austria. Other early settlements included Bethabara (1753), Bethania (1759) and Salem (now referred to as Old Salem in Winston-Salem North Carolina) (1766).

In 1801 the Moravians established a mission to the Cherokee Nation in present day Murray County Georgia that remained until the forced removal of the Cherokees to Oklahoma, and remained active there through the end of the American Civil War in 1865. The mission was transferred to the Danish Lutheran Church and continues now as the Oaks Mission School in Oklahoma.

The start of far-flung missionary work necessitated the setting up of independently administered Provinces. So, from c1732, the history of the church becomes the history of its provinces.

Eventually, the Moravian missions in Australia and Greenland were transferred to the local Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches respectively.

We can confirm, Herrnhut is an amazing place. One of its most interesting points is the Ethnographic Museum, more accurately a Missionary museum. It was founded in 1878 to accommodate artifacts that missionaries had collected since their global outreach to proclaim the Gospel to many different people. Moravian missionaries learned the native language and their culture. We could see on display different grammar books, curiosities, symbols of status and power, Buddhist artifacts, gods of men, religious charms, masks, etc... The history of mission outreach is amazing. To say the least, those missionaries and their ethnographic studies laid the foundation of modern anthropology.

Thus we have on our list another interesting destination for our visiting friends from the USA. When our grandchildren come to visit us, Herrnhut will be a must. The last time we visited Luther's places with them, which they enjoyed tremendously.

**HCJB GLOBAL EUROPEAN  
CONFERENCE June 2012**

**Crossing Continents**

**With the Voice and Hands of Jesus**

Four days of regional presentations, challenges and accomplishments were jointly shared by 19 different nationalities. Including UK guests we had a top attendance of 90 people. Year by year we see new worldwide opportunities where the Voice and Hands of Jesus help to serve. As HCJB Global reaches new areas with new tools, networking, and partnering with other servants of His, we can hear words of encouragement, comfort and the love of Christ. The special guest speaker for the conference was George Verwer, the founder of Operation Mobilization. His message on messiology (it is not a typo) was most challenging. As we developed his message in our minds further, we marvel at the big mess from which most of us were saved. George V. is a passionate advocate of radical discipleship as the only legitimate option for people who believe in Jesus.

**PRAISES**

- We had a great vacation time with our younger son Vit.
- Our BIG Thank You goes to the team of English instructors from a church in Spokane, WA along with Dr. Scipione and his wife—the (hammer and marshmallow) team.
- We are grateful for our team, for our church and the young generation which is showing great potential.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

- For Milan and those involved in the ministry. Our thankfulness goes to the Lord for Milan's commitment, creativity and endurance.
- Pray for our pastor Daniel and the church's search for a new pastor. Daniel is responding well to the treatment.
- For a broadcasting license in Czech Republic.

- Pavel's writing project. We hope that it will be published by the end of the year.

**VISITORS**

We have missed some visitors. The summer season is sometimes like that.

**RADIO BROADCAST**

Deadlines must be met. It is important for us to perform this task prayerfully, not having fallen into routine.

**WHAT IS AHEAD OF US?**

- One more conference in August. This one is informal theological sharpening skills.
- Geoff Volker is going to stop here in August and we plan to visit Herrnhut with him. We are looking forward to it.
- Slovak Creation conference in Žilina first week in September.

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**Pavel and Klara Steiger,  
Your HCJB Global Missionaries  
In Czech Republic and Slovakia**

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