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For we also once were foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. But when the kindness of God our Saviour, and his love toward man, appeared, not by works done in righteousness, which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy he saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly, through Jesus Christ our Saviour; (Titus 3:3-6)

June 2014

Dear Friends and Partners of the Reach Beyond Ministry to the Peoples in Czech Republic and Slovakia

### **OUR GRANDSONS**

A few days ago our grandsons, "The Steiger Boyz," left and we the grandparents have been back to normal schedule.



The boys left on Thursday, and the next morning we drove to Kroměříž, Moravia to attend The Summer Pastoral Conference. The boys arrived home to Manchester, New Hampshire on Friday and the following day on Saturday the whole family left for vacation. They have a really tough life... We assume it is a time for "Boyz" debriefing. Their visit was a kind of "normal grand parenting" and nostalgic memories. We picked them at the airport. This time they flew in by themselves from Boston via Munich to Prague. After brief rest with us the boys were taken to their maternal grandma (Babi) about 40 miles from Prague. Babi does not speak English and the boys do not speak Czech. Fortunately there is their uncle Jonah who speaks English fluently since he is dating Anni from Spokane. While with Babi and Jonah we visited them. That felt like the natural way grandparents keep in touch with grandchildren. After their time with Babi they returned to Prague and the next day we left to attend our first "Reach Beyond" Conference in Switzerland. On the way to Zurich we stopped in the lovely, historical town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber in Germany. If the root of the town name reminds you

something rotten, you are right. It was originally found almost two thousand years ago as a Roman fortified town. About 259-260 it was destroyed. The current name came into existence in the middle ages when Alemanic people settled on the rotten ruins of this old Roman town.

### **REACH BEYOND CONFERENCE**

The next day we continued via Principality Liechtenstein to Switzerland. The official program of the first Reach Beyond Voice and Hands of Jesus Conference (formerly HCJB Global) started in a church auditorium. After reconnecting with everyone and initial greetings came the introduction of attendees. The conference was attended by about 50 people representing 18 different countries. Everyone put the green dot on the map where they serve or came from. Missionaries arrived from Asia, Australia, Europe, down to Africa. The East and West, North and South all were represented.

The opening session was followed by the greeting of Wayne Pederson, our president. Next days were broken into regional reports, Bible study time, prayers and workshops. Among other things we all shared how we cope with the new name. We found out that translation of the name "Reach Beyond" is not self-explanatory in other languages. It just doesn't sound as if it can be an organization's name in other languages. Most of the World Offices are not translating the new name at all, and keep it in English. That is a good decision; names of organizations should not be translated.

During ministry reports we got a deeper insight into new Reach Beyond con-

cepts, goals and vision. It is interesting to see the variety of raising opportunities around the world and how to reach unreached people of different continents, cultures, technological and educational advancement; from illiterate nomads to urban populations in multicultural settings, refugees and migrants. The need for creative approaches on how to penetrate places where people have never heard the Gospel is a challenge of this era. The world and the political situation is rapidly changing. A number of missionaries serve and minister in dangerous places. We were pleased to see new missionaries, a number of young families in the ministry field coming from Europe. New blood lowers the average age of missionaries. For our boys, the presentations and meeting with missionaries was informative and interesting.

The conference program was concluded by a trip to Schaffhausen to see the wonderful Rhine waterfalls. We had a large group of people that exceeded the capacity of the bus. Three cars helped with transportation. We spent the whole afternoon at the falls, walked around the basin and stopped for refreshment. Our boys had a great time with older "boys" – the Swiss worship team of young adults.

## **DRIVING HOME THE LONG WAY**

After the conference it took us five days to get back to Prague. We drove from Zürich south some 280 miles to Italy. It was a show time of stunning beauty of God's creation. We drove through many tunnels; the longest was over 10 miles long. After the St. Gotthard Tunnel we entered the Uri Canton, which is Italian

speaking. From the tunnel it was a downhill ride with the climate warming as we drove. We made a short stop in Chiasso, the last Swiss town before crossing to Italy. Pleasant lovely atmosphere with jazz music at the plaza was a little bonus on the way. We arrived to Vicenza in late afternoon where we overnighted at a nunnery. At this time the town was celebrating Bible week the Catholic way. The time we spent there was full of music, singing and sidewalk activities. We visited a large number of very historical churches.

The next day we drove to Venice where a boat ride on the Grand Canal was lovely. It took about 40 minutes and we got out at famous San Marcos Plaza. The place was packed with tourists. Klara was making memories, shooting movies and taking pictures. We listened to music, watched musicians, and enjoyed rehearsal for the evening performance of the musical Mama Mia. After we had our fill of city impressions, we boarded the public boat again and went to Murano Island where the glass factories are located. We enjoyed the demonstration of how the glass sculptures are made. Then we meandered the streets and saw some more pretty sites. The whole afternoon was outstanding; sunny, warm and pleasant as can be. We were able to get to the San Marcos church as the last visitors—avoiding standing in a long, long queue. We walked around the church without any crowds.

From Venice we continued to Austria. At this point the weather became rainy so we had to change our plans slightly. Our activities were not hindered much. The underground excursion to the salt mine in

Hallein was a great hit with boys. This was a memorable place for our sons as well. In Salzburg we all got a little wet. Fortunately we had good rain gear. However, the boys put it on after they were totally soaked. The historical part of the town is a pedestrian zone, so the boys were discovering it on their own. They had a grand time with all the vintage sports cars gathered at one place. Klara got nice video scenes of over 150 old classic race cars in a parade and ride through Salzburg. We could not believe that our boys did not care for famous chocolate Mozart balls.



From Salzburg we drove home to Prague. The next day, one by one, we were

hit by a 24-hour stomach bug. The timing was perfect. If that happened during our travel we would have had to stay put close to the bathroom. In Prague grandma had two dates with the boys, one by one. She was the last one to get the bug.

We are grateful that we had an opportunity to build some memories for our grandsons. This was our first time to spend time with them alone. They are year apart, as our sons were. We did the same trip with them about 40 years ago when they were just a little younger than our New Hampshire boys. There were moments that we forgot that we are grandparents and not parents.

# THE SUMMER PASTORAL CONFERENCE

The Summer Pastoral conference in Kroměříž, Moravia was a great event. The key conference speaker was Alex Montoya, one of the professors from Masters Seminary in LA. His book "Preaching with Passion" was published in Czech just in time for the conference. We enjoyed his passionate presentation and teaching. This was the first time we were at the conference where we did not know most of the attending people. We rejoice that we can see new and young believers and new independent churches rising up. Jarda Kernal, our ministry theologian and leader of our indigenous ministry, did an outstanding job once again. The Slovak believers were represented as well. The whole conference was live-streamed and video recorded thus it will be available on web pages for others. What a joy it was to hear how important is the love for His Word, concern

and compassion for the lost, love of one for another.

It was interesting to compare summer and winter conference timing. In the winter the weather can discourage some to travel and in the summer it is hardest to overcome a great temptation to enjoy sunny days instead of sitting long hours at the conference. Both can be challenging for those who should or could attend.

At the conference we met our new book translator (from English into Czech language). Hopefully the project to translate *MacArthur's Slave* will be resumed.

### SUMMER MINISTRY HEARTBEAT

 CISP – Christian International School of Prague is a recent presentation of the spiritual condition of the Czech people and the need for Christian education. Klara has a very short spot in the first half of this presentation:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/t6e6owsbag c2e7n/support%20CISP%20high.mp4

- Pavel is working on his books. Often he has to devote his time to numerous other responsibilities.
- Klara started translating a series of messages by Pastor Steve Cole from the Gospel of John.
- In July we have three Christian camp gatherings to attend. We are dividing our time into short segments of four days or three days for each one of them.
- Klara will attend one conference in July.
- The plans for our annual Winter conference are underway.

Please remember, whenever you get any mail from "Reach Beyond," it is not junk mail but rather the new name for the ministry we have served with for the past 22 years. All mailings pertain to us, Pavel and Klara Steiger. It will take some time to get used to the new name—even for us.

We realize that without His blessings and your faithfulness this ministry would not exist. With your help we can REACH BEYOND and be "The Voice and Hands of Jesus. Together." For those of you who are already supporting us, nothing is changing. Address and account number are the same. Thank you.

Thanks for your participation in our life and ministry.

In Czech Republic and Slovakia Pavel and Klara Steiger <pavel.steiger@gmail.com>



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