



© Ivan Steiger MMXV

***But whoso keepeth his word, in him
verily is the love of God perfected:
hereby know we that we are in him.
(1 John 2:5)***

JUNE 2015

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

IN GENERAL

Summer is here. We will soon enter the second half of the year that started just “a few days” ago. No wonder so many things have been happening recently. We are still gasping for air. It feels almost like a tandem skydive with our Lord.

Let's start briefly what we already shared with those who are on our E-prayer list. First, let us expand a little on the Reach Beyond (RB) Euro/Asia Regional Retreat. This time we all met in Budapest, Hungary, about 350 miles Southeast from Prague. Once again we



had an opportunity to connect in person with our RB leadership of Colorado Springs and the missionaries of the Euro/Asia Region team. We shared regional progress reports, personal updates and some training. This time it was generally focused on Growing Leaders. We all enjoyed formal and informal gatherings with a special session for a time of prayer and mutual encouragement. This was the first time we had a special session for the ladies and it was amazing how many additional topics they could cover. We, Pavel and Klara, had to cope with numerous abbreviations we are not used to in our daily ministry. First was RB, HR (Human Resources), RT (Regional Team), etc. The only abbreviations we use are abbreviations of Biblical books. Earlier we mentioned that the mission's new name Reach Beyond is not translatable to other languages. Actually, translation into some languages may invoke suspicious content. Hardly anyone knew what HCJB stood for, and we had a story to tell about broadcasting and other endeavors as they opened in Ecuador. Now again we

have to explain what RB means. We all know that times are changing and we all are changing with them.

As a body, the European team is a little bit overwhelmed by new challenges leading to internal changes. Some are related to personal needs of missionaries, their family situation, education for children, support issues, as well as recent political changes that affect missionaries in the various fields. It takes years to learn language, develop ways to reach people and all can be gone in matter of a few days. An entire work and organization can melt away under governmental pressures. Especially NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations) and Non-Profit Organization are targeted in Russia and former Soviet territories. While the local authorities can close the door, the Lord opens other opportunities. We sure live in exciting and dangerous times. It is not a bit boring. This all led to a mini training session because any one of us could encounter a kidnaping, detention or something similar.

When we returned home, news came that nine local workers who were employed by a Czech humanitarian organization in Afghanistan were recently killed. Czechs are quite active in this as they established long term commitments to people affected by poverty, wars and natural disasters. About 300 workers are placed throughout the country, working in remote areas, building schools, health centers and providing community services.

On top of it, generally speaking, Europe is under siege of about 500 000 refugees coming from Africa and the Middle East. Among the refugees are victims of wars as well as those who pay thousands of dollars to be smuggled to Europe. Hundreds are daily rescued from sinking boats, saving their lives from drowning. Refugee's camps are overcrowded and people-smugglers have their heydays. The pressure to absorb such a quantity of people is growing due to Brussels quota allocations. So far there is no way and no one knows how to stop or regulate this gush of desperate people of very different cultural and religious backgrounds. Since most of them threw away their documents, all kinds of security issues are at stake. The European Union borders are open, and no one dares to suggest any solution to resolve this humanitarian crisis amidst the region's politically correct atmosphere.

We praise the Lord that so far, as it pertains to Czech and Slovak ministries, mainly run by local Christians, our country is not influenced by what goes on elsewhere. We have freedom and basically unlimited opportunities to move on.

OUR LEARNING

The highlight of our summer days was a three-day theological conference in Brno presented by Czech Bible Institute (CBI) that is in a way associated with the Masters Theological Seminary in LA. Our ministry conference in January complements it. We are in charge of the Winter

conference and CBI runs the Summer conference.

One of the Masters Seminary professors, Dr. Steven Lawson, led a one-day seminar on expository preaching followed by the conference commemorating the 600th anniversary of John Hus' martyrdom. The theme of conference was "Truth Prevails," coming from a famous quote by John Hus. Hearing, meditating and acting on His faithfulness to the Truth lifted our spirits and commitment to proclaim His Truth boldly.

What a joy it was to see great number of attendees from Czech and Slovak churches. Brno is a convenient place for all of us. Once again we met old friends and built new contacts. What a joy it is to see the new generation assuming their ministry responsibilities.

To sum up the conference, you can remember that the Reformation started with three great and courageous men; two of them paid with their life for their teaching. In the 14th century John Wycliffe planted, in the 15th century John Hus watered, and in the 16th century Martin Luther reaped the fruit. He changed Germany and Scotland. Fire of Reformation swept through out of England and Europe. Their writings and teachings were conducted in three different languages, but all three reformers proclaimed one unchangeable TRUTH.

Here is a link to the true story of the Life of John Hus:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUOmi67LW0>

Speaking of different languages and translations, as both of us are immersed in translating theological articles and messages from English into Czech and Slovak, we realize how external written expressions differ from inner understanding. How often we become "co-authors", since it is impossible to translate deep thoughts and ideas into exact corresponding words and sentences. Neither of us is a linguist. However, our search to be as clear as possible brings us a double blessing, inspiration, challenges and enhanced knowledge of our mother tongue. This way we get a much better understanding than working with the text in just one language.

PRAISING AND TREMBLING

Some time ago we asked for prayers about church planting in Prague. The church in Ústí agreed that they will release Jarda (read Yarda) from his main pastoral ministry into a church planting position in Prague. When our Lord moves, we gasp for air. Jarda's wife Ale-na applied for a job in Prague and before she was interviewed, a few other very unusual and totally unexpected things happened. One of the friends in our apartment building invited us for cup of coffee. To skip the details, we walked out after one telephone call as buyers of about 2000 sq. ft. of great office space in our building. This all transpired in the matter of about one hour. The purchase included all the office furniture, fixtures, a copy machine, all kinds of electronics,

some old computers, fully equipped kitchen with dishes, etc.; all in ready-to-use condition. On top of it Alena starts her job July the 1st. She was singled out of eighty applicants. There will be a little “camping” here and there, before all settles, but we all are ready to move on. Jarda’s family will move to our former office, which we used for over 10 years before our workers moved to other countries. It feels like starting all over again. Since that time our guest room became Pavel’s office. Every year our living space was getting smaller and the office spread out through the whole apartment. The layout of the new premises is perfect for an office, recording studio, bible study, training and mini conference events. There is a possibility that part of the new space can be rented out to help partially finance church planting ministry. We are entirely open to listening and obeying our Lord and what He has on His mind. We are overwhelmed by all this. Without leaving home, without looking or searching, without lifting a finger or doing anything, the Lord provided another opportunity for furthering Czech ministries.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- Summer stream of visiting friends from far and near are calling on us. One of the greatest encouragements came from a recent visitor: “I can see that your labors are not in vain”.
- Once again we are looking forward to spending time with our friend and

mentor Geoff Volker as he returns from his teaching and conference tour in Belarus. We admire his dedication and long term commitment; he has been teaching in a very needy place

- Our prayer is that you will catch the vision with us and support us with your prayers. Let the Lord move your heart.
- We serve a mighty God and the battle for truth rages around us. This is the main reason why we took church planting idea as a leap of faith.
- We rejoice that gates of hell will not prevail over His people.

**Thanks for your participation
in our life and ministry.**

***In Czech Republic and Slovakia
Pavel and Klara Steiger
<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**