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Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.
(Amos 8:11-12)

AUGUST 2015

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

IN GENERAL

We marked more future important events in our calendar this morning and we are already reaching the middle of the next year.

As we shared in our July E-Prayer Letter, European summer days are record hot, warmest in 200 years. In a country



with almost no home AC or sprinkler systems the damages are visible everywhere. We shared some concerns relating to the European Union's agony with Greece's gigantic debt and its consequences for the Euro currency, mass migration from Africa, endless stream of refugees from Middle East, and the rise of ISIS terrorism that can strike anytime and anywhere. Troubles are flaring everywhere. European Union countries have practically no say to uncontrolled mass immigration which is being labeled as human rights. Sovereign states are forced to accept quotas of migrants. This way, illegals become "legals" and no one knows where it all will end.

Forced multiculturalism breeds social antagonism, growing aggressivity, demands for entitlements and rising criminality.

Next year the UN is planning the world conference on immigration and urbanization in Prague.

ACTIVITIES THAT ONLY OUR LORD COULD PLAN

Some time ago we asked for prayers concerning church planting in Prague.

The Church in Ústí agreed that they will release Jarda (read Yarda) from his main pastoral ministry there to move to Prague. To do that several other ends needed to be tied together. When our Lord moves, we gasp for air.

1. Jarda's wife works in archives and once in a long while there is an opening in Prague. We considered the recent opening as a first sign that we should move forward with our plans. She applied and before she was interviewed, a few very unusual and totally unexpected things happened.

2. As we were coming home one of the friends in our apartment building invited us for a cup of coffee. We talked about a number of things and in the casual conversation he mentioned events related to an office space in our apartment building. To make the story short, we walked out after one telephone call as buyers of about 2000 sq. ft. of great office space. This was in the matter of about one hour. The layout is perfect for an office, recording studio, bible study, training and mini conference events.

3. Shortly after this happened we rejoiced that Jarda's wife got the job in Prague out of about 65 applicants of which 15 were interviewed.

4. Their family can move to our former office, which we used for the ministry over 10 years before our workers moved to other countries. Since that time our guest room in our apartment became Pavel's office. Every year our living space was getting smaller and the office spread out through the whole apartment.

5. In the meantime Jarda's wife lives in the new office space and he works

there while waiting for their apartment to be ready. The family commutes between Prague and Ústí as needed.

6. It sure is blessing to be close and interact in person. The next task was to prepare a Statement of Faith and registration for the church plant fellowship.

7. We had the first meeting with 7 young people coming from Summer English camp interested to join us in this effort. So far there is no public announcement yet about church planting.

8. Our days are filled with getting used to the new office space, numerous moving transitions for Jarda's family to Prague. The place has already seen great use during this summer.

THERE ARE NO IDLE DAYS IN HIS MINISTRY

In the meantime our multifaceted ministry continues on all fronts. We endure to translate and write. Pavel started another book. Klara's summer programs are aired on TWR, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

John MacArthur's book SLAVE is almost translated and ready for publishing. It is time to secure rights and of course funding for the whole project. This book will hardly be a bestseller. Any time you mention here slave or servant, people in post-communist countries cringe. This is our urgent prayer for God's intervention.

The newest addition to our outreach is a library of previously published theological treasures Jarda dug out from second hand book stores and idle church libraries.

Recently we purchased some new software where any text can be transformed into book format and anyone can flip pages in it as if they are paging in a hard copy book. Of course this can be easily used in all tablets, etc.

New broadcasting developments in Slovakia continue to be a matter for prayers.

VISITORS

Friends and visitors from near and far have brought much joy to our days.

Our team had a great time meeting with Geoff Volker who encouraged us greatly in church planting.

AN EXCERPT FROM JARDA'S LETTER

We have never seen Usti as the final (earthly) destination of our lives. However until our children began leaving home to attend school, we had never given it much thought. Once it became clear to us that soon everything would be different, we began praying about our future in a new way.

That led me to talk about future possibilities with our friends Pavel and Klara Steiger who live in Prague. They encouraged me with the idea that we move to Prague to start a new church and use their second apartment. We began seeing this as a clear answer to the prayers Marcus and I had prayed four years ago.

In the spring of 2014 we talked about this possibility with Jan and Iva Suchy

(Jan is my fellow-elder in the Usti church). Both of them felt this could be a natural part of the life in the Church. Their perspective has been very encouraging to Alena and me. We had no clear timetable, but we prayed that God would open doors to make things clear.

In the autumn of 2014 we started talking about these possibilities with the whole church, asking them to pray with us, and through our prayers, God began opening doors.

In April 2015 Alena was offered a job to work in the archives at Prague, doing the same things she has been doing where she works now. There were about 15 serious candidates for the position in Prague, and they selected Alena. Next month Alena will begin her new job, which means she cannot be with us at this year's English Camp. In October Jakub will begin studying pharmacy in Hradec Kralove (120 km east of Prague). At the end of this year Alena and I are planning to move to Prague. Until our move, I hope to spend part of each week with Alena in Prague – we are praying that God will allow me to start a Bible study there in the fall. Please join us in praying that God will bring students who have interest in a Bible study to this summer's English Camp. During these transition months, Alena and I will be with our church in Usti on the weekends.

In February we would like to start a worship service in Prague, but I plan to continue preaching in Usti every other week. On the Sundays when I am in Usti, Pavel Steiger (or brothers from the church in Kladno) can preach in Prague. It's just a plan, and we don't know how

God will work, so we are in need of your prayers. This next year will be very challenging for our family and for the Usti church, so please pray for us.

We are also praying that God will call a mature family (or an individual) to start a new church in Prague with us. It does not matter to us whether God answers this prayer by bringing Czechs or missionaries. I believe this is opportune timing and there will be great opportunity in Prague for the ministry of an educated and trained servant who can help equip men for leadership in Czech churches in coming years. If you would like to know more, please email me.

As you can see from our letter the Lord moved little faster.

PRAISING, PRAYING AND TREMBLING

We are looking forward to our August family reunion in Seattle and Spokane area in WA. We all will attend the wedding of our daughter-in-law's brother who will marry a Spokane girl. After their wedding they will live in Czech Republic – usually it is the opposite way. We met her family during Christmas in Prague. We had a great time together.

About seven month ago we were able to buy RT ticket Prague-Seattle-Prague for less than \$500. We are not there yet. The flight will have some longer transfers but we don't complain. All segments of the flight are booked and confirmed.

This year we had our 50th wedding anniversary; we started our American odyssey in North Idaho near Coeur d'

Alene in January 1970. The last time our boys were there was in 1984, so it is a great opportunity to combine all special events together and show our grandkids the PLACE – apartment and our first house, where their dad and favored uncle played and grew up. We will try to visit their babysitter, now over fifty. What nostalgia it will be for all of us.

Now take a deep breath with us and please pray as He guides our steps that we will glorify His name in all what we do and desire to do.

**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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