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Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. (1. Corinthians 3:5-7)

SEPTEMBER 2015

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

ACTIVITIES THAT ONLY OUR LORD COULD ARRANGE

Our family reunion in Seattle and Spokane area and the wedding of our daughter-in-law's brother Jonáš (Jonah) was a



THE VOICE AND HANDS OF JESUS.
TOGETHER.

dream that came true. One by one we linked together and stayed together for ten days. The New Hampshire family with our four beloved grandkids arrived first. A tour of Boeing factory in Everett, WA, was on the boy's list for a long time. We all enjoyed the plant excursion. It is hard to believe that the fuselage outer "tube" of the Dreamliner is only 1/3 of an inch thick. Later on we continued to Vancouver, BC, and further by ferry to Victoria on the Vancouver Island. Time spent in Vancouver and Victoria was great for us girls. Flowers were everywhere. A part of the Whistler rain forest in Vancouver was being watered with sprinklers because of drought. What an irony!

What struck us most? It was crossing the US/Canadian border either direction. There was an hour waiting queue in Blaine with quite a thorough questioning by immigration officers. Gone are the times when we used to be simply waved thru without even stopping. This was something we had never experienced while living in America. In those cold war days it never crossed our mind that a time would come when we could freely move without checkpoints almost all over

Europe. With the present refugee exodus from all over Africa and the Middle East, that freedom may also cease.

What struck us next was that in the Vancouver Outlet Shopping Mall we seemed to be a minority. Most of the shoppers, both locals and tourists, were either Chinese or East Indian. We felt like we were visiting a foreign country. No wonder some people call Vancouver Hongcouver.

A week later after having a great time in British Columbia we all returned to the Seattle airport to pick up the groom's mother Mirka who arrived from Prague. Our younger son Vit flew in from Denver. By this time our guest party wedding ensemble consisted of 10 people. Of course the flower girls and groom's best men were the most important ones. The international bonding party before the wedding was forged by last minute yard work. A couple of days before the wedding a big truck dumped in the yard an enormous load of mulch. This is one way how communication in another language with each other works best. No time to be shy or reserved.

The day of the wedding rehearsal in the National Park was filled with smoke from big fires moving from south to north. From then on we could hardly see the sky while sun and moon remained red. The rest of the days we spent in America and Canada were mostly filled with smoke. It felt like the end of the world is near.

While in the area we made an enjoyable, nostalgic side trip to Northern Idaho. We visited Coeur d'Alene (for long time the best kept secret), our first home town

Osburn, Wallace and Lookout Pass Ski Area on the Montana state line. Those were the places where we started our American dream as a refugee family from communist Czechoslovakia in 1970. One of the special memory places was The Lookout Ski Area where our younger son Vit broke both of his legs when he was 5 years old. We rejoiced that we could be together and show our grandkids where their dad and best uncle started grade school and grew up a little. We have many great memories of friends who are not living any more, but they live in our hearts forever. Our big boys met with Cathy, their first babysitter. On this trip we had a perfect sunny day.

The newlyweds decided they will not start their life together in America, as is the most common practice in "mixed marriages" but decided to live in Czech Republic. Ani is linguistically very talented and she is admirably above all very successfully learning that impossible Czech language. Instead of losing one believer in Ústí we are gaining one. Praise the Lord. She was first time in the Czech Republic in 2010 as part of a Spokane Church team that comes faithfully each summer to run a Summer English Camp. Thus, the marriage is an outcome of the Spokane Church annual summer ministry. The rest was managed by both of them through Skype. The church connection was great for all of us since we already knew a number of Spokane people from English Camps here in Czech Republic.

As a wedding coach—Ani and Jonáš left the wedding place in real big truck driven by Ani's uncle.

IT IS FINISHED

In our August E-PPR we shared with you our church planting steps.

During the last three month things started really to progress. We survived three moves, painting of three living and office spaces. Jarda's (Yarda) family moved into the apartment which used to be our ministry office for about 10 years. A number of you visited the place and some of you stayed there.

This was the time for us to say goodbye to our former church and denomination where we spent the past 19 years under 3 pastors. In August our dear friend and Pastor Daniel died. This was closing chapter of being part of this church. We spent together last long family weekend in the mountains and we are assured that this is the decision we had to make. The new coming spirit in our former church is becoming ecumenical with closer and close cooperation with the Catholic Church. It is starting to be built on personal friendships rather than on spiritual bonds. The program for the first evening consisted of the question—How we can better communicate? Nothing new came out of that. It was over in a few minutes. Time together was followed by the wine tasting event till late that night. The next evening we were waiting for evening program and it was—to finish the bottles of wine. Both evenings we spent most of the time in our room.

We are greatly disappointed that our new pastor and elders chose this way to attract other people.

The decision to start a new church is finished, however a number of new events are ahead of us. We realize that

this will be a time open for fervent prayers, trust and hard labor. Our ideas and budget are stretched. We might have to curb or postpone some activities and plans related to the former ministries.

THERE ARE NO IDLE DAYS IN HIS MINISTRY

Jarda (Yarda) spent most of the summer working in Prague. Our statement of faith for church plant is ready, legal registration is under way and his family moved into the apartment we mentioned above. Now it is going to serve ministry again. With the new school year the bible study started.

The book for our next Winter Conference for all attendees is done and ready to be published.

MIGRATION CRISIS

Hundreds of thousands refugees are trying to get into Europe to be one step closer to their destination. European Schengen territory has no outside borders. The news reports daily about refugees who are rescued from sinking rubber boats. Those coming by this way are paying about \$2,000 per head to get on the boat. The cost for the land passage is about \$10,000. The trip takes about a month using people-smuggler's assistance. At this time numerous transit places are under siege while cities in Hungary, Austria and Germany are full to capacity. The pressure on neighboring countries where refugees start their land journey has gotten out of control. People are trapped, tension and demands are growing, and violence sparking. There was even a suggestion given to set apart

Christians, Sunnis and Shias since the violence starts between them. However, the progressive engineers of human souls immediately discarded such a politically incorrect and profiling suggestion. The news reports appear similar to a battlefield situation. To add to confusion Russia has stepped into Syria and the real mess is on the horizon. Now the refugees will be fleeing not only before Bashar al-Assad and from ISIS, but also before the Russians.

No one in EU knows how to handle the situation. Hungarians built a fence, Austrians and Germans occasionally stop some trains, restrict air space and check the border road traffic. The queues at some borders are now 20 miles long and it takes hours to cross. The border controls (with the help of police) check all vehicles. It looks as if the military will strengthen restrictive border procedures.

The Schengen territory of the EU used to guarantee free movement of people, goods and capital. The trade from Baltic countries to Portugal was as smooth as crossing between states in the USA. Now the borders are one by one being checked. The Hungarian fence was built, reminding us of the Iron Curtain era with one great exception—Iron Curtain fences kept people inside, this new one keeps people outside.

With winter approaching, the number of boat journeys will slow down. However, the next spring almost a million people mostly from Sub-Saharan Africa are predicted to move northward. News spreads fast, while the expectations and demands of refugees remain high.

ALL IS UNDER HIS CONTROL

It looks as if the peaceful, careless, tranquil and prosperous days of Europe will be replaced by Islamization of Europe. The continent will change politically, economically, demographically, and racially. The values related to the Christian heritage will be undermined and instead of churches new masks are going to show the world, who is in control of conquered territory.

And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. (Daniel 2:43)

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

**In Czech Republic and Slovakia
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