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And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (2 Tim 3: 15-17)

FEBRUARY 2016

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

**COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS
DAY BY DAY**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Our 7th Winter Conference was a great success. The weather was great. It was a sunny Saturday with no ice on the roads, while a week ago it was a treacherous winter day. Out of about 220 registered people we had only a few no-shows due to flu season. On the other hand we had over 30 unregistered attendees. We met at a top notch facility at a new medical university



campus for the very first time. Among attendees we had a number of new people including people from Czechlands (Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia) and Slovakia. Among the attendees were a number we have known well for over twenty years. We are encouraged that our ministry is reaching new people.

All five lectures on the Triune God were excellent. The speakers' panel at the conference closing is the time when the attendees can ask questions relating to the conference topic. A number of interesting questions like: "What is the function of the Holy Spirit in the book of Revelation?"; or "What is the present function of Christ in heaven?"; and so on.

The conference, just as all previous ones, was video recorded and will be available on web pages, so that hundreds more people can be reached and benefit from this ministry.

We are encouraged to start planning the January 2017 conference. Actually we have topics for the next two conferences – Lord willing.

This month we could celebrate the first quarter of the first year "anniversary" of our Bible Church Prague (BCP). Actually it was a joyful day, since we had two out of town guest families. How nice to encourage

each other. The message touched all our hearts.

As we mentioned before, Bible Church Prague is a joint ministry with two other independent churches: the church in Ústí, and church in Kladno that closely cooperates with Christ Our Hope Bible Church in Spokane, Washington.

Our goal is to have a joint service with the sister Churches once a while, perhaps quarterly or semiannually. You can pray that we can find a proper place for this event. The facilities of all three Churches are not big enough to have this kind of larger gathering. We already have several small Slovak Churches that would like to attend this event.

Yarda is involved in spiritual counselling on numerous fronts in Prague, Kladno and Usti. His ministry work load is immense and sometimes we wonder how he can handle so many responsibilities.

The Church in Usti is ready to call a full time pastor. One of the members and elders will leave his job (geological engineering) and fill this position. This is a big step of faith to trust that the Lord will provide for his family with four children. By the way, their two daughters are a great help during setting up for conferences. They are growing up and joyfully learning how to serve in any capacity and responsibility. This is a godly family who we appreciate and love dearly. They are a great example for others who are coming from broken homes.

SLOVAK RADIO MINISTRY CRISIS

In our January electronic personal prayer letter we mentioned a bittersweet report. The sweet part is that visits to the broadcasting internet pages, readers and listeners contacts are growing year by year. The bitter part is that the ministry account was

\$2.000 deficit in 2015. Unless something changes, due to personal and financial deficit, Milan is considering closing down the ministry at the end of 2016 after almost 20 years of service.

MIGRATION CRISIS

The migration crisis in the European Union is not getting any better. It is not politically correct to report unusually high levels of sexual harassment, assaults and violence in European cities. Concern over recent sexual assaults and robberies carried out by groups of Arabic speaking people are disturbing. The testosterone migration, made up of frustrated young single men, is acting in distress! While they are “provoked” by unveiled and perfumed women. What is more disturbing is the fact that the policemen’s attitude towards the violence is nonchalant. On the other hand their action against demonstrators against this kind of violence is less than nonchalant. Deployed police used water cannons and pepper spray to keep the order. The tension between migrants and angry law-abiding people is growing. In Turkey there are about 3 million people waiting to get to Europe. People-smuggling via boats is a big business and there is no power to stop them. The number of those who are arriving to European shores is increasing. The winter conditions are not slowing down this process. Refugees of all kinds are instructed to puncture their rubber boats close to the Grecian shore so that they will be “rescued” by patrolling coastguard’s boats. From there, hundreds of thousands of people move north via the Balkan Peninsula. Newly built fences remind us of the Iron Curtain era. However, the Iron Curtain fences kept people inside, these new ones are supposed to keep people outside.

The Schengen territory of the EU used to guarantee free movement of people, goods and capital from Baltic countries to Portugal. Now it is wide opened gate for refugees, migrants and terrorists. Some crossing points are patrolled by soldiers and police units. It is few against many, some fences were built, but this is just a joke. The Islamization of Europe is progressing. Defeating the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria will create more refugees and will move the battle field to other places. EU has just asked NATO to move some ships to Aegean Sea ...?

Pavel's brother told us this story while traveling from Bavaria to Austria. If you want to avoid long car lines at the Austro-German border, travel by train. However, at the railroad stations where migrants are trying to board trains to their dreamed destination, you as a normal traveler have to go through a fenced and guarded corridor to board your train. Someone asked us about vacation and driving through Europe to Italy, thinking it is relatively safe. However, think twice. Numerous touristy destinations are not safe anymore: Egypt, Turkey, Tunisia, and Greece. The Balkan countries are swarming with migrants. It is only a matter of time before more unrest and troubles will spark some serious civilization clashes. We do not understand it. Europe is supposedly expecting three million refugees in 2016! Where did common sense go? The continent is changing politically, economically, demographically, and racially. In the age of political correctness governments, politicians and authorities are paralyzed. Those who should act and lead put their head in the sand. Nobody knows, rather nobody is willing to take a stand regarding how to handle this situation; while hundreds of thousands of un-

documented migrants are getting more radicalized and angry. Europe has lost the ability to protect its own territory.

The values related to the Christian heritage are slowly but surely disappearing. The only answer is Christ, even though it looks as if the persecution of Christians is just starting.

If you wonder if all this affects us, we can say not much. This is because former communist countries do not have as generous of social and welfare programs as the West. Who even wants to learn that impossible Czech language! And more! The peoples in countries like Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic and the Balkans have a different history than the West. They well remember recent totalitarianism and century-old national oppression that led up to the loss of their identity. It was them under the Habsburgs, and especially the then-independent Poles who stopped Turkish Ottomans at Vienna in 1683. Just imagine if they didn't. Europe would have already been Muslim for almost four centuries. Even America would look differently. Tell the German, French, Spaniard, Swede or Englishman that they could lose their freedom and identity. They would not know what we are talking about. They never experienced it. The Muslims know it and they have minimal desire to immigrate to the middle and southeastern European countries. They know well they are not welcomed. However, once the European Union starts distributing migrants across EU we will face problems. Perhaps all EU may disintegrate...

PRAISE AND PRAYER TIDBITS

- Thank you – for Prayers; He answered
- Those of you who receive this hard copy Prayer Letter and not by email, let us

know your email address so we can mail it to you electronically.

- Due to providing conference attendees the book "Delighting in the Trinity" by Michal Reeves free of charge, there is a small deficit.
- Praise the Lord for your faithfulness, prayers and support. The 2015's support was 6 % lower than in 2014; our expenses higher because of new ministry expenses. This was the first time that our magazine account (we pay part of Yarda's salary out of it) was in the red.
- We praise the Lord for the Church planting team and sister Churches and ministries who stand with us building His kingdom.
- Please pray for all three Churches standing and serving together.
- Please pray for new people of Bible Church Prague to grow in closeness and togetherness. Please pray for their numerous needs. Health issues, job situations, family problems, marital issues, premarital counselling, visa issues, etc.
- Please pray with us that our labor and your prayers will bring fruits in the land of thorns and thistles. The day of reckoning is coming. How sweet it is to know that we are never alone.
- Please pray for faithfulness, endurance and partners.
- Please pray for the events of next year which are filling our calendar.
- Please pray for Czechs living abroad to read this prayer letter and log in and listen to our Sunday teaching:
<http://www.krestanepraha.cz/>
Here is the link to our publishing efforts:
<http://knihy.reformace.cz/books/bjmm/#p=1>

- Please pray for the Slovak radio ministry. The deficit is our greatest concern – PTL we just got a message that the mission committee in Simi Valley has sent a love gift to cover half of the deficit.
- Please pray for hostage situation of a Czech Christian we know detained in Sudan since Christmas.
- Please pray with us for the leaders who govern over us as well as for Reach Beyond leadership.

**Thank you for your prayers,
support, participation in our life and
Czech & Slovak ministry**

**In His Sovereign Grace
Pavel and Klara Steiger
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