



**JULY AND AUGUST 2018**  
**DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF THE REACH BEYOND**  
**MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES IN CZECHIA AND SLOVAKIA**

JULY is the month of celebration on both sides of ocean. The U.S. starts July 4, Czechs honor state holidays on July 5 and 6. July 5 is dedicated to Cyril and Methodius two brothers, from Thessaloniki (Salonica), present Greece. Byzantine Christian missionaries began their evangelization of Slavic subjects in 863. Brothers wrote the first Slavic Civil Code and began the task of translating Bible "Evangelium Slovenicum" into the language known as Old Church Slavonic. Catholics celebrate July 5.

Protestants commemorate July 6. John Hus (1369 - 1415) was burned at the stake on July 6, 1415. John Hus was a key contributor to Protestantism, whose teachings had a strong influence on the states of Europe and on Martin Luther.

For most Czechs those holidays are part of an extended weekend. Many locals leave town while multitudes of tourist come in since the week is filled with special events. Numerous celebrations throughout the year are related to **the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishing independent Czechoslovakia in 1918**. President Woodrow Wilson has been considered the "foster father" of Czechoslovakia. Tomáš Masaryk, the "father" of Czechoslovakia and first President, visited the United States during World War I and worked with U.S. officials in developing the basis of the new country. Masaryk used the U.S. Constitution as the model for the first Czechoslovak constitution.

**Rolling Stones** brought in many visitors. Former president Havel invited the Rolling Stones in 1990 to Prague. The posters at the time said: "The Stones Are Rolling In, The Tanks Are Rolling Out".

As the Stones rolled out of Prague, Harley Davidson fans rolled in as the **"Week of Legends" dedicated to the 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Harley-Davidson foundation**. About 60,000 bikers from 71 different countries as far as Australia, New Zealand, China, Vietnam, India ... or two thirds of 110,000 participants of special events were bikers. To be a part of Graceful Ride, 4,000 riders were drawn to take a part of 3-hour long parade of great machines through Prague. Czech Harley Davidson club is 90 years old, one of the oldest.

A more serene event was the celebration of **"SOKOL" (falcon) calisthenics organization**. About 15,000 participants came from near and far to participate in the 16<sup>th</sup> massive gymnastic festival called "slet" (falcon rally). As many Sokols emigrated from Czechoslovakia in the past, they set up small Sokol groups abroad. American Sokol membership rolls accounted nearly 20,000 adults by 1937. During the communist era, humanistic Sokol was replaced by a communist organization but Sokol survived. Now it is more than 150 years old.

**Czech Tax freedom day** came this year on June 23. At the same time, activists from EMIN European Minimum Income Journey are calling for concrete actions to achieve progressive realization of adequate, accessible and enabling Minimum Income Schemes as part of comprehensive social protection system supported by an EU Framework Directive.

“Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes are adequate to live in dignity, providing comprehensive coverage for all people who need the schemes for as long as they need it, and promote peoples empowerment and participation in society.”

In other words, this calls for more taxation. We lived through communism with nationalization of private properties. Experiments of socialism created very few rich people, but made most of us equally poor and dependent on the state. It looks that this idea is a common agenda for progressives' worldwide.

### ORIGIN OF DOLLAR



The history of the dollar is a story involving many countries in different continents. The word dollar is much older than the American unit of currency. It is an Anglicised form of "thaler", (pronounced taler, with a long "a"), the name given to coins first minted in 1519 from locally mined silver in Joachimsthal in Bohemia. (Today the town of Joachimsthal lies within the borders of the Czech Republic and its Czech name is Jáchymov). Thaler is a shortened form of the term by which the coin was originally known - Joachimsthaler. On January 15, 1520, the Czech Kingdom of Bohemia began minting first thaler coins from silver mined locally in Joachimsthal (Czech Jáchymov) and marked on reverse with the Czech

lion. There is on the picture the first thaler (dollar). This is its reverse side, with the Bohemian Lion and the name of Ludovicus, the Czech king (Louis II)

The coins were called joachimsthaler, which became shortened in common usage to thaler or taler. The German name "Joachimsthal" literally means "Joachim's valley" or "Joachim's dale". This name found its way into other languages: Czech and Slovenian tolar, Hungarian tallér, Danish and Norwegian daler, Swedish daler, Icelandic dalur, Dutch daalder or daler, Ethiopian ታላሪ ("talari"), Italian tallero, via Dutch – into English as dollar.

During colonial times the official British coinage was in short supply and as a result the a variety of substitutes was used in Britain's American colonies, including wampum, in some of the northern colonies, and tobacco, or more conveniently, certificates for tobacco deposited in public warehouses, in Virginia. The colonists also used whatever foreign coins they could obtain. At various times in different colonies paper money was

issued and disputes with the British government over this were one of the causes of the American Revolution. The rebels financed their war of independence largely by printing paper money notes that were called Continentals. By the end of the war, these had been rendered practically worthless by hyperinflation but financial prudence is a luxury in wartime. The notes had served their purpose and, with the help of their French allies, the Americans won the war.

As Spanish pesos or dollars had long been in wide circulation in North America, some of the paper money issued in some of the colonies before the war had been denominated in dollars. Other notes used British monetary units. During the war too, some Continentals were denominated in British units, others in dollars. In 1792 the newly independent United States chose the dollar, subdivided into 100 cents, as the unit of American currency in preference to the British pound.



We visited Jáchymov (Joachimstahl) June 28-30. Pavel was speaking at a joint holiday of believers we know for a long time. The beauty of the country is breathtaking. Left is a picture we took at the literal uptown of Jáchymov. To the left of the church spire you can barely see the construction of mine tower. All started right there.

## VISITORS AND OUR SCHEDULE

One of the recent visitors was rather “exotic.” She is a daughter of our mission friends. She holds three passports; born in Ecuador, Japanese father, mother of Dutch descent, who now lives in Houston, TX. She is trilingual. This time we talked on Skype to the father who was at the time in Japan.

We especially appreciated Darren and Lauren of Santa Rosa Bible Church. Just enjoy short video we made rambling incredible Prague: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQMzeFxyYEI>

Our calendar is filled with more dates and names. We plan to meet with more visitors during summer while they are coming to Czech Republic. Spending time with them gives us the opportunity to learn quite interesting world events not reported by the media.

We will attend several Christian summer vacation activities by different churches and denominations. It is important to be in touch and keep good PR with as many as possible.

Since our three churches have summer schedules, Pavel is filling in every other Sunday at different locations.

## RADIO LOGOS, SLOVAK BROADCASTING

The third week of July we will go to Banská Bystrica to meet with president of ABWE for Europe and Slovak missionary from Canada to take some steps to attempt to resume broadcasting of Radio Logos.

Brief summary: For 12 years Radio Logos covered in 90% of the country. After finances were exhausted, they moved the ministry to 24/7 Internet broadcasting. After four additional years, finances had once again run out and Milan had to cease broadcasting.

The necessary monthly operational studio expenses, like copyright fees, internet and broadcasting server rental, are around **\$400/month**, plus an honorarium of **\$100/month** for volunteers is desired. The goal is to restart Radio Logos on **September 1, 2018**.

## PRAYER NEEDS

- Please pray with us for opportunities as well as for ministry financial needs. Last month contributions was the lowest month in 26 years, while at the same time the cost of the ministry is increasing.
- Please pray generally for health and uplifting of several close friends and partners of Czech ministry who are undergoing at this time severe health issues.
- Prague, Czech Republic and Slovakia needs spiritual awakening.

## PLEASE PAY ATTENTION

If you have not already heard, Reach Beyond is rebranding. No, we aren't changing our name or tagline this time. But, we have launched a new logo, clarified our vision, mission and voice, and developed new templates. When you see new LOGO on your envelope, this is not solicitation of unknown group of people.

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

**In His Sovereign Grace,  
Pavel and Klara Steiger**

<pavel.steiger@gmail.com>

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### You may mail your U.S.

Tax-deductible contributions to:  
REACH BEYOND  
P.O. BOX 39800  
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**Attach to your check the following note:**  
**FOR THE MINISTRY OF**  
**PAVEL & KLARA STEIGER**  
**ACC # 100-110329**