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Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been established by God. (Romans 13:1)

???

But Peter and the apostles said in reply, "We must obey God rather than men." (Acts 5:29)

**SEPTEMBER 2020
DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF
THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY TO
THE PEOPLES OF CZECHIA AND
SLOVAKIA**

Fall is almost here and we would like to say that our days are returning to normal. A better description of the present time is that we do not know what normal is. As we mentioned in our last Electronic Prayer Letter, summer despite coronavirus was time for most people to take a vacation. Locals as well as neigh-



boring European tourists did. We became Prague tourists. Nothing unusual or critical was happening. However, now the testing frenzy has taken off. Suddenly the country, especially Prague, is back on red alert. Travel in and out is once again restricted. Face masks in closed areas are again compulsory. There is some confusion about schools; some are open, some closed. Cultural events are on, some sports events are limited or without spectators, restaurants and pubs have to close by 10 p.m., no new church gathering regulations are issued, ... The sky is clear, no airplane streak across the sky is visible.

**SLOVAKIA TRIP AND
RADIO LOGOS**

Usually, the end of summer has lovely weather so we decided to take a mini-vacation. In spring we signed up for a conference with D. A. Carson in Poprad, Slovakia which was canceled due to the coronavirus travel restriction. The hotel prepay was not refundable but extended until the end of this year. We took a train to the majestic Slovak High Tatra moun-

tains with 29 peaks over 8000 feet high scattered over 16 miles long and about 10 miles wide range. No wonder they are called the smallest mountain range. To get to the top of Lomnický Peak 8642 ft., the second-highest peak, we had to take three independent cable car sections. The last one hangs 300 ft. above the ground. The cable is 6129 ft. long and ascends 2835 ft. In 1940 it was the longest free-hanging cable car with no support tower. Most amazing is that this segment of red cabin ride opened in 1940 and used to be the most modern cable car in Europe.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W39J67-WELI>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPFH-8E_CU

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMn5OraTSaU>

We had a perfect day without wind and clouds. Only the paragliders had a better view than us.

The highlight of this trip was the time we spent with Milan and his wife. We have been involved with the Radio Logos ministry for many years. At this time, we took care of ministry matters and talked about plans. We are thankful to Milan for his faithful labor and love for the lost. We pray that the ministry will thrive and continue. Together we spent a most wonderful time praising the Lord for the natural beauty, our mutual friendship, ministry encouragement, unity, and togetherness. In the past, we visited with Milan Pikes Peak, in Colorado,

during one of the HCJB conferences years ago about the same time of the year. On the contrary, the Pikes Peak was covered with snow and we experienced a real blizzard.

The next day we visited with Milan and his wife the UNESCO town of Levoča and the Basilica of St. James with the world's tallest 60-foot wooden altar completed in 1517 by master Paul of Levoča. His last name is not known but his work speaks volumes. The church has additional 18 gothic altars.

The UNESCO Wooden articular church in Kežmarok was built by the local Lutherans in 1593 during a period of religious persecution.

<https://www.guidetoslovakia.com/kezmarok-wooden-articular-church-in-kezmarok/>

This was a short but fruitful and wonderful time with Milan and his Radio Logos ministry. Slovakia is a beautiful country with a rich history. We returned home by overnight train. The following day the ban on travel to Slovakia was on. At this time the Czech Republic and especially Prague is on coronavirus red alert.

WITNESSING

During the summer we had an opportunity to visit several friends. The oldest is now 96 years old and she is in good spirits. However, any talk about God, Jesus, heaven, hell sounds to her like a fairy tale. Her father and grandfather were orthodox priests.

At the same time, we attended Klara's High School reunion. Sad to say, there is not one believer.

MAGAZINE "BATTLE FOR SOUL"

On the positive side, the situation in the church and related ministry upheaval has calmed down. We sorted out all changes and differences. Several of us are attending and getting involved in new churches. The final board session was painful but peaceful and dignified. Our publishing magazine ministry will continue with the new board.

REACH BEYOND KEY DIRECTIONS

- 1) We will be intentional about prayer, demonstrating our reliance on the Lord.
- 2) We will build trust and unity throughout the organization.
- 3) 3. We will live within our means and continuously improve to minimize overhead costs.
- 4) We will own fundraising goals mission-wide and work together to engage donors in media and healthcare (medicine and community development) ministries among the unreached.
- 5) We will create opportunities for new missionaries to join us in media and healthcare (medical, community development) roles, and we will all help recruit for those roles.
- 6) We will continue to optimize every ministry engagement opportunity within our current strategy (media and healthcare).

DID YOU KNOW?

The Discoverer of A, B, AB, and O Blood Groups?

Jan Janský, born in Černošice near Prague in 1873, graduated from the Medicine Faculty of the Carolina University of Prague, specializing in Neurology and Psychiatry.

Dr. Jan Janský dedicated himself to the investigations of the laboratory, to clarify a relationship between mental upheavals and the composition of the blood. He analyzed more than three thousand samples of the blood of its patients.

The doctor wanted to find out if the serum of the psychotic patients, especially the schizophrenic, differs by its coagulation characteristics from that of normal people. Interestingly, this was proved with more sophisticated methods almost a century later. With the coagulation of the blood, Dr. Jan Janský established in 1907 four blood groups that nowadays we call A, B, AB, and O.

His discovery made it possible to do transfusions without endangering the patient's life by receiving blood from an incompatible donor.

Dr. Janský published his discovery in the work entitled "Hematological Studies in Mental Patients". In 1921 the American Medical Association accepted the definition of the blood groups established by Dr. Janský.

Dr. Jan Janský passed away from cardiac disease before turning 50 years of age, as a result of ailments undergone in the trenches of World War I. Janský

knew in life neither glory nor great honors and is only now being recognized as the true discoverer of the blood groups.

PRAISES

- Two of our grandsons are in college.
- We praise the Lord that the new publishing ministry team took on the responsibility.
- We praise the Lord that no friendship or bond was hurt during the church changes as its pastor stepped down from most responsibilities.
- A new Bible study in Prague was planned to start in October. However, as of September 22 colleges are on the coronavirus class restrictions. The primary focus was toward college students even though it is open to anyone interested. Unless we try we do not know how many people under new regulations will be able to attend. Our plan is to be involved.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- We follow closely events in the US and pray for some issues going on. So sad to see so many struggles, violence, upheavals, fires, health issues.
- We are listening to YouTube sermons and ministries while we admire the courage of the pastors who are taking a stand at this time.
- To remain calm, cautious, and considerate toward others during coronavirus. People are relying on and asking the government to solve the problem for them. Indeed, some

rules and regulations often do not make sense. All people over 60 will get 5 pieces of face masks and a respirator in the mailbox.

- We are praying for upcoming elections here and in the US.
- To remain confident that not the politicians but the Lord is in control.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
PRAYERS, SUPPORT, AND PAR-
TICIPATION IN OUR LIFE AND
THE CZECH & SLOVAK
MINISTRIES**

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

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