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Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, and He will delight in the fear of the Lord, and He will not judge by what His eyes see, nor make decisions by what His ears hear; ... (Isa 11:1-3)

March 2021
DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS
OF THE REACH BEYOND
MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLES
OF CZECHIA AND SLOVAKIA

In our February E-Prayer Letter, we shared blessings experienced in the Mariánské lázně or Marienbad or Maria Spa. First, we shared weekly reports and after our return home, we put together a YouTube video for our



Czech-speaking friends scattered around the world. Since we got wonderful reactions, we decided to share the same with those of you who are on our Electronic Prayer Letter list. This was a hit with you. Actually, we reconnected with a number of you, which led to cordial invitations to stop by the next time we are around. Thank you.

If you missed it, here is your second chance at the link below. Do not mind the Czech subtitles, just enjoy it with a cup of coffee:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgGbgT2FBec>

Due to Corona-negative reports, the Czech government declared the State of Emergency, a night curfew, restriction of the free movement between districts (counties) except for essential travels, and a mask mandate for everyone, everywhere outside of

the home. According to the recent amendment, in the case of repeated violations of governmental measures, companies and entrepreneurs could be banned from operating for one year. After notifying the violator of repeated offenses, a fine of about \$1500 could be imposed. This also means that travel restrictions in and out of the country are closely controlled and monitored. Despite the negative atmosphere and numerous restrictions and inconveniences, we have positive news to share:

Although the churches are still closed, we pray and look forward to the spring to be more "Covid negative" for all of us.

QUARTERLY REPORT FROM RADIO LOGOS SLOVAKIA

* We have narrated and recorded a book, "Testimonies about God's love and faithfulness." The series consists of 14 stories, each one 30 minutes long. A CD recording will be a part of the book.

* We have translated and narrated a book written by R.C. Sproul – The Parables of Jesus. The series consists of twelve parables, each about 20 minutes long.

* Our ministry partner Reach Beyond New Zealand created for us a custom-based application for Android and Ap-

ple cell phones. We are still working on debugging and improving the app.

* Several projects are still not accomplished due to coronavirus. Our narrators have to work remotely from their homes. We had to equip them with portable recorders.

* We signed a Memorandum of Understanding with our mission partner, Desiring God, founded by John Piper.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Instead of slowing down because of Covid, we are getting excited about new opportunities for global partners. "Thanks" to Covid we are in close touch with churches in Kroměříž, Kuřim, Jílové, Jablonec, Lovosice, Aš, and we participate in our new home church, CB Šeberov.

On February 25, we had with Radio Logos, Slovakia an introductory Zoom meeting with project coordinators of Desiring God Ministries regarding a new Advent project. Czechia and Slovakia have a desire to participate to become part of the Global Landing Page. French and Polish "Pastor John Piper Answers You" and, Portuguese "For your Joy" web pages and other avenues to follow up are already set up. Those look like excellent platforms to use reaching out in days of limited opportunities for personal involvement.

Our joint meeting with project coordinators in the US and Brazil went very well. Just by "coincidence," before this Klara was finishing the translation of one of the great articles answering questions addressed to John Piper: "Can a born-again Christian lose his or her salvation?"

"LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PAST"

HCJB's 90th-anniversary reunion this summer is at this time just a dream. Who knows if we'll ever have another opportunity like this to look together at the history of HCJB and share our stories of God's blessings throughout so many years of ministry.

It looks as though that celebration and "get together" will be simply virtual.

DID YOU KNOW?

During the presidential inauguration, the chief of the Czech Embassy cooked five hundred portions of delicious goulash, which was then distributed to members of the National Guard from Texas and Nebraska. According to Czech Television, due to supply problems, the mayor of Washington DC, Muriel Bowser, called on the locals to cook for them. As the reporters point out, the Czech nation-

al communities are represented in both states and some soldiers have Czech surnames.

Not only Czech surnames but also Czech commands are used in the USA.

Belgian Malinois shepherds bred in the Czech Republic are among the best service dogs in the world. They are popularly used, for example, by the Russian Army or the United States Police. They are also used by the Secret Service, which guards the security of American presidents.

Their training takes place in Czech and therefore the appropriate commands must be mastered by American dog handlers. They often used terms like "K noze [kno zay] (Heel)", "Sedni (Sit)" or "Drž [Dursh] (Bite)". However, this does not apply to criminals, as evidenced by the case where a Czech dog detained a criminal because the criminal, unlike the shepherd, did not understand the Czech commands. A trained dog restrains the perpetrator by pulling him to the ground by the sleeve, however, the Malinois shepherd makes it harsher. Also, click:

<https://www.newsweek.com/2016/09/23/czech-mates-police-dogs-overseas-497143.html>

<https://rmx.news/article/article/czech-dogs-on-duty-in-the-u-s>

WHAT IS AHEAD?

The focus of our ministry, writing, translating, publishing, and broadcasting are complimenting each other. Opportunities to expand and be involved with Desiring God, present a need for more helpers with technical IT abilities to tie all ends together. We need more prayers and faithful partners.

Immersing ourselves in the ocean of God's providence is meant to help us know him, fear him, trust him, and love him as we ought. – John Piper

PRAISES

- The Lord has changed our plans to be part of the student ministry in Prague. Instead, he gave us more than we asked for.
- Thank you for your generosity in supporting this ministry.
- We added two more part-time workers to the magazine publishing team.
- Online sermons and ZOOM Bible studies allow us to be interactive and manage isolation.

PLEASE PRAY

- For the protection and good health of the team.

- For inspiration to direct us on how to approach the utilization of John Piper's new "Providence" book. It has 750 pages. Maybe we can address paragraph ideas, or ??? It is all new and overwhelming.

*He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.
(Rev 22:20-21)*

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

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