### a christian ministry to strengthen & heal relationships in the Czech Republic

# parakletos

Warm CHRIST-mas Greetings Dear Friends and Parakletos Partners,

After a lengthy period of illness we are thanking God for His amazing grace as we see Pavel's continued progress in feeling better each month! The exhaustion he so intensely experienced caused his healing to be slow and not without setbacks, thus the long period of silence. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support through this challenging time.

In the midst of this health crisis we managed to move into our new home a few days before the new owners were scheduled to move into our sold apartment. PRAISE GOD for His strength and provision!

July found us involved in our church's English camp, followed by Pavel's intense (and continuing) involvement in transitioning the church to a new pastor. At the same time, Pavel began easing back into his Parakletos responsibilities and is now 80% of the way to his previous commitments. Seminar care for pastors, the theological seminary and leadership in several Christian organizations are back on track. Counseling has proven more difficult a transition although Pavel does meet weekly with some pastors, one being the new pastor of the Vysoke' Myto Church.

Other Parakletos responsibilities will not be renewed as advised by the Parakletos Board of Directors. One of those responsibilities, close to our hearts, is the Christian publishing house, the leading evangelical publisher in the country, which we began 26 years ago. God, in His infinite wisdom and care, provided a new president as Pavel was recovering from his collapse! While we had previously offered the position to this ideal candidate, God's timing proved the best. We are greatly rejoicing in this answer to prayer – one that lifts a heavy weight from Pavel's shoulders. Our God does all things well. PRAISE GOD!

## MINISTRY NEWS JULKA'S SEMINARS AND LECTURES

While Pavel was recovering, Julka was expanding her ministry to women. She has been leading a local Bible study which has led to invitations to speak to other women's groups. As a now confident speaker, Julka draws on family experiences and the experiences of the many ladies she has been involved with to teach these precious ladies in a warm, kind and encouraging style. Changes and growth have been seen in lives as the Lord works in each woman's life. There are those times when no change, seemingly, occurs. But through patience and persistence, trusting

"I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me." Acts 26: 17-18 We exist to facilitate the church to be a safe, honest, and intimate place to meet, know, and grow in Christ and His Body. Parakletos creates a safe place through means of individual counseling, seminars, and mentoring.

www.parakletos-cz.org; parakletos@volny.cz

in the work of the Holy Spirit, fruit begins to grow, women are strengthened in the Lord and steps of faith are taken. PRAISE GOD!



### **ENGLISH CAMP**

Despite Pavel's health concerns, he stepped out in faith and took a role of leadership for the camp rather than cancel and miss the opportunities to touch lives for Christ. Both Kristyna and Jana served alongside us at the camp! While we had only 13 days to spend as a family this year, they chose to spend 8 of those at the camp. The sacrifice was well worth it as it strengthened our desire to serve our God together as a family. In addition, the US team from Cherry Hills Church worked hard and did a great job. God used and blessed their efforts. Surprisingly, according to feedback from the non-Christian guests, it was the best camp ever. One attendee said she had

# Please note that there has been a change of address of Bridge to Life for your donations!

For financial support from the US you can send tax deductible contributions to Bridge to Life Ministries, 17194 Van Wagoner Rd, Spring Lake, MI 49456. Make the check out to Bridge to Life and designate the gift for CCMCR or Parakletos. Or send check to LeadingEdge, PO Box 1893 Noblesville, IN 46060-1893 for Parakletos.

Online giving at: www.leadedge.org

**From the UK:** CAF Bank, Acc Name: Central Eurasian Partners, Sort code: 40-52-40, AccNo: 00016282, designate to Parakletos.

From the CZ: ČSOB Bank, AccNo: 186 694 169 / 0300

never felt so loved! Just more proof that God's grace works in our (Pavel's) weakness. PRAISE GOD!

### FALL SEMINARS

This fall we once again traveled throughout the country to hold lectures and seminars although at a slower pace to guard Pavel's over-extending himself. In fact, Julka out-paced Pavel two to one with her seminars!

In addition to the marriage and family issues we speak about, the "Heavenly Father's Arms" was the theme of a youth festival where we realized once again



the deep desire of young people, many of whom have never experienced a healthy closeness with their earthly fathers, to find the comfort of a loving God as Father. The hurts, disappointments and betrayals of the past make finding this closeness an uneasy and difficult task. At the same time, the hurts only confirm that there is no one like our heavenly Father in Whom we can fully trust. At the end of the festival many young people accepted Christ's love and forgiveness. PRAISE GOD!

### FAMILY

This Christmas will find both Kristyna and Jana home with us. What a family celebration that will be! We covet your prayers for their safe travel home as well as for Pavel's continued healing. As always we are beyond thankful for your continued faithful support, prayers and friendship.

With this letter comes our heartfelt desire that each of you and your loved ones will be in awe once again at the unspeakable Gift given by a loving God in sending His one and only Son to redeem our souls. May He find us faithful in sharing this Gift with a lost world! MERRY CHRISTMAS!