



# parakletos

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from exceptionally warm Czech Republic! Our summer was hot and dry. That is something we have not been used to very frequently. The harvest was about a month earlier and effects of drought can be seen in fields and on lawns.

Even so, we had a good summer filled with the usual activities of the season. We would like to share some of them with you.

## MINISTRY NEWS

### ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM THE PAST

One Sunday in our church in Vysoké Mýto we had unexpected visitors. A family whom we had known for years and whom we had not seen for the last ten or twelve years visited our church. When we talked to them after the service, we found out that it was a surprise trip as a gift of the husband to his wife to visit us. She had been a part of our family for several years when she lived in Prague. She was like an older sister to our girls at that time.

We always have tried to have an open family for needy people. She was one of those with whom we walked some way. She told us how much it meant for her during those years. She even felt that it saved her life during a time which was hard and painful. We met right after she became a Christian and she had many struggles as she was establishing her walk with Christ. A warm family environment was a place where she was able to grow in her faith, find support and observe what Christian life looks like practically. Today she has a nice family with a loving husband and three

great children. It was a great mutual joy to reconnect and see each other again.

### TRIP TO THE US

In late spring Pavel made a trip to Denver together with Zbyšek, the pastor of Vysoké Mýto church. It was on an invitation from Cherry Hills Church which has been partnering with our Vysoké Mýto church. The purpose was to introduce Zbyšek to the congregation and to nurture the connection with the Cherry Hills Church, specifically with the team which has been involved with our English Camp. We had a great time and our friends took good care of us including a brewery tour and trip to a mountain gold rush town. But mainly, we were building our mutual relationships. Cherry Hills has a great team and we have grown close during the past years.

During the time in Denver Pavel made a trip to Colorado Springs. He met with the president of the European Navigators. They were exploring a possibility of Pavel's involvement in some capacity in Nav staff care in Europe.

"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](http://www.parakletos-cz.org); [parakletos@volny.cz](mailto:parakletos@volny.cz)

### CHURCH ENGLISH CAMP

The 6th English camp of Vysoké Mýto church took place in July. The US team from Cherry Hills Church did a marvelous job. They highly impressed everyone with the excellent preparation of the camp. Also the Czech team was working hard.

This year's camp was different than in the past. There were not so many new visitors, but we were able to go more deeply with those friends from previous years.

The evening programs are a salient part of the camp. They provide an opportunity to share a Christian message. This year's camp theme was Celebrations. Every day covered a specific holiday with lots of vocabulary and costumes. In the evening we attempted to begin with more general concepts such as the values we respect, the biblical reasons for interrupting routine activities for the holiday, and focusing on the long-term meaning of things. The last night, when Christmas was the theme of the day, our pastor shared the Gospel.

### A CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

Pavel had a seminar at the biggest charismatic event in the country. It was for parents of teenagers. The organizers of the conference considered the theme of the seminar to be so important that there was also an interview with Pavel during the main plenary program. It was meant to encourage people to sign up for the seminar but the seminar was full before the

conference began. The interview was more focused on the new, young generation and their place in the church. Among other things Pavel felt compelled to apologize to the young people for the state of the world we have created for them. They have their maturation far from easy because of the many conflicting messages, lies and invalid examples of what real maturity is supposed to be.



The seminar looked at the period of adolescence as a time to mature for both children and their parents. It provides many opportunities for growth in Christ-likeness. We hope that such a perspective will enable parents to focus also on themselves rather than focusing exclusively on their children, which can easily end up in an impasse. There are many challenges and many changes for parents as well as for the children, even though perhaps they may be less obvious.

### FAMILY

Kristýna has been home for summer. She did many church presentations of her ministry as she prepares for next year in Thailand. We had a few days together with Jana during her vacation. We really enjoy to have them both.

Thank you very much for your prayers and support!

Pavel and Julka Raus

### 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](http://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