



SERVANT LEADERS

Volume 4, #2,
February 2008



“CESTA TAM” UPDATE

By Jarda Tusek

Cesta Tam—There is a way

Our vision is to help raise a generation of fervent, evangelical, missionary-minded Czechs to restore the Czech Church to its mission and calling in the world.

The “Five-Year Ministry Plan”

The Reverend Canon David Friedline M.D. of the RFCM (Redeemer Family of Churches and Ministries) asked me, as part of my on-going educational process as an ordained presbyter, to submit a “five-year ministry plan.” I am very grateful to David for this request, as it got me thinking about the exact “whens, wheres and hows” of Cesta Tam. With this request in mind, during our 2008 International Leadership Institute annual planning meeting, Sara and I talked about our long-standing plan to move to the Czech Republic to implement the Cesta Tam project.

diocese), as outlined in our book, *Three Things You Can't Do in Prague*. This version of our ministry would have been expensive (at the time, we estimated \$250,000 would be required to meet legal requirements for establishing a non-profit organization; with the fall of the dollar, this figure would now be more like \$450,000) and quite lengthy, with a ten-year waiting period before we could actually register as a church.

It became clear very quickly after Sara and I completed the Calvary International missionary training course that neither we nor the RFCM was in a position to begin such a complicated and involved ministry.

At a meeting in October 2006, we agreed with Archbishop Daniel Williams of the CCC (who also serves as bishop of the RFCM) that it was not practical at that time, in 2006, for Sara and me to work on the Apostolate model of Christian ministry in the Czech Republic.

At that October meeting with Archbishop Williams, Bishop Bill Mikler and the Reverend David Sheffield added their wisdom and insight into the proceedings.

Bishop Mikler made a comment that has proven very helpful: he asked why, at this time in our lives and with all we had done through our private business (the International Leadership Institute) and at several American universities, we would want to learn an entirely new set of skills to be able to run such a huge concern as an international apostolate.

to p. 2

“Cesta Tam” is a Czech phrase meaning, roughly, “there is a way.” This is the name Sara and I adopted in 2006 to describe our “Czech project,” a ministry to Czech people which we’ve been praying about since 2000. Finding the way to Cesta Tam has been a long and interesting journey, and sometimes quite a struggle; we now, thank God, feel confident that we are on the right road to making Cesta Tam a reality.

Ways to do Cesta Tam

We have written extensively about ways to organize the Cesta Tam project. One possibility was a very ambitious plan to establish an apostolate in the Czech Republic, under the supervision and with the support of the CCC (Communion of Convergence Churches, of which the RFCM is an arch-



At Jarda's ordination in September 2007: Bishop Bill Mikler hands Jarda the Book of Common Prayer, while Archbishop Daniel Williams and the Reverends Robin Sheffield and Bowen Slade join in the festivities.



"Cesta Tam" Update

continued from p. 1

In other words, why would Sara and I set aside our experience of running young-adult and executive education programs at the Institute, several universities and non-profit associations, in order to begin to develop an entirely new set of skills necessary to run a non-profit organization in a country famous for its bureaucracy and adherence to strict rules and stringent requirements.

Following this meeting, Sara and I prayed that the Lord show us another way to "do" Cesta Tam. We decided to do an old career development exercise—to assess and list all your skills, talents and abilities, based on your most successful past accomplishments. From this exercise we began to see a new way to use our "old" skills, talents and interests—to build on our business experience in the Czech Republic. The Cesta Tam program will be built on our more than 50 years of combined experience of running educational and developmental programs.

Begin with English lessons

June 2010 is our proposed date to move our home and the Institute headquarters to Prague for an initial two-year commitment. When we arrive, we will launch the Cesta Tam program., with the simple idea of offering conversational English lessons. Most young people in the Czech Republic are already learning English in school, as fluency in English is a prerequisite to acquiring the best jobs as the Czechs become more completely integrated into the European Union. Our goal is to invite young Czech adults (ages 14–35) to our English lessons, getting to know them and becoming their friends. We will help them first with practical matters and later with spiritual matters.



Betlemske Kaple in Zizkov.

Photo courtesy

The Reverend Christof Lange, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren

From this group, we'll invite interested students to our advanced English sessions, and then to our Alpha sessions, mentoring program and church-related activities such as prayer groups and Bible studies. We fervently pray that these people will become fully-devoted followers of Christ.

Real hope for real people in the real world

Sara and I believe that our ministry needs to first focus on solving the practical problems of daily life, providing inspiration and hope to the Czechs, rather than dealing with the ins and outs of Christian doctrine. Real hope for real people in the real world created by our real Creator is our starting point for developing a real Christian culture of peace, joy, and living a purposeful life.

Our 17 years of work in the Czech Republic,

plus my personal knowledge based on spending the first 26 years of my life there, will be the starting point for Cesta Tam. As we see it, we will be using all of the entrepreneurial and leadership skills that we have developed under the Lord's guidance throughout our careers in order to run Cesta Tam. We will rely on the support of the Lord, and the friendship and moral guidance of our friends at Christ the Redeemer Church and in the CCC and at Providence School, New Life Christian Fellowship and many other churches throughout the world. We will also reconnect with the hundreds of Czech people we've worked with through the Institute since 1990.

Producing fruit for Christ

Our unique calling, Sara and I believe, is to teach people how to be successful in following Jesus by applying His teachings to everyday life. We will make every effort, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God and the counsel of the saints, to find young people who are ready to hear about Christ; to tell them about Christ, and what He has done for us; and to lead these young people into a new, vibrant life based on living in Christ, not in themselves.

We pray that our work will produce fruit for Christ, a harvest of souls dedicated to Him.

Servant Leaders
Sara Tusek, Editor
830-13 A1A North, #317
Ponte Vedra Beach FL 32082
Tel/Fax: 904.992.8729;
tusek@fdn.com; www.ili.cc