



Family Time

In case you were wondering, we were able to spend time with all of our kids in the US – Elliott and his girlfriend, Aa'jee in Southern California, Ben & Tanja and their puppy, Theo, in Texas, and Emily & Chris and our grandkids Callum and Lua in Washington. We were also able to visit Gary's family in Texas and Washington, and Joy's brothers in Washington and her Aunt in Arizona. These were very precious moments for us, but made it more difficult to say goodbye this time, than when we moved to Slovakia over two years ago. Separation is one of the hardest experiences of being a full-time missionary, right up there with culture shock and language learning. But as it's actually part of the call, we are learning to lean more and more on the Lord. And in the process, He is building in us a greater understanding, and therefore more compassion and love for those we are sent to serve.

Trials and Blessings Back in Slovakia

The flight home went well, but when we arrived at our apartment, we found out they were putting in new gas lines on our street. Torn up roads and no hot water for at least two weeks! Cold showers were here, and they were combined with the heat and humidity that had returned to Bratislava in July. Then, when we tried to start our car, we found the battery was completely dead. Guess we shouldn't have been surprised after 12 weeks. None of these things were showstoppers, but we were exhausted and just needed to rest well. God in His incredible mercy decided He would bless us. Two days into no hot water they finished early and turned the gas back on for us – truly a miracle here in Slovakia. Your prayers mean so much! The next blessing came with our landlords deciding to put A/C in our apartment – installed a week later and fully paid for by them! God was not done, our friend and our landlord both came to help us start the car, and the dead battery came back to life! We are blessed in so many ways!

Young Life English Camp in Czech Republic

A week and a half after we arrived home, we drove to Prague to teach English at Young Life's City Camp. Many of the middle school kids who were there last year remembered us! We joined in on all their fun – Frisbee golf, making friendship bracelets, and worship (Gary joined the team playing percussion). We hung out with YL leaders and Ken and Linda Stapleton, the FMI workers in Czech who invited us to camp last year. God's presence was felt, and the kids



drew closer to Him and to each other. We have developed great friendships and are so thankful we have been a part of this outreach to young people. Thank you for being part of the team that supports this incredible ministry!

Gary & Joy Peiss

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