

Czech uP!

with the Carter Family
Spring 2009



Patterns of Promise

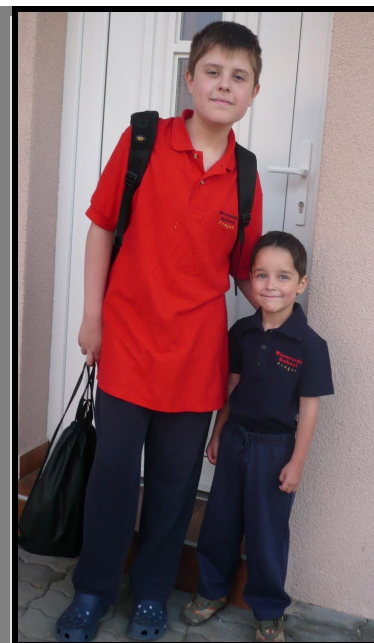
Recently Deann and I were part of the first ever conference for CBM staff held just outside New Delhi in India and entitled Patterns of Promise. It was the first time as an organization since our beginnings as a mission in India in the late 1800's that we have ever met together as both Canadian staff, Global Field Staff and National Staff.

What was perhaps the most powerful for me was the chance to meet colleagues from around the world whom we had only read about. The shared vision and times of learning together were indeed something that impacted us. I think its important as an organization that we have these opportunities from time to time to "catch up" and to get a sense of focus and

direction as a mission. I remember when I worked for InterVarsity my dear friend and mentor the late Jim Berney, once told me, "Jeff whenever you can, gather people - it is then that you will see things happen!" and of course that is what I see time and time again in my work across the EBF!

The majority of the time in our conference we were in sessions that either focused on professional development or on gaining a sense of collective direction for the future drivers of our work. Since our main focus is in the area of grass-roots Leadership development we spent a great deal of time looking at what the next 3 years or more will hold.

What a thrilling chapter we are turning in CBM as we look to the future of our collective work!



Welcome Home Mom and Dad!

This winter has been one of stretching and trust for us as a family. As was mentioned in the article about India, we were gone 11 days. However, we were not able to take the boys with us, so we were encouraged to find someone to take care of them in our absence. Praise God our new neighbours Joe and Ximena Mrazek offered to watch the boys on the same weekend that they would be moving into their new house across the street from us! God knew in his timing what worked for all of us! They watched the boys while living in our home with their children and used it as a base of operations for their big move. We are blessed that this loving Christian couple has moved into our neighbourhood!
The Carter Family



THE CATS ARE BACK!

Teaching has become one of my passions. I know this does my dad's heart good to hear since he was a teacher for most of his career. I guess the apple does not fall far from the tree!

This year I have developed a close relationship with the Certificate of Applied Theology students and they clearly enjoyed the course and often after it was over at the end of winter term they would express disappointment that it was no longer in progress. As a teacher it is an encouragement to me to know that the students have been challenged and that it is reaching them. They too have enriched us and we were touched when they invited us as a family to share in their communal dinner one Friday evening. We are returning the favor and having them over for a BBQ this week. It always amazes me how students from such diverse back grounds from across Europe and the Middle East can live, work and learn together. They will be missed! What a joy to see them go into ministries across this vast region. The end of May will see us at yet another graduation and another commissioning of these young leaders to God.

60 YEAR DIAMOND JUBILEE of the International Baptist Theological Seminary 1949 to 2009

YOU ARE INVITED!

Join us for the festivities as we celebrate 60 years of training men and women for His service.
29th to 31st of May 2009

Mastering Youth Ministry!

This past February after a couple of years of development, IBTS introduced the first ever Master's level Youth Ministry course at IBTS in Applied Theology created and taught by Jeff. The first students registered for the intensive course and are now in the middle of writing papers! The time we had together as a class was stimulating, especially when you have dialogue between people from Croatia, Belgium, Poland, Armenia and the Czech Republic. This course will be a regular course taught in the February block and already we are having inquires already for next year. Again, teaching has been a joy and bringing people into conversation around youth work from around the world is a blessing for all.



Prayer and Praise



- Praise God for a successful and inspiring Youth and Children's conference in Timisoara Romania this past January with James Penner (Alberta) as our guest speaker.
- Praise God for Jeff's successful teaching blocks with the new Masters of Applied Theology course and the Certificate of Applied Theology at IBTS.
- Praise God for the continuing development of the new HORIZONS material and that as we begin a strategy for training course mentors in countries around Europe and the Middle East that we will be drawn to the right people.
- Praise God for a great conference for CBM staff from around the world in India. Pray for people that are perhaps still ill and to also pray for the new initiatives that will come from this collective visioning session.
- Pray for us as a family as we prepare to leave for Canada for a time of "home assignment" this summer sharing with our Partner in Mission churches and friends and family from May 31st to September 1st. For our itinerary you can check out our family blog as mentioned below.
- Pray for our CBM colleague Vasil Vasilev as he works on the Amsterdam 400 team this summer and then joins our family in Canada for the month of August for "home assignment". Pray for his health and safe travel and that his time with us will be rewarding as he shares with churches and supporters.
- Pray for the economic impact that the world downturn is having on ministries, churches and seminaries and people in general. May we learn to be better stewards!
- Pray for our spiritual health and physical health as we struggle on both counts at time.

CZECH Up!

WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!
Want to know MORE???
We update our BLOG often!

Read about our life and ministry
and prayer requests
in more "real time" detail at:

www.cartersinprague.blogspot.com

If you need to call use our Nova Scotia
(Halifax) number which rings us in Prague
for only the cost of a phone call in
Canada!

1-902-482-2195

(NOTE! *Central Europe* time please!)

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THE KEY TO SUPPORT

This past year has been difficult for the world economy. There is no place that is untouched. Therefore we offer our gratitude for your continued support as you continue to lift us in prayer and in your financial giving to your work in Europe and the Middle East in Leadership Development of young leaders. We also ask for your continued prayers for our safety, health and over all well being. If you would like to find out how to support us or know of someone who may consider being a Partner in Mission then please contact:

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