



SLOVAK MISSION NETWORK

We want to assist sending churches to prepare & send missionaries, assist them on the mission field & on their re-entry.

WHEN I CAME TO SLOVAKIA IN 1992, I WALKED INTO A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE THAT HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR A FEW YEARS. FOLLOWING THE FULFILLMENT OF A DREAM OF CREATING A TRAINING NETWORK FOR YOUTH WORKERS, GOD PUT A NEW DREAM INTO MY HEART. "WHAT IF A NEW GENERATION OF MISSIONARIES COULD BE SENT FROM SLOVAKIA TO THE ENTIRE WORLD?"

I watched with joy as mission organization like *Wycliff* and *YWAM* were established and the dream began to be fulfilled. During those years God called the Brenkus family to India and the Lacho family to work with Native Americans in the USA. Then in 2007 our family unexpectedly returned to the US, where I served for 11 years as a mission pastor in a local church.

In 2018, God unexpectedly called the Brenkus, Lacho and Jones families back to Slovakia, basically at the same time. After a couple of months, we began dreaming together and asking, "What needs to be done in order for churches to begin sending more missionaries from Slovakia?" This was the beginning of the Slovak Mission Network. News began to spread and people from around Slovakia who are on fire for missions and the sending of missionaries began little by little to gather. We believe that Slovakia is ready for this vision. Biblical foundations have been already laid for many years, a generation of workers is prepared, the economic situation in Slovakia is totally different than it was in the past, and doors are open for Slovaks to serve in countries that are closed to missionaries from other countries. A huge benefit is that "no one hates Slovaks." They can go anywhere. We began to pray, meet regularly, and invite others whose hearts beat for missions to join us. Very soon we began to see the need to establish an independent, inter-denominational mission organization that would be capable of creating and defining a path for missionaries and missionary sending church. This path would include training for churches and missionaries, assistance with legal matters, help with fundraising and other types of support, and the care of missionaries both on the field and when they return home. In each conversation within the context of evangelical churches, we met with excited acceptance. National denominational leader confirmed the need for such an organization.

In spite of the Covid-19 restrictions of 2020, we continue moving forward in the vision and have registered a non-profit organization called *The Slovak Mission Society (SMS)*. We believe we are only at the beginning of all the Lord has prepared for us. We invite you be a part of the SMS, whether as an observer, contributing member, representative of a sending church, or a potential missionary. In this update we will explain in detail what SMS is all about and the things we are currently involved in. With look forward with anticipation to getting to know you.



Danny Jones
pastor of *BJB Palisády*
& co-founder of *SMS*

In February 2020, SMS met in Banska Bystrica. With a facilitator named Sheldon Armitage, we identified 6 areas that we wanted to move ahead in during 2020. They were:



PRAYER

In July, through ZOOM, we started to pray regularly on Tuesday evenings. We pray for 4 areas:

1. **Nations (political countries):** through the end of 2020 we prayed for countries using the OM calendar. After the first of the year, through a list provided by Open Doors, we began praying for 50 countries in which it is most dangerous for Christians to practice their faith.
2. **Slovak and Czech denominations and mission organizations:** in 2020 we prayed through all of these organizations and began again in 2021. In relationship to the denominations, we pray for church leadership, pastors, elders, and church members. We pray for opportunities for people to join in God's plan for the saving of mankind. In regards to mission organizations we pray for wisdom and leadership for the leaders and for proper strategies in mobilizing the Slovak and Czech nations.
3. **LRPG (least-reached people groups)** – we pray through the www.joshuaproject.net calendar for more than 3 billion people who belong to LRPG. These are people groups in which there is only a very small percentage of Christians and where there are no independent, indigenous churches.
4. **Slovak and Czech missionaries** – we communicate with missionaries, invite them to join us in prayer, and pray for the current needs and challenge they are facing.



You can join us for prayer every
Tuesday at 21:00 to 22:00
at ZOOM – bit.ly/sms-modlitby.



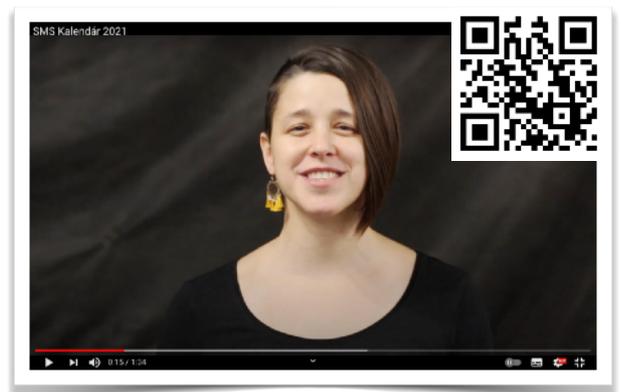
In the area of prayer we have also begun preparing a **podcast** which has the goal of mobilizing Slovaks to pray for LRPG. Every day we add a 2-minute episode, in which information is shared about another LRPG (from the Joshuaproject website). At the end is a short prayer to help lead people into praying together for these LRPG.

Podcasts can be found on [Spotify](#), on [Apple podcasts](#), and Google podcasts under the heading "Slovenska misijnja siet" prayers.



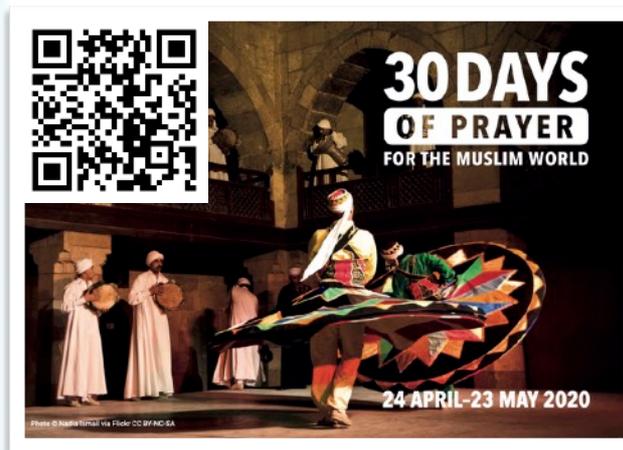
For 2021 we produced a calendar with **12 specific LRPG**. These LRPG were chosen after consultation with people in the Slovak Mission Network and the Czech mission organization Nehemia. These are LRPG in which there is already either an existing work or a work in preparation, or there is someone/group already praying for this LRPG.

Watch this promo from Barca. You can order your calendar at bit.ly/SMSKalendar2021



Through the **prayer calendar for Muslims during Ramadan** – bit.ly/modlitbypocasramad

we have joined together with a world-wide network of mission organization and have also translated the **Prayer Calendar for Buddhists** – bit.ly/modlitbyzabudhistov. You can use these calendars in your groups and churches anytime throughout the year, with the goal of praying for a breakthrough by Christian missions in these religiously blocked areas.





MEMBER CARE

In the area of support for missionaries we established work groups, which will cross-denominationally focus on this area. It is an honor to have on the team experienced people like Danny who can speak from both the perspective of a missionary or a mission pastor in a church in the USA that has sent out more than 80 missionaries. Gary and his wife Joy are responsible in *Foursquare Missions International* for the leadership of missionary care for all of Europe. Sasa is with *Wycliffe Slovakia* and brings to the team her experiences with Wycliffe missionaries. Bohunka and Jozef, after 12 years of missionary experience, focus on coaching missionaries. Bohunka is intensively studying the area of missionary care. We are not able to specifically name every member of the team, but at least this help you understand the blessing that this team is in the area of missionary care.



The team began contacting every known evangelical, long-term, international, Slovak missionary is currently on the field or has returned home. This year we are planning a "Gathering" of all former and current missionaries and together with them to strategize about what is necessary to make things easier for missionaries who will follow behind them.

Because of Covid-19 regulations, we had to cancel the **6th SMS meeting** scheduled at the Slovak YWAM base. We had planned a **seminar on Caring for Missionaries** with speakers from the USA. We hopefully will be able to reschedule in the near future.

In the contexts of our Tuesday Prayer for LRP, we also regularly **pray for Slovak missionaries** and attempt to mobilize support for them through this platform.

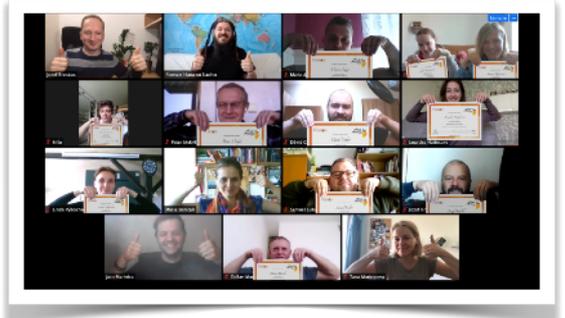


TRAINING



In 2020 we were most active in the area of training. Two days before the Kairos Course in Bratislava was to begin, the government began nation-wide Covid-19 restrictions and we were therefore forced to cancel the course. Jozef and Roman began intensely praying 5 times daily for God's direction as to what to do next. The rest is a God story. We began, as one of the first group in the world, to do the **Kairos Course online**. Thanks to intricate and creative modifications to the online platform that we learned through this process, we have been able to teach other teams how to do this, in Canada, Belgium, and Holland, as well as a mixed team from different continents. We became part of a **worldwide work team** that standardizes online versions of Simply Mobilizing courses.

In Slovakia we had a 2020 goal of organizing **10 courses**, but then we realized there was an unique opportunity for us to take part in other courses offered by Simply Mobilizing online. Taking these courses had been our goal for 2021. We took part in **3 new courses**, *MOBI 101* (A discipleship course for Kairos facilitators), *ETI* (How to become salt and light in your workplace or neighborhood), and *TUS* (A shortened version of Kairos from 42 hours to 8 hours). Along with this, we were able to organize in-person 2 Kairos courses, one with the Evangelical Free Church in Levice and the second with the AOG in Kosice. Both of these churches are influencers in Slovakia and we believe they will inspire many other to take the course. We also organized 4 ZOOM Kairos Courses in Slovakia and one in India. The result has been many changed participants in these courses who have begun to live the life of a pro-mission Christian. We have trained **20 facilitators** and **7 head facilitators** from different denominations who can now lead the Kairos course themselves.



In June we plan to begin the translation of the **MOBI 101** and **ETI courses**. We are giving a strong emphasis to the process that needs to take place in the lives of people, rather than just being able to show a large amount of activity and impressive statistics. We ask for your prayers because through prayer and training we desire to see a mobilized Church in Slovakia and around the world, prepared to fulfill its calling.

Simply Mobilizing Slovakia has joined with a global database through which you can find another 100 countries in which the courses are organized. Scan the QR code or check out the information about current courses at bit.ly/registracia-kairos





MOBILIZATION

In the previous year we primarily mobilized through **training and follow up** after the training. We are encouraged that mobilization is happening **cross-denominationally**, and although it is happening much slower than we would desire, we are intensively looking for **solutions and tools** will enable us, in light of the Great Commission, to send missionaries out quickly and as far as the ends of the earth.



In 2021 we are planning **meetings with graduates of our courses**, with the goal of repeatedly igniting in them apostolic passion. We are seeing that churches that were involved together with their leadership in these courses are experiencing holistic transformation. Pray with us, that there will be more **churches in Slovakia that are living out mission** and desire to bring the gospel to the least-reach people groups.



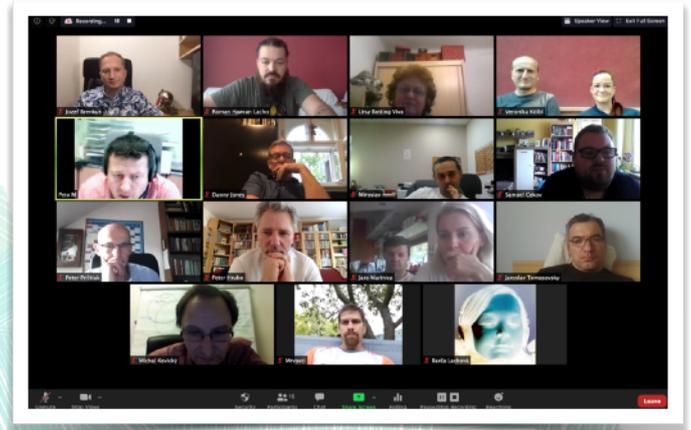
Mobi 101 

We believe that with the MOB101 course we will have a tool to **train mobilizers** for the world Christian movement, and in the over time we will lead them on their paths of mobilization. If you have participated in Kairos and desire to mobilize our country, we invite you to our team.



NETWORKING

Our work together in 2020 was limited mainly due to the regulations given by the Slovak government regarding Covid-19. In spite of the situation we were able to meet in physical form once in February. In June we meet through ZOOM, but our planned meeting for SMS in October at the YWAM center in Lucatine was canceled due to the worsening pandemic situation.



Other than the **larger meetings**, we had a smaller meeting focused on short-term mission trips and a number of ZOOM meetings regarding the formation of our **Member Care Team**. A SMS working team met regularly to focus on the government **registration of SMS** a **short-term trips**. Danny, Jozef and Roman, with only a few exceptions, met on a weekly basis.

On November 3-7, 2021 we are planning a **BAM (Business as Mission) conference** at the Berea guesthouse in the town of Modra. It will be for people who desire to use their business careers in reaching the least-reached people groups in the world. This conference will be organized in cooperation with *Nehemia Mission* in Czech and we look forward to having speakers from Norway and Canada.



COMMUNICATION

The mission network was created specifically so that we could learn to communicate and develop relationships focused on working together. We believe that this is an area in which we can grow and build awareness in Slovakia.

Throughout 2020 you received news through Mailchimp about what is happening in SMS, as well as opportunities in which you can put your hands to the task. In case you don't receive these updates, check to make sure that they have not ended up in spam, or sign up to begin receiving them.



We would be grateful if you let us know if you would like to partner with us. Please specify your area of interest. **Together we can effectively participate in God's plan of salvation for mankind.**

In 2021, we would like to advance our communication in the area of social media. We therefore invite you to follow our [Facebook page](#) and [sign up for our newsletter](#).



Slovakia is experiencing a "Kairos moment" in missions. Don't let this moment bypass you, but become a part of God's story.



Jozef Brenkus
national coordinator of Simply Mobilizing, co-founder of SMS



Roman Lacho
mobilisator, co-founder of SMS