# **MOSTY**

## Building Gospel Bridges for Transformation in Prague

## **Background**

25+ years after the fall of communism across Central and Eastern Europe, there is still a noticeable absence of the Gospel and Christianity in most of society. In the Czech Republic, where 72%<sup>1</sup> of Czechs are "religiously unaffiliated" and only 0.7%<sup>2</sup> identify themselves as evangelical Christians, there is a growing hunger for something real to hope in. *It feels like a kairos moment.* There is a rapid shift in generational and cultural perspective in a generation that has grown up in a free society in the Czech lands.

As it says in Romans 10 though, "How will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless someone is sent?"

We are seeking God's heart and will for the city of Prague and beyond, desiring to build gospel bridges that allow for the active and living Word of God to be preached in word and deed. At this time in history, we believe that God is calling His people to the harvest fields in Prague and is opening the doors for a deeper partnership for the fame and glory of His name and the witness of the Gospel.

We see that global mission is changing and we are committed to follow the Spirit's leading in bringing about the transformation of our approach to mission. The imitation of Christ, draws us to humility and vulnerability, and to mission that flows from God's power and not from our own. The gospel is not a product of the West being exported to the rest, but is the good news of Jesus Christ and his Kingdom, that God is taking, through a global movement to all peoples. We affirm both sending and receiving churches as equals with unique roles, agents of God on mission, interdependent with God and each other. The work of mission, where the gospel seed is planted, is a work of collaboration, learning, and mutuality where sending and receiving churches both have a great deal to learn together for the sake of God's kingdom and for the spread of the gospel in their own communities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pew Forum 2017 report

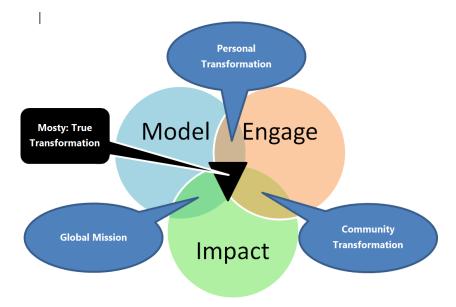
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Joshua Project May, 2017

#### Mission:

For God's glory, building bridges in, from, and to Prague to bring about radical gospel transformation.

#### Vision:

We want to see a generation that models authentic Christian living, engages with local communities, and who works together to impact Prague, the Czech Republic and the world.



#### **MOSTY Values**

#### **Individual Transformation**

We value the ongoing transformation of individual lives and our authentic presence in personal relationships, modeling the character of Christ.

- ➤ We value Jesus' call to us to become His disciples, and we believe that the fruit of our walking with Jesus is our humble approach as servants and learners as we grow in Jesus' character.
- ➤ We value the call to be missional disciple-makers, inviting others to journey with us into a life of transformation and walking with them as they come to know and follow Jesus as Lord.

### **Community Transformation**

We value communities, for it is in relationship with other people that we reflect the image of a relational God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- ➤ We value faith communities as oases of shalom where we can celebrate our relationship with God and each other, and from which we are sent in mission together.
- ➤ We value local communities where we live as neighbours and where we work alongside people of other convictions for the common good in our city and for shalom in society.

#### Global Mission

We value the Great Commission of Jesus Christ to go and make disciples and to be the means of blessing to all the nations.

- ➤ We want to engage in the transformation of mission, and we believe that mutual and lasting impact is only possible through partnering of sending and receiving churches.
- ➤ We value MOSTY as a trans-continental learning community of participating churches and individuals, with the posture of kingdom minded servanthood.

## **MOSTY Strategy**

In many ways MOSTY wants to be and provide that space for personal and communal transformation. But often it doesn't start with MOSTY, and it certainly doesn't end with participating in MOSTY. MOSTY is offering participants a year long<sup>3</sup> opportunity to live, learn and serve in Prague. Participants will join a missional community and actively participate in its discipling process, of which they are both subject and object. Together with this missional community, and through specific ministry placements with MOSTY partners, participants engage with people in Czech society and churches, reaching out to those who do not know Jesus as their Savior.

Participants do not come to Prague alone, they are sent by a church. After a year they do not just return home, but are commissioned to continue building gospel bridges. True transformation comes about through...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> MOSTY Internship is 11 months long, starting with language & culture introduction in August, and from September to June with Ministry Engagement and Learning Community participation.

### ... Modeling authentic Christian living

MOSTY Participants will engage in a missional community in which the leadership and members model missional living. They will work alongside (semi-)professionals who are experienced in their respective fields of ministry. Participants will have the opportunity to watch and observe these models, and steadily become models themselves. Upon return to their home culture, they will have the opportunity to continue the missional way of living, but in their home context. They become models for the Christians around them and contribute to their transformation, the transformation of their communities, and of those that they reach out to.

## ... Engaging with local communities

Observation is not enough to learn or bring transformation. Participants engage fully in the life of the missional community and together they engage in culture and society as servants and ambassadors, whether it is through music, movies, politics, or in relationship with people on the margins of society, and to the young and old.

### ...Impacting Prague, the Czech Republic and the world

This involvement will have an impact on the people that they engage with. The Primary Goal of MOSTY is therefore to contribute to mission in Prague, and to strengthen missional communities in the country. The impact however will extend beyond Prague as the participants will return home, influencing their (sending) churches and the communities they live and work in.

Prague, November 2017