



# The Willoughbys

reaching the unreached in *Estonia and Eurasia*

July 2008



Dear Praying Friends,

Imagine a language that has no future tense. Imagine a language that has a possible 28 different spellings for every word, depending on how it is used in a sentence (14 noun cases!). Imagine a language that does not use "a," "an," or "the." Imagine learning three vowel sounds that do not occur in English. This is just the beginning of what it means to learn the Estonian language!

In spite of centuries of domination by foreign powers such as Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Russia, Estonians have preserved their unique, Finno-Ugric language. In the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, Estonians were peasants farming the land for German landlords. The Estonian language continued to be spoken by these peasants until they were liberated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. During the extremely repressive time of Soviet rule, the communists hoped to see an end to all things Estonian, including the language. However, Estonian continued to be spoken, and in 1991, Estonian became the official language of the new Estonian Republic.

Language School: Deputation meetings have slowed down considerably as Angela and I focus on learning the Estonian language this summer at the University of California in Los Angeles. At the time of this writing, we are in our third week of classes. We have class from 9am-1pm Monday through Friday. Our teacher is an Estonian lady who now teaches her native tongue in America. This course is called "intensive." That means we get bombarded with the language every class period and have plenty of homework! However, we know that this class will cut down on time in language school later, and it will help us to adapt more quickly to Estonian culture. Thank you to all who gave to make this possible!

- Evangelizing
- Church Planting
- Bible Institute
- Translation

Housing Provided: God has answered our prayers for a place to stay while we takes classes this summer! I had been hesitant to rent a short term apartment for \$6,000 for 8 weeks, so I continued to pray and ask around for another option. The very day I had finally decided to pay the \$6,000 for lack of better options, First Baptist Church in Long Beach, California contacted me. The church has allowed us stay in their missions apartment free of charge!

We continue to see God bring in the needed support. Based on current support, promised support, and likely support, we expect to be at least at 95% support by the end of the year. Of course, we are counting on the Lord to supply the remaining 5% by providing additional meetings and support from unlikely sources. Thank you for helping us with your faithful prayers and support!

### Deputation Status:

Meetings Held	139
Miles Traveled	59,867
May Support Level	77.3%
June Support Level	79.0%

Yours for Estonia,

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