



The Willoughbys

Reaching the unreached in Estonia

August 2019

- Evangelizing
- Church Planting
- Bible Institute

Dear Praying Friends,

Last year marked 100 years since Estonia first won its independence in 1918. This year's song festival celebrated 150 years since the first Estonian Song Festival. Though our church plant is only three years old, we want to tell you about several "firsts" in our ministry here.

Door-to-door: We are very pleased that we have our first consistent door-to-door trainees, Mattias and Triin! We are all learning together how to best present ourselves and gain a hearing at the doors of Estonian skeptics. A handful of people this summer have received us well and were willing to let us share the Gospel. One of those was Toomas (Thomas) who let me talk through the entire plan of salvation before we were interrupted. Pray that God would fill us with His Spirit as we go!

Services: We recently finished our series on 1 and 2 Corinthians, and now we turn to the book of Romans. In spite of the beautiful summer weather, attendance has been steady. On Wednesday nights we read and discuss the book of Exodus with our most dedicated people. Priit, who works in the same building, still comes, but told me he will be changing to a different office far from our church. Sergei, a Russian speaker in his sixties, started attending very faithfully the last couple of months. We know him from our early days at International Baptist Church of Tallinn. I fear that he understands very little in our services since his English and Estonian language abilities are rather weak, but he is very set on improving them. He claims to be saved, but we have a hard time communicating as you can imagine!

Connect Trip: We hosted our first mission trip from the States. VBS this year was big! The Connect Team taught the English classes, organized the games, and helped everywhere they could with crafts, set-up and take-down, lunch, and much more! We had an all-time high of 23 children in a single day with one child making a profession of faith. Over half of the children who came were our own children's friends from school. On Friday we invited the parents to watch a brief ending program by the children, and ten parents came. This was another record!

In the evenings the team helped with our first ever youth outreach, Teen Time, for children 12 and up. It turned out that our attendees were nearly all girls from RoseLynn's class at school. Each of the team members gave their testimonies, and we taught them about the God of the Bible and salvation. Of course, we had lots of crazy games and activities to keep them coming! I was thrilled at how clearly and repeatedly these girls heard the Gospel. Pray that there would be fruit from Teen Time and that we could continue this work with a youth meeting at the start of school.

Now it is time to celebrate these "firsts" with perhaps a chocolate kringel! In the meantime let's pray together that the seed planted will be watered until God gives the increase.

Yours for Estonia,

Rob & Angela Willoughby
RoseLynn, Ryland, Abigail, and Andrew

Ministry Phase:
Building a Core Group of Believers

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