



The Willoughbys

Reaching the unreached in Estonia

March 2021

- Evangelizing
- Church Planting
- Bible Institute

Dear Praying Friends,

While reflecting on Estonia's Independence Day (February 24th), when they won their freedom from Russia during turbulent times, we were reminded to do what we can with what we have. Estonia was a small land with a small population and limited resources within the vast Russian empire. Yet they fought and won. God has given us our limited talents and a small group of believers. Let's see how we can serve God with these resources in these unique times!

Services: Heavier restrictions are in place for March, which include forbidding church services indoors. We can meet outside with 10 people at a time, but it's cold outside, and we have more than 10 people! Our small group is generally of one mind that we should continue having church as normal. Please keep us in prayer as every ministry must make important judgment calls in these unprecedented days.

Otherwise, our regulars have been coming faithfully as we go through the book of Hebrews together. The school-age children seem to enjoy sitting in the main service with their fill-in-the-blank sermon note pages. The smaller ones are with Angela in Sunday School. She does her best to keep them singing, learning the lesson, and being generally excited about the Bible!

I started pre-recording my messages in English for Eugene who comes every Sunday. He said he was content to read his Bible and follow my PowerPoint while I preached in Estonian, but I really felt he needed to be properly fed with the Word. I realize I need to take good care of those whom God has entrusted to me. Now he listens to the English message with earphones while his family listens to me preaching in Estonian. Praise the Lord for technology!

Children's Ministries: We have been having a great group of children coming on Sunday. Some of them come without their parents. It remains to be seen how the stricter regulations will affect their attendance. Annabel and Stephan, who came to our VBS last year, have come for about three Sundays now. They asked to be in the Sunday School class with Angela, and we allowed them since they have absolutely no church upbringing at all. Pray for their salvation!

More time and energy is going into preparing for our children's ministries for the summer. We have no idea what restrictions may be in place then, so we are just going to prepare for the best case scenario and leave it in God's hands. We decided to reuse our Kingdom Chronicles program for VBS this year, since Ryland really likes that one. This will be his last year at VBS (at least as a camper).

Just as I did with RoseLynn's friends their last year of VBS, I hope to start a group with Ryland's age to continue teaching them. So far our plan is to use the Pinewood Derby event as a base activity for a weekly Bible club. Along with working on our derby cars in the garage, we will play some physically competitive games with the boys including gladiator jousting!

By God's grace we will go forward and focus on the ways we *can* serve God in these uncertain times. Thank you for your faithful support!

Yours for Estonia,

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

Ministry Phase:
Building a Core Group of Believers

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