



- Evangelizing
- Church Planting
- Bible Institute

The Willoughbys

Reaching the unreached in Estonia

May 2017

Dear Praying Friends,

A witches' party? Are you kidding me?? Though Estonia is a relatively safe and peaceful place to live, we are often reminded of what it means to live in the least religious country in the world. While Christianity and any "organized religions" are rejected out of hand, the people here are quite open to contact with spiritual powers, nature worship, and mystical teachings. Still, I was a bit shocked to see that the last day of school before the spring holiday ended with a witches' party!

Children's Ministry: As an alternative to the pagan tendencies of the culture, we are doing our best to reach children with the Gospel message. The next big event on our calendar is the annual **VBS June 12-16**. To promote our VBS and reach out to children who came last year, we hosted a resurrection-themed game day on April 13. Only one child from the community came, but Angela and I had fun dressing as Mary Magdalene and a Roman soldier to be questioned by the children about what we saw and experienced. My goal was to show them that the resurrection of Jesus is the only explanation that makes sense of the facts. Discovery class has continued as usual with lots of maps and Bible stories. We hope that Kaarel-Mihkel, who comes every week, will also join us for VBS!

This year Matthew and Sarah Majewski will be helping us run our VBS. Matthew pastors a church in rural Iowa. He and his family have come to help us twice before, so they are very experienced! Our theme is Ocean Commotion by Answers in Genesis. Pray with us for a record number of children and even some salvation decisions!

Open Bible anniversary: Our non-profit organization under which we do all our ministry in Estonia, Open Bible, is now one year old! We celebrated with a special Sunday service. I preached on sharing the resurrection message with the community. Eugene's family and Malvi joined us for the service and for cake afterwards. Pictures of these and other events can be found on Open Bible's **Facebook** page.

Easter: No, we don't believe in hugging pine trees to get energy from them or that aliens are secretly observing our lives here on earth in some cosmic science experiment, but we do believe that Jesus rose from the dead and that He is the Son of God! The very next Sunday after Open Bible's anniversary was Easter, and again Eugene's family was there to celebrate with us. Another missionary family also came for the service and fellowship afterward at our home.

Needless to say, RoseLynn did not go to the witches' party that the school so enthusiastically promoted. We are here to offer people an alternative to the oppression of superstitions, witchcraft, mysticism, and all spiritual darkness. Thank you again for your support and prayers as we share the liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ in Estonia!

Yours for Estonia,

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

Ministry Phase:
Building a Core Group of Believers
Next furlough: June-July 2018

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