



# The Willoughbys

Reaching the unreached in Estonia

May 2020

- Evangelizing
- Church Planting
- Bible Institute

Dear Praying Friends,

Estonians have been practicing social distancing for centuries, so how are things any different now? It may be true that the Estonian dream is to live in the countryside far enough away from their neighbors that they can just barely see the smoke from their chimney, but things *have* changed! There was no 10-person limit on church gatherings like in various States, but simply the policy of “no public meetings.” The 2 + 2 rule was in place, meaning only 2 people can meet at a time keeping 2 meters apart. That pretty much ruled out everything, but, praise the Lord, we were allowed to resume services on May 10!

**Livestream Services:** Like many of your pastors, I had to quickly figure out how to do YouTube live videos. Our first attempt lost connection just before the sermon, but since the first Sunday the connection has been stable. We have actually had more people attending the livestream than we typically would have come to the service! I am encouraged by that, and I hope to see those same people come join us now that we can meet again. We plan to start inviting visitors to our new meeting place at the shopping center soon!

**Videos:** On a positive note, God has also used this lockdown to motivate me to make some videos to share on social media. I made two videos connecting the coronavirus crisis with spiritual matters. The week of Easter I made some apologetics videos on the proofs of the resurrection of Jesus. I am making these videos in Estonian, since this kind of content is hard to find in this language. Pray that God would direct open-minded people to our YouTube channel.

**VBS:** Our VBS usually runs in mid-June, but we finally decided to postpone it until August. By then we should be able to run the VBS the way we want to with hopefully little to no restrictions. Please keep this in prayer as well, since this is our biggest event of the year. With all the kids home from school, it may be a bit harder to get invitations in the hands of the children.

Indeed, we face a challenging situation, but we know that God can accomplish His work in spite of all of this. In fact, God most likely will be and is using this crisis for good. Pray for us that God would open our eyes to the unique opportunities as we strive to continue ministering to our church and our teens and proclaiming the Gospel to the hundreds of thousands in the least religious nation in the world!

Yours for Estonia,

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

**Ministry Phase:**  
**Building a Core Group of Believers**

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