

The Zwingel Family



2nd Qtr Prayer Letter 2020

Our dear supporters,

All the world knows about the Corona Virus and the toll it has taken on us all. Russia is still heavily affected by it and I wish I could write to you a letter that would be informative and encouraging.

Unfortunately, St. Petersburg and Moscow are taking the brunt of the virus because of their populations. Travel bans are ongoing and businesses are still closed for the most part. In turn, churches have not been meeting as they would like, and have since turned to means of social media as a way to stream worship and prayer.

Three weeks ago, the government started to allow churches to gather, but in low numbers. Of course, most of the population did not know this. Pastor Dmitri (Dima) to whom we serve with as church planters decided to hold service. My family did not attend because the virus is still very strong here and for the safety of my family I decided for us not to attend, but to wait till we hear news that sicknesses are actually going down. Because as of now, the virus is increasing in the population of St. Petersburg. Believe me, I would love to have church with the brethren, but I will not put my family at risk.

As the church did meet, the police were called on them and were visited by 5 police officers to see what is taking place. As I had mentioned, most of the population did not know churches could meet, and thus someone reported them.

We were not there, but Pastor Dima told me that the young police sat for the whole service and he preached the gospel to them and then spoke to them afterwards. He was asked to follow them to the Police Station with help of filling out their report, to which he did. Pastor Dima was actually happy how it turned out that he could witness like this.

As we are serving with two national pastors (Dima and Pavel) that are in the process of church planting. We are assisting them in what means of evangelism as we can do, along with discipleship.

Currently, I am have marriage counseling with a new couple that have been saved for around two years. Their names are Alex and Kesanya and have a little boy. Please pray for them as they grow. Alex speak 5 languages and has an incredible mind, yet is a babe in Christ. They are loving the Bible studies.

Please pray for our neighbors, Sergei, Katya and daughter Liza and their salvation as we have been witnessing to them.

On a personal note, I would like to mention that my wife Larisa has just had a operation on June 28th. She had been diagnose to have two tumors in her Uterus. This diagnose took place as she had been doing a regular check up with her doctor. Of course concern came as it could be cancerous.

The surgery went very well and to surgeon told us that there seems to be no cancer, but will not know after tests are taken from the tumors whether there is cancer or not.

Please continue to pray for all of us to have wisdom in all things. The "winds have changed" here is Russia the last few years and we are not able to do things like we once did in ministry.

Pray for our health, and for the salvation of souls. May our blessed Lord and Savior be praised for all He is doing in our lives as we serve Him in Russia.

Thank you for your support as we would not be able to live and minister in Russia without you.

In Christ alone,
Jon Zwingel
