

# KYIV CONNECTIONS



## Prayer Letter of George & Sarah de Vuyst

*Engaging People. Embracing Christ.*

### Our Mission

By God's grace and the Spirit's working we are facilitating the transformation of lives, families, churches and communities in Ukraine and around the world.

Three key ministries are our tools to fulfill this mission.

**Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations** is a practical workshop that takes people through the process of healing and reconciliation. We are actively leading these workshops with partner churches in eastern Ukraine. The International School of Reconciliation and the Eurasian School of Reconciliation are international venues in which we, together with our partners, train others to develop and lead healing and reconciliation ministries in their own contexts.

**Timothy Leadership Training Institute** equips church leaders to develop healthy congregations and effectively train their own leaders.

In addition to these ministries we are helping facilitate the introduction of **Educational Care** and **Global Coffee Break** to Ukraine and the Russian speaking world.

Dear Friends,

As our 2019-2020 fiscal year is coming to an end on June 30, we would like to begin by expressing our deep, heartfelt gratitude to all of our supporters. As of today we already have 100% of our personal support for this fiscal year! Thank you again for your partnership in the gospel with us in Ukraine and around the world.

### Life During Quarantine

Since March 12, Ukraine has been under quarantine restrictions to limit the spread of Covid-19. Just this week, the measures have been lifted despite no decrease in the number of cases. We continue to limit our interactions and stay home. We are thankful for a house in a village outside Kyiv that provides us space inside and outdoors to study, work, and play.



Even though all the plans for a busy spring came to an abrupt halt, George was able to shift gears to working on ministry projects at home. Together with partners in the reconciliation ministry, he has been editing videos that accompany the Healing Hearts Transforming Nation's teaching manuals. The videos demonstrate activities and explain the material in ways that written text cannot.

We are thrilled that plans are being made to bring this transformative workshop to the United States. With the death of George Floyd, the need is all the more transparent and urgent.

## Contact Us

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## Prayer and Praise

### Thanksgiving for:

- Opportunities to continue ministry during quarantine
- Productive end to the school year
- A comfortable home and yard that provides us space to work, study & play

### Pray for:

- Sarah has been diagnosed with shingles on her forehead. Pray it does not affect her eye.
- Wisdom for us and Kyiv Christian Academy regarding school next fall
- God to use his Church to be agents of reconciliation in the USA and around the world

## Worship Symposium



One of George's favorite events every year is the Worship Symposium hosted at Calvin University. For several years now he's had the privilege of bringing a group of church leaders with him to attend the symposium and to visit some of our

supporting congregations. Every year is a wonderful time of making new discoveries and learning together. One of this past January's participants sent us the following message:

“It was a great blessing for me to attend the worship symposium. Firstly, trips to other countries expand horizons. It was very encouraging to see people from different cultures worshipping in their own ways, but even more fascinating was to see people from different cultures worshipping together. It was like a sample of how it will be in heaven.

Secondly, I had the opportunity to meet a lot of interesting people. At this symposium I had an encounter with the president of Institute for Worship Studies and got an invitation to study there. It had been my dream to have theological education on worship. Now I am a student at IWS!

Thirdly, the symposium was a great opportunity to see and experience different worship traditions. I was able to attend churches from different denominations and learn a lot of new things. It helped me to understand God better and to see his characteristics I hadn't seen before.”

Myroslava, teacher of vocal music  
Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary

## Uncertainties

Please be in prayer for God to give us wisdom for the fall. Our school, Kyiv Christian Academy, will release their plans later this summer, and we are not sure what will be best for staying healthy and the kids' education next year. Abigail will be a senior and desires to graduate with the class she's been part of since 5th grade. Sarah has also decided not to teach 5th grade next year. She is praying for direction as well.

The cost for the group of 9 participants to come for 10 days this year was just over \$4000. **This project is still in need of funding.** If you would like to help support this transformative opportunity please give to project 806028 - Ukraine Worship Symposium.