

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 event that takes people through the process of healing and reconciliation. We are actively leading these events 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.

Departure & Arrival

God answered our prayers for a smooth transition from Ukraine to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Movers came to transfer our furniture and belongings to a storage facility in Kyiv.

They were able to complete in 10 hours what they predicted would require 2-3 days! Gracious

friends came to pick us up and we managed to fit 5 passengers, a huge dog kennel, 15 suitcases and 5 carry-ons in their van. They hosted us for our last day and transported us to the airport in the middle of the night. Even though it took 3+ hours to get from the airport entrance to the gate, we made the flight to Amsterdam. Despite a KLM agent's mistake in Kyiv, our dog was cared for during the 5 hour layover in Amsterdam and we met her at our final destination in Chicago. George's dad met us in



Chicago with Trinity CRC's van and drove us to Grand Rapids. Thanks to many generous donations, especially from Silver Spring CRC, we entered a fully furnished house and are now settling into our home for the coming year. God has provided for all our needs through the countless acts of kindness and generosity of God's people. We are incredibly grateful.



Re-connect Visits

We will soon begin visiting our partner churches to share in person what God has been doing in Ukraine and elsewhere. We will keep our schedule updated at <http://www.devuysts.com/re-connect/>. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Contact Us

Mailing Address:

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Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Cell: 616-290-5478

Email: gdevuyst@crcna.org

Website: www.devuysts.com

Prayer and Praise

Thanksgiving for:

- Safe & smooth move to the U.S.
- Vaccinations for Sarah, Matthew & Elizabeth (George & Abigail were vaccinated in April)
- Celebration of Abigail's graduation from high school
- Generous provisions of furniture and supplies for our house
- Opportunities to plan ahead with reconciliation team in Ukraine & their increased leadership
- our partners and supporters for again meeting our fundraising goal for the past fiscal year.

Pray for:

- Plans for introducing Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations to North America
- Smooth adjustment to living in the U.S., especially for the kids as this is a major transition for them
- Safe travel as we visit churches and family around the U.S. over the next several months.

Graduation Celebration



On May 22, we celebrated Abigail's high school graduation. We are so proud of her resilience through a very hard year that crushed all her longings and dreams for her senior year. She remained optimistic and diligent in her online studies, taking AP classes and graduating with a 4.2 GPA. Abigail will attend Calvin

University this fall and major in Secondary Education - Math and History with a minor in Urban Studies. She desires to become a high school teacher for underprivileged youth. We are excited to see how God continues to shape her to serve Him and the world around her.



Fundraising Goal for Fiscal Year 2021-22

Starting July 1, 2021, Resonate is updating its missionary support model. In the updated support model, direct giving to missionaries and their projects covers roughly 66% of the total cost of the Resonate Career-Staff Missionary Program while general giving and Ministry Shares are raised to fund the remaining 34%. Our new support goal for 2021/2022 is \$126,118. The rest of our ministry costs (such as education, ReConnect, retreats, ministry supplies, and program resources) will be raised through undesignated support to Resonate. Thank you for partnering with us in God's work in Ukraine, North America, and around the world.

New Contact Information

We can be now be reached at the following phone numbers:

George's cell: 616-290-5478

Sarah's cell: 616-290-5479

Please continue to use 1700 28th St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508 for our mailing address.