

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,

It's hard to believe all that has happened since we last wrote in December. Ministry has been very busy, and then everything was brought to a screeching halt by the coronavirus pandemic. We have been praying for the situation in the US and around the world. May the Lord have mercy and be gracious to us all!

2020 International School of Reconciliation

From March 3 to 13, I was able to help facilitate the 2020 International School of Reconciliation in Kigali, Rwanda. Participants came from 14 different countries around the world. Our facilitation team came from Rwanda, Kenya, Hungary, Wales and myself (USA and Ukraine). God blessed the school in a mighty way. We witnessed deep healing and reconciliation taking place. The participants grew very close to each other. We continue to meet every Sunday evening to pray together over Zoom. Even though the school had to be cut short due to the growing coronavirus pandemic, we still feel that this was the best school we have led to date. The participants were top quality. Now we pray that God protect them and guide them to implement what they have learned and to share what God has done for them through this ministry in their home countries.



Contact Us

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Prayer and Praise

Thanksgiving for:

- Matthew's recovery
- An amazing International School of Reconciliation, even though it was cut short
- Our family is together and healthy
- All the ways we have seen and experienced God's hand at work in the current crisis

Pray for:

- God's mercy on our world in the time of the coronavirus pandemic
- Medical workers
- Wisdom for living in these days
- Governments to care for their people, provide for healthcare and to rebuild their economies in just ways
- Kyiv Christian Academy facing the challenge of finishing the year online
- Resonate Global Mission as our colleagues around the world face this time of uncertainty

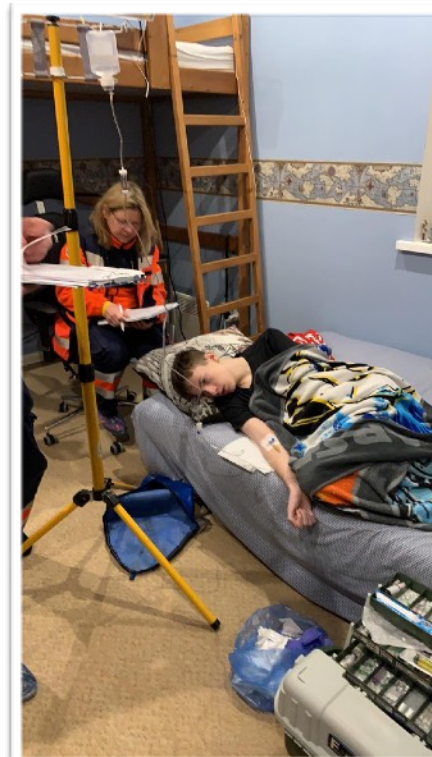
Emergency Return

At 3:30pm on March 13 I (George) received a message from a friend in Ukraine alerting me to the fact that the Ukrainian government announced that it was closing its borders to all foreigners from the 15th. It was unclear if this included those of us with residency permits, so the decision was made to change my tickets and return home on the 14th. At 1:55 am with great sorrow, I left the school early to return home to Kyiv. It was the right decision and I am thankful for safe travel. Since then I have been in quarantine at home for 14 days. That ends tomorrow. Thankfully I have had no symptoms of COVID-19.

When Dad's Away...

Abigail is keeping a running list of all the crises that occur whenever Dad's away from home for different ministry trips. I think that this year's trip to Kigali has certainly taken the prize for the most crises. Matthew became very sick shortly after I left on March 1 with bacterial pneumonia and had to be taken to hospital by ambulance on March 3. Thankfully, the hospital care was very good and he was quickly back up on his feet.

Of course, the kids are also counting a worldwide pandemic breaking out while I was away as somehow related to my absence.



Thank you!

We are so grateful for your faithful prayers and support. We have been blessed and have felt the support of your prayers during Matthew's illness, all the travel and especially now during the coronavirus pandemic. Know that we are also keeping you in prayer. Since we can't travel and conduct the events we had planned for the spring, we are working from home. The kids continue school online, and Sarah teaches online as well. Life moves forward. We are thankful for health in a new way. We pray for Ukraine and for the nations - may God be merciful.