

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.

ReConnect

Lord willing, we will be arriving in the U.S. on June 15 for a year of ministry split between reconnecting with our partner churches and advancing the reconciliation ministry in North America. We are eager to share with you the work God has done in Ukraine (as well as Hungary, Lithuania, Wales, Rwanda, Moldova, and beyond).

We plan to have the whole family vaccinated as soon as we arrive so that we can spend as much time with you as possible.



Anticipated Schedule

We plan to visit supporting churches from August 22 to November 21. Priority will be given to churches that we were not able to visit in 2019. The second half of our year in the States will be dedicated to field service. George will be traveling to Ukraine, Rwanda and Wales as well as introducing the Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations ministry in North America. Currently we are planning to hold events from January 9-13 in Southern California (location still to be determined), January 16-20 at Sandy Cove Conference Grounds in Maryland, January 23-27 at Maranatha Christian Conference Center in Muskegon, Michigan. From May 4-14 we plan to hold the first North American School of Reconciliation in the Pacific Northwest. George will also be helping lead the International School of Reconciliation in Rwanda from March 1-17, 2022.

Please pray for everything surrounding all these events - we know that we can only go where God has opened the door. We pray that we would faithfully follow where he leads.

Contact Us

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Prayer and Praise

Thanksgiving for:

- Continued health and safety
- Successful end of the school year
- Abigail's graduation from high school and acceptance into the honor's program at Calvin
- George and Abigail were able to be fully vaccinated

Pray for:

- Good closure for all of us, but especially for Abigail, as we prepare to move to the U.S. for a year and Abigail begins studies at Calvin University
- Taking care of all the details that need to happen here in Kyiv before we leave on June 15
- Ginny, our Labradoodle, as she will have to navigate a flight and we have to figure out getting her through a layover in Amsterdam on the way to Chicago
- Continued wisdom in the planning of reconciliation workshops in North America
- Availability of vaccinations in Ukraine and around the world

New Paths

Below is an excerpt of George's personal testimony he was asked to share with Resonate staff. The full version can be read on our website www.devuysts.com.

"One of the revelations Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations taught me was that before we can be reconciled, we need to address our pain... We speak a lot about sin and how we need to confess our sin and bring it to Jesus, who paid for it on the cross. But we don't talk about our pain, or we fall into the patterns of our culture. I have learned that identifying our pain and bringing to Jesus, the pain bearer, is the key to reconciliation. Bringing our pain to the cross and letting Jesus take it frees us to see both victim and perpetrator through new eyes. We receive the power to forgive and to truly repent. We begin a path of reconciliation that changes lives, congregations, communities, and nations.

This process changed my life and put my ministry on a new path. Not only have I witnessed the transformation that has taken place in individuals and communities in Rwanda, Ukraine, Hungary, Wales, and Lithuania, where I have been privileged to shepherd groups through the process, but I have witnessed the transformation in my own life and the healing of my own wounds. **My prayer is that the power of healing centered on the cross would also lead to lasting reconciliation and a new, deep formation of community not only in places of conflict around the world, but in North America as well."**



Support Update

We are continually amazed at the faithful generosity of our partners. Thank you for holding us up in prayer and providing for our financial needs. As the 2020-21 fiscal year comes to a close on June 30, I would again put before you the project needs that we have. **Projects-Europe: Ukraine** provides a grant of \$5000 to Poltava Theological Seminary to upgrade their technology so that they can continue in their mission during the restrictions caused by the COVID pandemic. **Projects-Europe: Ukraine Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations** helps to cover the costs related to the healing and reconciliation events that we are doing around the world. You can give online at <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/support/donate-now>.