

The BRIGGS Family

your missionaries to
LATVIA



September 2016

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers and support. I am glad to give an update on what God has been doing through our partnership with you. I hope you are encouraged like we are.

This summer, we had a wonderful week of outreach to the children around our church. We called it a Watermelon Festival, and for six days, kids came and learned about the gospel, played some games and enjoyed watermelon. Young hearts responded to the message, and the six days of working together as a church serving little ones drew us closer together. A mom and her three kids were walking by the church as one of the outside activities was going on. She was encouraged to allow her kids to join in and they did! On the next Sunday, she and her husband came to our service, and they have been attending ever since.

My wife, Linda, finished up her Ladies Bible Study on the Book of Esther. It was a time of growth for her as she taught, and it was good for the ladies involved. One of the capable participants is going to lead the next series of meetings. Her name is Juta; she has been a believer for some time, but has never led a ladies meeting. This is a big step for her, and we ask you to pray for her as she steps out to serve in a new way. Some of you understand what she is facing and know just how to pray.

Pray for our Men's Class. They are training how to study the scriptures and teach them. We have been looking at understanding a Bible verse in the context of its passage, chapter, book and Bible as a whole. A man named Andrejs is teaching the course. We are anticipating good things to come from this and have been encouraging the men to teach the Bible on Sunday morning in a shorter "sermon before the sermon" message.

I was involved in a Youth Summer Camp in the preaching meetings and counseling a cabin of 14 to 17-year-old guys. That was a great time to share the gospel and stay up all night. God was at work in all of our hearts, and several young people made a profession of faith while others were strengthened in their walk with God.

A young married couple has committed to joining the church in Ozolnieki; their names are Peteris and Sandra. Sandra is a musician who sings and plays the guitar. They have moved to our area and are coming from a church where she served by singing. We went from having no musicians a while ago to having several now. Thank you Lord, and thank you for praying! Philips, who plays piano, is forming a Men's Ensemble. That is a first for the church. Pray the Lord gives us harmony and unity as these several musicians work together to worship God in a way that is pleasing to Him.

Please keep my Pastor, Bob McDonald, in your prayers as he battles cancer. Pray for my home church, Fair Haven Baptist in Westland, Michigan.

We had many relatives from America come to visit Latvia this summer. My mother's roots are Latvian, and it is nice because when aunts, uncles and cousins come to see Latvia I get to see them. My Uncle John had a later flight home than the rest, and because of health issues, I needed to accompany him on his flight. I am thankful we made the trip ok, and I got to spend a week with my son, Lukas, and daughter, Emily, who are now studying in the States. I hadn't seen them for a long time, and the visit was really nice. Linda and Tomas are now in Michigan. Tomas is attending Calvary Baptist Academy in Midland, Michigan. I will join them at the end of October. Pray for our family as we have this time apart.

In Christ,
Andy Briggs - Serving together with you in Latvia

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