



December 2011

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas from Latvia. Last year, at this time, we were in America on furlough, and there was three feet of snow here. This year, the grass is still green and maybe even growing. By Christmas day, there certainly should be some snow.

We are praising the Lord for all of the new people we have seen in church. We had a Bell Choir come and members invited friends and relatives. Several more special services are planned, and we look forward to preaching the good news to the Latvian people. Young adults in the church have planned an evangelistic service for the teens in the area. We are praying for souls to be saved. Our church building is such a wonderful thing to have. Before, we had no place to do these things, and we are not taking for granted what God has given us.

God has been answering prayer concerning the men in our church. I was absent for one Sunday last month, and Martins preached in my place. Praise the Lord for his willing heart to serve. A man named Janis is a business man in our church who has a desire to meet with other business men to study God's word. He is forming a group where they look at the challenges Christians face in such a corrupt work environment. Vitalis is an older Russian-speaking Christian who has recently started attending our church. Thirty years ago, he was a drunk and then he met Jesus. Now, he has a heart to help others with alcohol addiction. Men like this are exactly what this church needs. Keep them in your prayers, and let's pray for someone with a true pastor's heart as well.

In the last few weeks, there has been uncertainty about the financial future in Latvia. One bank was taken over by the government, and a few days later, a panic caused everyone to run and withdraw their money from a second bank. There were long lines day and night all weekend long at the ATMs. As Christians, we know who holds the future, but for others, their hearts have failed them. Pray the Lord of the harvest will use these circumstances for His glory.

Our family is doing well. Thank you for your prayers and support. We praise the Lord that we are able to continue the work here with our needs being met. We are not taking for granted the partners God has given us. We thank Him for you. May you have a wonderful Christmas season this year.

In Christ,

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