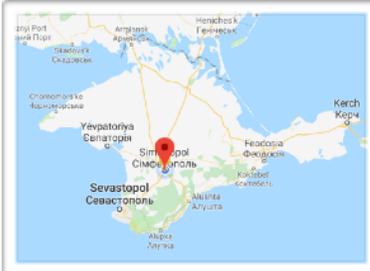


The Hearron Family Newsletter

First Quarter 2019

Missionaries to Russia

On the field since 1996



We are now serving in the city of Simferopol, The Republic of Crimea, Russia. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, formerly part of Ukraine, was annexed by Russia after a March 16, 2014 referendum resulting in a 96.77% vote for integration of the region into the Russian Federation with an 83.1% voter turnout. We are grateful that our Russian residency status allows us to live in Crimea. Our family is one of only two Independent Baptist church planting missionaries left in Crimea. We are grateful to our Lord that we are able to continue the church planting work of other missionaries forced to leave Crimea, having failed at getting Russian residency.

DUE TO SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA, US POSTAL MAIL DOES NOT COME TO CRIMEA
My new telephone is: +7 (978) 069-6506 (we are 7 hours ahead of EST)

A Rough Transition

I would not recommend traveling back to a mission field 30 days after major spinal/neck surgery. However, this is exactly what we were forced to do so that we would not lose our Russian residency status. We left the USA on December 31, arriving in Crimea, Russia two days later. We were met by missionary Tony Hess who took us to our hotel. The next day we placed our 9 pieces of luggage in the house, of a former missionary, we intended to rent and live in. It had bars on the windows and a steel security door. Because there was no furniture in the home, Brother Hess suggested we stay at their home until we could sort things out.

The next morning we went back to the house to retrieve a few things from our luggage. Opening the door, we found all suitcases opened and their contents were strewn about the house. Closer investigation revealed that a thief broke in through a back window, removing the security bars and breaking out the window. Nearly, \$13,000 worth of items were stolen to include my spare CPAP Sleep Apnea equipment, 3 MacBook Airls, 3 MacBook Pros, computer discs, miscellaneous electronics, shoes, clothing and etc. We were shattered. Honestly, visibly shaking is more the truth. The police were called and a report was taken.

Within two weeks, the police found the thief, a former convict and neighbor from two houses down the street. During the next few weeks and to everybody's surprise, they were able to recover 4 of the 6 computers, my CPAP machine, and a few electronic devices. Most of the items were not found. The kids have been good sports about it all, but they lost many of their Christmas gifts and keepsake items. Because US Postal mail does not come to Crimea, we are unable to replace most of the stolen items. The only way would be to first mail them to my missionary friend in Krasnoyarsk who would, in turn, forward them to me via a Russian courier service. This means we have to pay twice the postage. We have been limping by with the 4 computers, but we need to soon buy two more. Our kids' schooling is via the internet and Apple allows us to network all the devices so that we can share screens. This is a great time saver for the homeschooling mom to check in on the work the kids are doing. The computers can be bought in town for \$1,550 each and I need two.

News from the Simferopol Baptist Church for the Hearing

I have taken over a diverse ministry. We have a Russian church of nearly 20 believers. In addition, we have an international ministry, in English, to a large group of medical students who attend a Simferopol medical university. We have seen as many as 15 students attend our services.

Most of the students, in their early to mid-20s, are from northeastern India. They all speak English. Some are Hindu, Catholic and others from Protestant churches. What I have come to understand is that most are not saved. What a privilege I have to weekly share the Gospel with them. Already, we have seen one young lady repent and confess Christ as her Lord and Savior.

Prayer Requests

I still have not fully recovered from my two surgeries this past fall. I am praying that the spinal implant in my neck is fusing properly. Although I refrain from lifting more than 5 pounds, I still feel localized pain at times in the neck and shoulders.

No landlord was willing to register our family, as required by Russian law. With the help of Bro. Hess, we finally registered at a village property located an hour from Simferopol, but live in a home we rent in town. Technically this is allowable but not ideal. I suffered from chronic dysentery for two months brought on by fatigue and stress, until two days after we got settled into our rented home.

We still need to extend our two youngest kid's residency permits for another 5 years. Everything is ready to turn in to the immigration office, and this must be done no later than April 9 or we'll be forced to leave Russia by June 9. **Please Pray!**



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