

# The Hearron Family Newsletter March-April 2021 Missionaries to Russia



## The Value of a Missionary Newsletter

In April, our family was invited to a supporting church's mission conference. These dear people have supported our ministry since the time I was a single man on deputation in the mid 90's. It is always a blessing when members of churches I visit inquire about things written in our past newsletters. This congregation made it abundantly clear that they read our letters and pray for our family. I want to thank each of you that do the same and then pray about our specific needs. We are blessed to have partners like you in the ministry.

## Russia Getting Closer

Official air travel for US Citizens to Russia is still closed. However, Aeroflot continues to operate special Covid expat flights. We hope to get tickets on one of these flights for our return in June or July. We can do this because our family has Permanent Russian Residency permits. We have started the process of buying things that we can not find in Russia. We are also looking online for apartments available to rent.

Returning to Russia is going to cost a small fortune. If we can't find a clinic that will give the RT-PCR Covid test for free we will have to pay \$1715 for that testing. In addition, we have to buy our tickets in two separate itineraries. OKC to JFK and then JFK to Krasnoyarsk (via Moscow). Tickets will cost almost \$9200. We need God's provision to make this happen.

Covid infections are on the rise all across Russia. Bonnie and I have both been vaccinated against Covid. Our two oldest daughters are waiting for their second shot. We hope two more kids can get the vaccination now that the Pfizer vaccine was recently approved for ages 12 and older.

## Providing Help and Aid to God's servants in the Altai Republic

When in Crimea, we hosted a missionary to the Altai Republic. Evgeny and his family are Ukrainians that have Russian citizenship and live in the neighboring region to the Krasnoyarsk Krai and about two days drive from the city of Krasnoyarsk.

When we had to leave Crimea last September, God provided the postage to send my wife's sewing machine and serger along with a large box of notions to this family. We were not able to bring them with us to America and had learned that Evgeny's wife had been praying for just this type of equipment to help sew clothes for her growing family.

Evgeny and his family live in a mountainous region. Having reliable transportation for nine is a must. Through God's blessing, our family was able to send funds to brother Evgeny to help with the purchase of a newer and larger van for his family. In April, he traveled two days to Krasnoyarsk to pick up the vehicle. I was grateful for christian friends whom I contacted in Krasnoyarsk who agreed to provide assistance to Evgeny upon his arrival. Please pray the Lord bless his Gospel ministry in this remote region of Russia.

## Medical Update

I want to thank each of you who prayed for my recovery from Carpal Tunnel surgery. Although it is still painful when pushing off a flat surface with my palm, the scar tissue felt along the incision line is slowly going away with time. Because this recovery has taken so long, I have put off surgery to my left hand. There is just no time to heal if we want to get back to Russia. I have done the same concerning surgery to my right shoulder. Although the doctor says an operation can fix the problem, he is hopeful that future injections will reduce inflammation in the joint and that over time full healing will take place. I'm hoping to get these injections in Russia.

## Still Sharing the Gospel

Our family has greatly benefited from our time spent at our sending church. Our children, especially, have been encouraged and blessed to participate in the youth program. Bonnie and our three oldest have been regular fill-ins in the church choir. Missionaries and their families also need spiritual encouragement. I am thankful that the members of our sending church have been just that to me and my family.

While in Oklahoma City, all of us have had numerous opportunities to share the Gospel. What a blessing it has been to see our children's desire to give out Gospel tracts in the neighborhood where we live. Reuben, my youngest, is so very eager to hand out tracts when we go shopping. I have had some good encounters with people to whom I have shared the Gospel and are encouraged by the many promises from those agreeing to visit our church.

## Pray the Door Stays Open

The tit for tat political game America and Russia have been playing for the last few years is taking its toll on an already strained relationship. In all my years as a missionary I have never seen relations between these two countries in such a poor condition. There are so few missionaries left in Russia. Pray that these games played by politicians will not negatively affect our family's ability to stay in Russia. We desire to see more Russians confess our Saviour, Jesus Christ as Lord. Please continue to pray the door remains open. While others have given up on Russia, we want to thank you that have not. Your support and prayers makes this all possible.

*We count it a privilege to continue serving as your ambassadors with the Gospel message to the Russian people.*

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