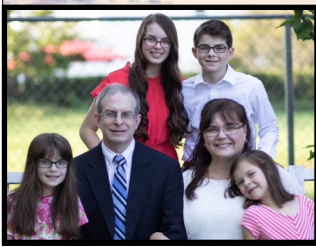


600,000 Russians in New York City need a church that speaks their language...



**Dan & Sherry
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Sent by Grace Baptist Church of Urbana, Ohio, through Baptist World Mission -
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Dear friend,

Our six year old, Kelsie, has been vigorously quoting “all things work together for good” (Romans 8:28) lately at home about everything that doesn’t seem to go quite right. A spilled drink, a non-working toilet, her quarter that rolled into the heater vent, the outfit she has mismatched for the day—you name it. We laugh a little about her applications of the verse, but she is right. The “silver lining” of the last few months of clouds has been a variety of opportunities for ministry and service in quieter, behind-the-scenes kinds of ways.

We began live-streaming our services in March during quarantine and finally met back for our first in-person service on June 25. We wore masks and socially distanced out of respect for New York state recommendations but had lots of air hugs and smiling eyes that night. Our services are still live streamed, and we will likely continue to use that as an outreach. It’s no substitute for in-person fellowship and worship together, but we believe it will work for good to minister and draw people in. We now have services on Sunday and Thursday evenings but are still looking for a

place to resume Sunday morning meetings. Even our local parks are forbidding organized gatherings.



A literal behind-the-scenes blessing here has been one of our Ukrainian young men, Eugene, who just graduated from high school. He has stepped into the sound booth and learned the ropes of keeping our media up and running. He recently set up our YouTube channel. We’re so thankful for him. His older brother is on an extended road trip and is also supporting our website remotely.

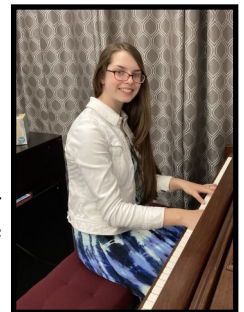


One of our ladies shared with Sherry that she prayed for herself, her husband and our church to have a deep hunger and thirst for God through this time when we could not attend church. She says her husband has begun reading his Bible faithfully every morning before he will do anything else. What an encouragement! Others have also testified that this time of physical separation has been used by God to draw them closer to Himself. And should not that be the goal of all our activities?

Dan has been able to have an ongoing relationship with a Russian Orthodox man and a Hindu man. He also sent tracts via email for an out-of-state family to give to their Russian friends and recently had a chance to translate during an interstate conference call to assist a young couple newly arrived in America,

who are expecting their first baby and were seeking healthcare.

Our 14-year-old daughter, Shastya, is our church pianist, and through these months at home has put in a lot of extra time fine tuning her hymn playing. Our oldest daughter, Symphony, has been pre-recording children’s songs for a Sunday school program for the church she belongs to near our home. As always, our younger children have continued to help distribute tracts on the street. It’s a blessing to see them serve the Lord!



Our church recently had the opportunity to be part of an outreach to our local police precinct. Cards, letters and gospel literature were paired with lots of snacks and drinks as a gift to thank these men and women for their service during some very challenging times in our city. It was warmly received.

Usually at this time of year, we would be writing about our outreach at the Brighton Jubilee street festival. It was cancelled this year, but ministry continues in other ways, and we’re still believing Romans 8:28.

Serving our Saviour,

*Dan, Sherry, Symphony, Lacey,
Shastya, Gabriel, Emma, & Kelsie*

Summer 2020