

# Mission in Lithuania

Pioneer church planting  
Church building

The Kozak Family



## Greetings from Lithuania

It's been several weeks since our last prayer letter. Although we still have some time before spring according to the calendar, we're hardly noticing winter. We normally have temperatures below 0° F with a lot of snow in January and February. We currently have temperatures above freezing, which are typical for March. In the following paragraphs we would like to bring you up to date on what's been happening here and a look at what's planned for the next few months .

### How is our family doing?

This question is often lost in reports about our work. Our family is doing very well. We are so thankful to be serving God here. Maria has found a new hobby: swimming. She goes to the newly-renovated swimming pool in Alytus for several hours twice a week where she's discovered some people she knows. Janet's in the seventh grade and takes piano lessons twice a week. This will be her last year at the music school. She plays in the worship team on Sundays, together with Tabita, our helper. Sharona is in fourth grade and goes swimming 2-3 times a week for her back problems. When we recently went swimming as a family, I was surprised at how well she could swim—better than her dad. Shade, who's in the second grade, takes violin lessons at the music school. We are so thankful that the cost of the lessons here are only a fraction of the prices charged in Germany, making them affordable for us. With a donation from a friend, we're looking for low-priced firewood to fill our shed for next winter.



### How's the German course going?

After a break during the Christmas holidays, we've begun part 2 of our German course. We only have 7 people this time, but they're all excited about the course and do the time-consuming homework (vocabulary and grammar exercises) every week. As the majority of the students are women, Maria is participating in the course herself to build relationships with them. I've been meeting with one of the students in the sauna for a couple of months and we've been able to get know each other and speak about the essential things in life. Would you please pray for Stasys?

The goal of this course is to make contact with people in Alytus and lower the fear of entering a place seen as a sect (as our church is seen).



### How do we want to reach others in the next few months?

The leadership group in our church has decided to offer seminars in our facilities emphasizing important social issues during the next few months. A guest speaker will speak on the topic, "How can I help an alcoholic in my family?" March 27-28. In his mid-30's, he speaks on "Alcohol Prevention" in schools

throughout Lithuania. He was in some of the Alytus schools last month, and the response was very positive. He's a born-again Christian whom we've known for years and was happy to come and speak. Please pray that many will attend the seminar on March 27<sup>th</sup> and the "Coffee & Talk" session on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Pray also that the church will develop new contacts and friendships with those who come. We're also looking for someone to speak on helping someone in the family who is suicidal. Alcoholism and suicide are major problems and challenges in Lithuania. For the younger generation we would like to offer a seminar on love and infatuation. We've already approached a born-again speaker who's known throughout Lithuania, even among non-believers. We want to first develop contacts with unbelievers and then invite them to these seminars.



### Life stories....

In our upcoming reports we would like to introduce you to some people whose lives have been changed through God's intervention in their lives.

In our last prayer letter we reported on Paulina, a young lady who was saved several months ago. She grew up in a non-Christian home here in Alytus and moved to Leipzig after her mother had met her current husband. Paulina was raped there and still hasn't recovered from that experience. As her parents couldn't help her after this trauma, she went from one children's home to another and many therapies without being able to get over the experience. She attempted suicide many times as a teenager, most recently about 18 months ago. That's when her grandmother called me, asking for help, as Paulina had wanted to end her life by taking an overdose of medication (sleeping pills and psychiatric drugs). We've known Paulina for over three years. Since then she's been coming to church. Week after week she's heard about the life-changing power through faith in Jesus Christ. After many inner conflicts and counseling sessions, she became a child of God in November of last year. Praise the Lord!! Since then we've seen how God is working in her life. Although she still has traumatic bouts from time to time, she can see for herself how God is helping her. Paulina reads her Bible regularly and has been helping with the weekly children's home ministry since November. She also helps Maria and Tabita with Sunday School and comes to every Bible study and church service. What a blessing!!



***Thank you for your support in prayer and finances, which makes this ministry possible. You have an important part in what is presently happening in the church!***

### Greetings from Lithuania



Since our mission work is completely supported through donations, we are thankful for every donation that is made. If you would like to support us financially, please send your donations to

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