

***“Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.” (Psalm 96:3)***

Many are asking how is it to be a missionary in this time of restrictions? Can one go to the nations? What are the challenges? How is life now since you returned to Latvia?

The previous newsletter was sent out from Scotland, however since the middle of July I have been back in Latvia.

Thank God I am alive, new songs are being written, I am serving in many places in Latvia and there is so much more to thank for.

Indeed, my heart is full of gratefulness and joy for what has been experienced. I thank everyone who has supported me – with prayer and practically, too.

I have shared a lot already about the time in Scotland from middle of March to July. It was the first 3-month School of Worship in Youth With A Mission that was held online, because of the situation in the world didn't allow any other way. We learnt a lot, received, shared, prayed, worshiped and even celebrated graduation in the beginning of July. I have genuine joy for the students that grew to know Christ more and studied what the Word of God says about worship and mission.

When traveling back to Latvia, I had an opportunity to stay with a very nice family in Northern Scotland. I got to know them in one of the trips to Israel and now had the chance to visit them to strengthen each other's faith.

I returned to Latvia on July 15th. I was truly thankful to God that I could return to my home country. Latvia is a very beautiful country, rich in creativity, so sweet, and there is a great mission field here.

I do continue making programs from radio studio. When in Scotland, I began making a new program called “House of Prayer” on Latvian Christian Radio which goes live every Tuesday at 5:10 PM. That is a great way to reach and serve many.

Now Tuesdays for me have turned into active ministry days in Riga. From 12 to 4 PM I serve at House of Prayer, Latvia, then I go to Latvian Christian Radio to do a broadcast and finish my day with leading worship in a commune in Old City Riga. On Wednesdays I am at Radio Mary where I do a broadcast telling people about God's goodness and about what is worship. There are many times we worship God with friends on livestream. On both of these radio stations it is a responsible task to build up faith of those who listen and to share about Jesus.

House of Prayer, Latvia

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” (Colossians 4:2)

The opening of House of Prayer, Latvia took place on January 25th this year, and we started gathering in the beginning of November in premises which still needed to be repaired. It is a grand blessing for Latvia. We are praying for Latvia, other nations and different people groups. When serving in Scotland I was asked to lead a training for the ministry team at Prayer House, Latvia, and strengthen the team.

As I returned to Latvia, I began leading Worship with The Word regularly. We sing out the Living Word of God. The Word of God changes our hearts. We grow to love God’s Word more, we remember and create new melodies, we sing Psalms. I see fruit of those who serve and I have heard testimonies from those who watch online. We put up a livestream from House of Prayer, Latvia, on Facebook and YouTube almost every day. Some days it is 2 hours, other days 4 hours or more. Not everything is livestreamed because we want people to come together in simplicity to pray, intercede, give thanks and praise. However, we want to continue our livestreams, too, because every time there are people watching, listening and receiving. We have had testimonies of Latvians who live abroad saying this is their only opportunity to consistently be in prayer with fellow Latvians. From time to time I organize a meeting for House of Prayer team/family so that we can build each other up. Another great testimony is that there are several young people who have discovered their talents and gifts and they want to use it all to glorify God and be a blessing for people, now they have started serving at the Prayer House.

“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:16-17)

Mission work in Latvia

I am very thankful to God that Latvia is in such a good condition considering the world. Restrictions are unnoticeable at the moment and the number of new cases is one of the lowest in Europe. That is grace of God! We are praying for countries where the free gathering for church services is forbidden.

I thank God for Latvia, for its beauty and for nice people that I can meet. Camps, worship evenings, church services, evangelism tents, seminaries, mission trips – they all are still taking place in this summer and fall.

I truly appreciate this God allowed time of mercy. With gratefulness in my heart I realize how immensely I want to use this time.

Friends' weddings

In this summer I had the opportunity to be in weddings of two of my close friends and to lead worship there. With both of these friends I have been to more than 12 countries on mission trips and served here in Latvia also. I have shared a lot about mission, serving and worship with them, also given them the chance to take a glimpse at mission work as we went on mission trips and served together. It is a true joy to see them happily married now.

These two families had a great blessing of a very sunny wedding day. The last wedding was open-air and happened in the end of September, by a lake, on a day which was warm just as in summer. That was a testimony for those that don't believe in God yet, an opportunity for us all to experience God's glory and worship Him.

Songs and recordings

It sometimes happens slowly for it demands a lot of finances and time. Nevertheless, it is in process. Soon the long awaited song which was written a year ago in the School of Worship with Psalm 8 will be out.

Also in this Spring while in School of Worship, Scotland, I started writing songs that I hope will be recorded in a studio someday, too.

Reaching other people groups

It is not quite possible to travel anymore, to some countries one cannot travel at all, to some the self-isolation is required. That influences trips to Israel, too.

When I was in Scotland I lead worship and lectures in different countries through ZOOM and other video conferencing platforms. Now I don't use it that much as I can go meet people in person. Still I keep this connection with other nations, especially with those that have great restrictions for meetings.

I continue to support and pray for India. Also, now there is a great opportunity to meet Indians (in kebab places) here in Latvia. I try to start conversations with them. India has a special place in my heart. Previously I shared about the mission trip to India which took place in the end of last year.

A few weeks back I had the joy to teach Russian speaking youth in Riga about worship in a course called ROOTS. It is like a compressed mission school which is done by Youth With A Mission.

In August I had a chance to serve in an evangelization tent in Valka, Latvia, which is a twin of Estonia's city Valga. This was when Estonia was not yet put on the list of countries that require self-isolation when returning from them. We walked around praying for this city in our free time.

Prayer requests

First of all, I want to thank God for His provision and for the given opportunity to bring the message of hope in this time. I want to thank God and people who I can meet, be together, with whom I have the opportunity to serve and worship God. My prayer is that I can really encourage and strengthen them.

At this time I am praying to perceive and understand what the will of God is, what do I have to change, what will I have to let go of and where do I need to grow. Above all I want to grow in Christ so I could always obey His calling. He is faithful!

This is a season when I don't plan a lot of things ahead but serve where I am invited. There are times when I think of the situation in the world and land on a sad note, I have questions and worries, but God gives me joy with every opportunity to serve – leading worship or teaching His Word. Oh how good it is to follow Christ and experience His miraculous peace even in situations where there are no answers. Christ is my gain, my strength and my hope. And to Him with a thankful heart I can say: **“Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.”** (Psalm 119:111)

I am thankful to God for the financial support for missions, worship ministry, music recordings and other expenses. I am grateful to each who has supported me individually as well as churches and communities who have taken care of me and supported me.

It is a great joy to hear many testimonies of how this ministry is blessing people. I thank you for keeping me in prayers! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Blessings to you! Be thankful to God for everything!

Kaspars Ezeriņš

(this time without any photos)

If you want - You have an opportunity to support this work by making a bank transfer to any of these accounts (my personal account and the foundation account):

Kaspars Ezeriņš

*Account: **LV21PARX0008910850004***

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