



*Baptist*

*July 2018*

# COURIERS FOR CHRIST

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## FOUNDER/DIRECTOR

Rev. Donald Stertz

## REPRESENTATIVES

Rev. Kenneth Stertz

Rev. Larry Ingalls

Rev. Jeremy Ingalls

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## John and Romans Update

Bearing Precious Seed missionary, Chad Robinson, gave me the following report: Several of the Seedline churches are finishing up production of the Bulgarian John and Romans and promised to have them completed by the end of June. That's 350,000 gospels of John and Romans! With 270 John and Romans per box, that means there will be 1,296 boxes of scripture. That much scripture will fill a container with over 18 tons!

The 150,000 Croatian bilingual John and Romans will be completed and ready to ship by the end of the month as well.

## Croatian Bible Update

The printing of the 5,000 Croatian Bibles was completed on June 11. Now the Bibles will be bound and covers will be put on them. They, too, will be ready to ship by early July.

We want to express our gratitude to the Bearing Precious Seed ministry of Milford, Ohio, for printing all this scripture, and also to the Seedline churches for their financial contributions towards the John and Romans and then for assembling and boxing up all those scriptures.

## 2019 Campaigns

We are presently still working on scheduling final dates for the two campaigns that will be held in 2019. However, I can give you approximate dates and locations.

Mid-June: Siauliai, Lithuania

Mid-September: Kiev, Ukraine

Next month's newsletter will have dates and cost. Begin praying and planning to join us on one of these scripture distribution campaigns.



# Estonia Campaign Testimony

by Shanah Zastera



Shanah giving her testimony in morning service

*Gene and Shanah Zastera* have been faithful, active members in Wyldewood Baptist Church for years. Shanah always had a desire to go on a Couriers mission trip, so to say that she was excited would be an understatement. Shanah enjoyed the trip to Estonia so much that this September she is joining us again in Zagreb, Croatia.

I have experienced Psalm 119 verse 17 during the Amazing Grace Estonia campaign: **“Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live, and keep thy word.”** God has indeed dealt bountifully with me through rich canvassing experiences.

Not only did Couriers for Christ arrange for exceptional housing, meals, and transportation, but they also lined up powerful sermons, preached by their own men, plus other dedicated teammates. My most memorable sermon was by Jeremy Ingalls because of how he expounded upon Noah’s time waiting on the Lord before and after the deluge. Jeremy gave us specific experiences that God has brought him through. His prayer echoes mine, “Lord, I need you to be strong on our behalf.” Just as Noah had an extended period of time to prepare, Jeremy had to wait for the “final call.” This was also true in the lives of my husband and me. Jeremy gave the steps between his father Larry and himself as Larry remained neutral about Jeremy’s decision to join Couriers for Christ. Later, his father shared the following, “Always know for sure that what you are doing is right, so that when things get hard, you’ll know that God will get you through.”

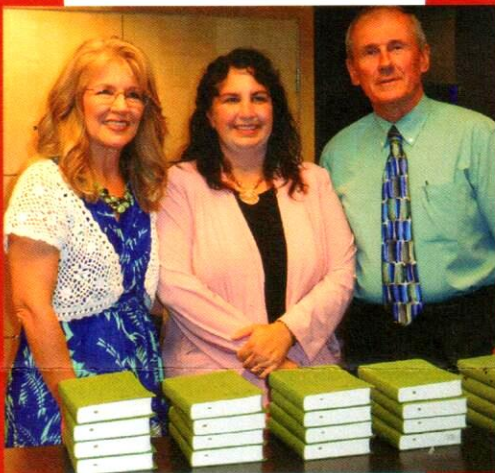
Personally this trip was so fulfilling. I was able to show others the love I have for the Lord. **“We love him because he first loved us.”** Nothing was more important to me than being on this mission; there was no other place that I would rather have been!

A particularly precious memory was when I offered the scripture to a mother who declined. Then I offered it to her child, careful to watch that the mother approved. When the child received it, the mother asked the child to thank me. This happened several times.

I’m thankful to Don and Laura Stertz for their talent at directing the whole campaign, to Ken and Tricia Stertz for their leadership of my team, to Larry and Cheryl Ingalls for their strength and guidance, and to Jeremy and Heather Ingalls for their sacrificial example and zeal.

I also appreciate Mike and Penny Smith. Their transparency, hospitality, and compassion for Tallinn is apparent to anyone who comes in contact with them.

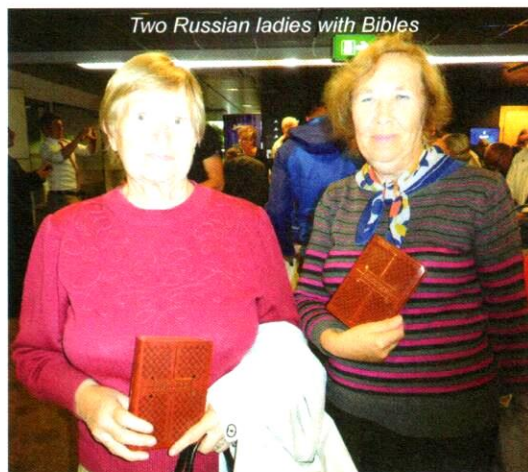
Finally, I thank my Lord Jesus Christ: the, **“...Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending...”** Revelation 1:8



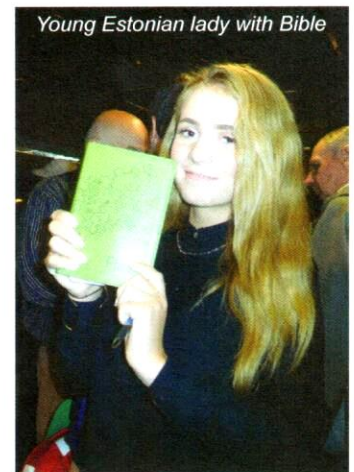
Tricia, Shanah, and Ken at Bible table



Shanah using one of her many talents by playing the clarinet



Two Russian ladies with Bibles



Young Estonian lady with Bible



# Family Update

by Judy Joss  
forward by Don Stertz

As many of you already know, to run a successful business or ministry there is a lot of behind the scenes work that must be done. The same is true with the Couriers for Christ ministry. This month I have asked our administrative assistant, Judy Joss, to write a family update. Judy handles all the accounting, as well as the international wire transfers. Another important duty she handles is our newsletter. She completes the layout, sends it in for printing, and then places the labels for both bulk and first class mailing. Much is accomplished through Judy's efficient, behind-the-scenes, faithful service to our Lord.

## Seasons of Change...

Out of nowhere middle age crept up on us and is fleeing past. In March of this year the younger of our two children graduated high school. Daniel finished his senior year, turned 18, and started a full-time job all in about one month's time. We had an informal graduation at our home and enjoyed a delightful celebration with family and friends to mark his accomplishment.

Our daughter Libby has been living in northern Wisconsin (about 135 miles from us) for two and a half years. She recently started a different full-time job that will hopefully prove to be more suited to her skills, as well as provide desirable hours. She enjoys living in the peace, quiet, and beauty of the north woods, but she occasionally finds her way south, and we look forward to her visits.

Eric has been busy with The Master's Craftsmen ministry. He, along with a team of men, has been helping a church in Rose City, Texas, with hurricane damage relief, and he has also been to Puerto Rico for the same reason. Deputation has filled in the blanks along the way, and a return trip is planned to Texas at the end of June to install church kitchen cabinets which the men built in our home workshop. A one month visit to Romania during the middle of July into August will find Eric helping a missionary tie up a few loose ends on an orphanage project. We are praying that Eric will help enable them to achieve their estimated opening date.

As for me, we'll see how things go in the fall when I no longer have home school students. My mom always encouraged me to enjoy the children at every stage of their years at home because she knew one day I would wake up and find them grown and gone. I just didn't realize this would happen overnight!

This year marked 33 years for me with Couriers for Christ and 13 years for Eric and me with The Master's Craftsmen. We are truly happy and blessed and grateful for all that God has done in and through us. Most importantly, we are thankful to the supporters of the various ministries and missionaries who faithfully pray for us. May all of you be richly blessed!



Joss family at graduation celebration



Pastor Brenenstuhl presenting diploma to Daniel



Eric with part of work team in newly renovated parsonage kitchen along with pastor and his wife (center)  
(TMC built the cabinets)



WYLDEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH  
3030 Witzel Ave.  
Oshkosh, WI 54904-9371  
www.wyldewood.org

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***Opposed to all forms of compromise and deviation from God's word.***

**Thank you for your sacrificial gift of \$ 100.<sup>00</sup> received in June.**

A ministry of  Wyldeewood Baptist Church