Latvia and throughout Eurasia



NEWS FROM THE CUNDIFFS

June 2024



Home Service continues...

Here is the list of dates remaining for our Home Service time.

July 6: Mapleton, IA

(Mission Central)

July 7: Normal, IL

(Christ Lutheran)

July 14: Des Moines, IA

(Trinity Lutheran)

July 21: Beemer, NE

(Immanuel Lutheran)

July 28: Lake City, IA

(Pilgrim Lutheran)

Home Service stats (so far!)

- Weeks in the States: 3.5
- Weeks yet to go: 3.5
- States traveled: 5
- Miles driven: 1,635
- Official presentations: 5
- Unofficial presentations: Many!



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to lindsay.cundiff@lcmsintl.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject

www.lcms.org/cundiff

"You can never go home again..."



Quintin presents at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kearney, Nebraska.

Dear friends in Christ.

We are a few weeks into our time of Home Service, and it has been busy. We have done a number of presentations already and have connected with many people who are current and future supporters of the work going on in Eurasia. To those that we have seen already: thank you! To those we have yet to see: we look forward to seeing you soon!

One question that we have been asked often is, "How does it feel being back in the States?" On the one hand, it feels like living life on "easy mode" because we understand things here in a way that we do not in Latvia. That deep sense of knowing the rules of life, so to speak, is here in the US because we were born and raised here. That said, we have seen the truth to the old saying, "You can never go home again." While out of the US, life continues on. Changes happen.

For example, we were in St. Louis for a

check-in at the International Center. As we drove around, I was dismayed that many of our favorite stores or locations had closed or moved. Restaurants that we had previously enjoyed were gone. Then, going into a restaurant that was familiar felt suddenly alien. Lastly, there is just so much STUFF in all the stores! In Latvia, the selection (while still adequate) is often much more limited.

Even so, it is nice to be back and see the people we care about and the people who care about us. We have felt so much love and joy from seeing so many people already and are looking forward to seeing others. But we are also chomping at the bit to get back on the field and continue the wonderful that God has given us to do!

In Christ's Service.

Pastor Cundiff



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Continued safe travels for the Cundiffs during their period of Home Service.
- Our faculty and students as they complete all Intensive Study Week work and look forward to the Fall Semester in August.
- · Good health and well-being for the family and friends of all missionaries.

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- · The opportunity to for us to be on Home Service, see our family, and meet or reconnect with our incredible supporters throughout the Midwest.
- YOU our generous donors and prayer warriors, along with the steadfast workers of Mission Central and Mission Advancement, without whom this mission would be impossible.

A greener option?

If you would like to help us save on paper and postage by getting our newsletters in digital form, please email Lindsay at <u>Lindsay.Cundiff@lemsintl.org.</u> We would be happy to make that quick and simple change for you. Thank you!

Special edition of Carter's Corner



Carter hanging out with Landon, one of his best buddies

Hello (Sveiki)! June was a pretty bittersweet month. The airport is always rather stressful for me, mostly because of going through security, but that is getting easier for me each time I do it.

Every June for the Jāṇi (Midsummer) celebration, there is a series of dances for the students at my school to participate in. We have to wear dress clothes; the church clothes that I could wear last year for the festival were entirely black. In summer, Latvia can be REALLY hot without air conditioning. So, we were outside dancing, and I was trying not to pass out from the heat. Since I had to miss the last week of school in order to come back to the United States for Home Service, I dodged that bullet this year!

Unfortunately, one of our dogs (the smaller one) had been sick for the past month, and we ended up having to put her to sleep. I know she's not suffering anymore, so that's good, but it still makes me sad sometimes.

On the brighter side, we did have lunch with the husband of my dad's adoptive grand-

mother, and it was cool to see him again. We also had lunch with some members of Pastor David Preus's family, and I really loved to talk with the kids, as they are somewhat close in age to me. We stayed with my grandma Cundiff and spent time with her and my great-grandma, who had just turned 100 years old! We also spent time in my dad's hometown with his childhood friend, Bryan, and his girlfriend, and they were really fun to hang out with, watching movies and playing games together.

There was a summer reading program at their library, too, and my dad jokingly said, "Maybe you should do it!" The goal was to read 15 books or 1,000 pages. I politely declined, but a few days later, I changed my mind and read a mix of 15 graphic novels and chapter books in about three days! As a reward, I got a free book and some ice cream. I'm really proud of my accomplishment, but it was certainly something I will chuckle about for a long while. Now we are in Nebraska, and I get to see some friends from my old school and church. I am really enjoying Home Service and reconnecting with so many of you!

Thanks a ton for supporting our mission and reading our newsletter!

Have a good day and God bless!

- Carter Cundiff (age 13)

Be sure to follow our Facebook page, "The Cundiffs in Latvia," for even more photos and stories of the Lord's work in this beautiful country!

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Romans 10:14-15 ESV



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There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at <u>lcms.org/service</u>. Click on "Service Opportunities.

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Quintin Cundiff and his family. Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central 40718 Highway E 16 Mapleton, IA 51034

On the memo line include Cundiff - Latvia

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