



During our first year here, we learned that at the end of a church meeting, it is incorrect to say “let’s close in prayer.” The verb “to button up” (like a shirt) is used instead of “to close.” Several things have “buttoned up” in our lives or are getting close to doing so.

“Buttoning up” with Abby

In our last prayer letter, we asked you all to join us in praying for Abby and her possible surgery. While in the hospital, the doctors did an ultrasound on Abby and found her kidneys to be almost double the normal size. The concern was that there was a birth anomaly with the tubes between her bladder and kidneys that was contributing to the enlarged kidneys. Abby prayed every day leading up to her second ultrasound this past Thursday that her kidneys would be normal again.

The ultrasound on Thursday showed that her kidneys were back to normal size, had no signs of damage, were enlarged due to the infection, and that the birth anomaly is minor as to not require any surgery. There will be two more checkups over the next 6 months, but Abby is well again. **Thank the Lord with us that this health problem has “buttoned up.”**

“Buttoning up” with Rustem & Tania

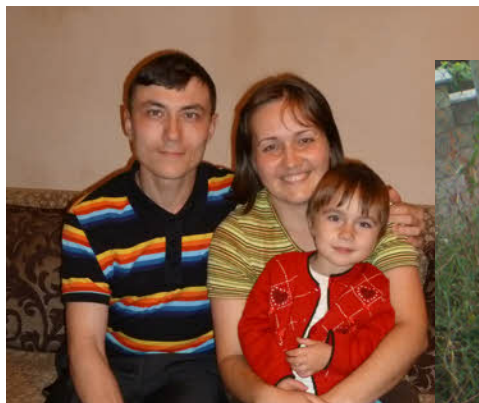
For quite some time, we have been meeting with and witnessing to a Unification Church couple in our town. The husband found work in his home town in Russia six months ago and came back a week ago to take his wife and daughter back with him. We had them over for a last meal and drove them to the train station in the capitol city. I gave Rustem (Roo-stem) a small book on the Gospel called “Done” that was recently published in Russian.

While our time with them has “buttoned up,” please pray for him to read the book, read the Bible verses I wrote down for him that warn of false messiahs, and that he will repent and put his faith in Jesus Christ, the only true Messiah. Please also pray for them as they transition into life in Russia.

“Buttoning up” First Term

With furlough looming in the not-too-far distance of next summer, we are diligently working on “buttoning up” several remaining tasks during this first term in preparation for church planting our second term here in Moldova.

For one, we are pressing on in our Russian lessons in order to finish the



Rustem, Tania, and their daughter

second language book as early as possible in December. Learning the concepts in these first two books will lay a good foundation for us to build upon and have basic conversations with people. **Please pray for diligence on our part to keep up with the lessons and for God to help us progress with Russian.**

Secondly, we are working to “button up” our survey trips by December and settle on where the Lord would have us labor during our second

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Prayer Requests & Praises:

- Praise the Lord for Abby’s kidney being back to normal and not needing surgery.
- Praise the Lord for the opportunity we had to witness to Rustem and Tania, but pray for their acceptance of Jesus Christ as their God and Savior.
- Pray for continual progress in learning Russian and a good foundation to be laid.
- Pray for God’s wisdom and guidance with the remaining survey trips.
- Pray for our furlough preparations.
- Pray for the salvation of Peter, the father of our previous landlord. I plan to meet with him again to see if he is more receptive to the Gospel now after his wife passed away this year. Need wisdom.
- Thank you for your prayers and financial support!



Caleb helping pass out tracts and invitations for the Ford’s church’s evangelization.

term. Please pray that the Lord’s leading will be clearly seen as we seek final conclusions in this matter.

Thirdly, the finishing of one term on the mission field means furlough. Having never done a furlough, there are many aspects that will be new for us. **We need wisdom for finishing first term goals, preparing for the second term, and planning out our visits during furlough.**

Thank you all for your faithful prayers and support for us. We thank the Lord for you all.