

Escape from Tallinn

No ... we didn't escape. But in May we helped someone else do just that! Our friends and FMI Global Workers Joel & Keturah Mayer took some long overdue time away to celebrate an anniversary and a birthday. And we got to hang and do life with their three handsome boys, as well as do a little exploring of their beautiful city. Tallinn, Estonia, sits right on the Baltic Sea. It's about 80 km (a 2-hour ferry) south of Helsinki, Finland, 400 km (a 14-hour ferry) east of Stockholm, Sweden, and 370 km (a 5-hour drive) west of St. Petersburg, Russia. We enjoyed walking and "tramming" around Tallinn, exploring its old town and different neighborhoods, and taking in its amazing views – the walled part of the old city, the port and Baltic sea, the Super Ferries waiting for cars and trucks and passengers, and the beautiful parks with amazing Estonian "nature" in every area of this capital city.

We were honored to be asked, and even happier to be able to say "yes" to staying with these three very smart, very delightful boys - Atlee (13, going on 23) and the 7-year old identical twins – Lars and Asher. Atlee is very expressive and was helpful in so many ways. Asher & Lars have their own very fun and unique personalities as well. Our concerns about telling them apart quickly faded as those personalities came right through, including how each of them likes to dress - Asher preferring different colors and Lars preffering mostly dark blue. All three boys "showed us the ropes" – by helping around the house, guiding the daily trips to and from school, and finding the



best places to get ice cream and great burgers! Joel and Keturah arrived back home greatly refreshed and very thankful we were able to serve them in this way. Thank you all for being a part this ministry of care and support!

Update on Helping Ukraine

We continue to purchase and supply food, clothing, and hygiene/medical aid, as well as fuel and other items that help get the aid where it is needed. There are now an estimated 5.6 million refugees displaced outside Ukraine, and another 8 million internally displaced persons (IDP) still in-country. Nearly 40% of these IDPs are located in the west (Lviv, Uzhorrod, etc.) where most of our work is focused. Pray as we seek to increase the volume of food to meet the need. In addition to the aid we're sourcing here, we are working on options to ship full containers of food aid from the USA. There are many complicating factors, so we are being patient with the longer processes often involved. But we trust God as His timing is always best!

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