

# *The Christian Family*

## *Church Planters in Belarus*



December 2020

Dear Pastor and Congregation,

We want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas! With all the commercialism and the attempts to change the meaning of Christmas, it is important that we are diligent to let people know the true meaning of Christmas. It is a great time to tell folks who Jesus Christ is, why he came to this earth and what it means for us, both the lost and the saved.

We are currently making plans to return to Belarus in January of 2021. We will need to apply for visas as our residence permits expired this past summer. Please pray for this process and for favor with the Belarusian Consular who will approve our visas. The difficulties in Belarus with COVID-19 and political difficulties make this process more difficult and less certain. We really need you to pray for this process.

Covid-19 is surging in Belarus much like here in the U.S. All the medical clinics in Belarus have been closed except for emergencies. The hospitals are becoming full as infections continue to increase. Schools are still open, but many businesses have closed, some permanently. These circumstances will make it necessary to quarantine for 10 days once we arrive in Minsk.

We are closely monitoring the political situation in Belarus. There are daily reports of beatings and arrests of peaceful protesters. There are labor strikes that have cost people their jobs and their pensions. This has caused extra scrutiny at the airport as the government fears foreign influence and funding of the protests. This, of course, will affect us directly when we go through passport control and customs. We covet your prayers for wisdom and discernment as we consider the best options and timing for our return. Right now, we believe it is safe to return, but if the situation there changes our plans could change too. Please pray for stability and a clear open door for us to return.

**We so appreciate your faithfulness to pray during this difficult time!**

For Souls in Belarus,

The Jeff Christian Family

Received in November \_\_\_\_\_

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