



the VRUGGINKS

TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

vrugginks.com

Our Journey



This short video tells the story of our family's journey to Southeast Asia!
There are lots of video clips from our January trip to Thailand.
We hope it blesses your hearts!

Isaac's Kidney Issues

This month we made three big strides in figuring out Isaac's kidney issues.

1) Isaac allowed the nurse to take his blood pressure and he only whimpered a little bit (far different from the hysterical screaming that was usually accompanying these times). We had been taking his blood pressure every day at home to help get him used to his procedure, and we were so thankful to finally get an accurate number. His blood pressure numbers were normal! Yay!!!



Upcoming Events

Greg's ThM Graduation
Grand Rapids, MI
May 21, 2016

Watson Bible Church
Otsego, MI
June 5, 2016

Midwest Chinese Christian Association Summer Retreat
Cedarville, OH
July 1-4, 2016

Bangkok Teaching Trip
Bangkok, Thailand
July 7-15, 2016

[Click Here to Partner with Us Financially](#)

If you want to learn more about the country of Thailand and the ministry of ABTS, be encouraged as we reflect on ministry life, and praise God with us when we've gained new support, then please click the link below to "Like" our ministry Facebook page.



2) We met with the pediatric urologist. The doctor does not feel that Isaac needs imminent surgery, and shared that Isaac's reflux problem has a 60% chance of resolving on its own once Isaac is potty trained.

We also talked with the urologist about our plans to move to Thailand soon and what Isaac's care would need to look like while we're overseas. The doctor told us that he just set up one of his patients with a pediatric urologist in Bangkok! (How cool is that?!?) So we know for sure Isaac can be monitored by the specialist he needs while we're serving in Bangkok!

3) Isaac was potty trained this month! Isaac needs to be well established in potty training before we can do another ultrasound in the fall and determine his future care, so this was a huge praise!

We meet with Isaac's nephrologist again on June 21 and the urologist again on October 11, so right now we're in a time of waiting. Through bad news and good news we're so grateful that God is always with us and that whether we're in America or on the other side of the ocean in Thailand that God's hand will continue to guide us!

Graduation Day



Gregory Ray Vrugink
Master of Divinity
Columbia International Seminary

Master of Theology
Calvin Theological Seminary

*Please join us for a
graduation open house*
May 21, 2016
3:00 - 5:00 PM

Berkhof Building Backyard
3521 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI
(Basement in case of inclement weather)

This month Greg submitted his ThM thesis! He will defend it the first week in May and after approval (hopefully!), he'll be graduating on Saturday, May 21!

Please join us as we celebrate God's faithfulness to our family in guiding Greg in obtaining his Master of Divinity degree through Columbia International Seminary and now his Master of Theology degree through Calvin Theological Seminary. These degrees give Greg the needed credentials to be the Old Testament professor at Asia Biblical Theological Seminary (ABTS).

Greg's graduation will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, May 21 at the Covenant Fine Arts Center of Calvin College. The graduation is open to all who would like to attend.

You are especially invited to join us for an open house celebration on Saturday, May 21 from 3:00 - 5:00 PM in our Berkhof Building Backyard (or basement in case of inclement weather). The address is 3521 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

We praise the Lord for His faithfulness in blessing Greg throughout this educational process!

Bangkok Teaching Trip

We are super excited to announce that Greg is planning on assisting with his first Asia Biblical Theological Seminary (ABTS) class! In early July the Old Testament Biblical Theology class will be taught in Bangkok by the ABTS professor Daron Wilson. Daron is the New Testament professor at ABTS, but since ABTS doesn't currently have a full-time Old Testament professor Daron will be covering this class as well. (Isn't excited that Greg will be filling this hole once we move to Thailand?!)

Greg has been invited by Jim Blumenstock, the dean of



ABTS, to assist Daron in teaching the Old Testament survey class. This will provide Greg with the experience of actually teaching an ABTS class, and Greg will also have the opportunity to explore the city a little bit to determine which part of the city we would be best for our family to live in once we move. This will help make our house hunting and transition much faster once we move.

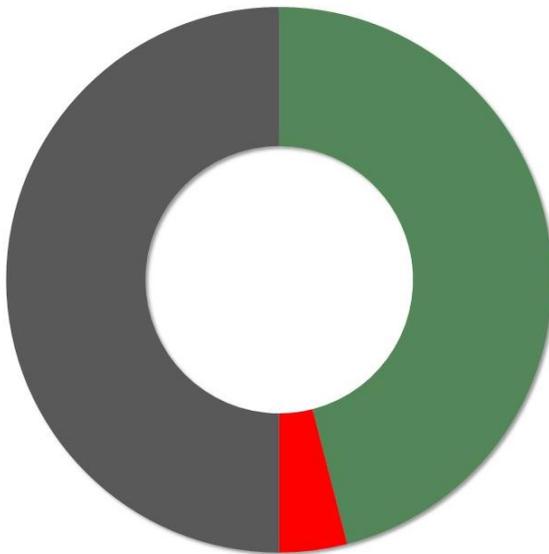
Since we are still pre-field missionaries this trip is considered a special endeavor and cannot be paid for using our current monthly support funds. Greg needs to raise \$1,900 (the plane ticket alone is roughly \$1,600) to go on this trip. **If you feel led, would you click the link below to make a special one-time gift to help cover the costs of Greg's Bangkok teaching trip?**

[Give to Bangkok Teaching Trip](#)

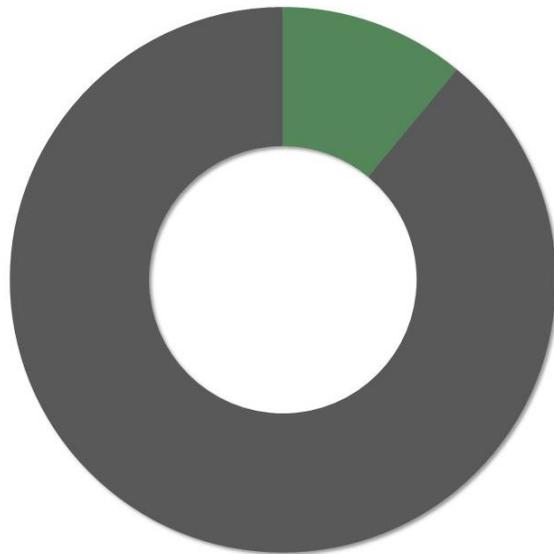
Financial Update

Click the link above the chart on the left to see a more detailed chart of our monthly ministry partner needs.

Monthly Ministry Partners:
46% Supported



Outfit and Passage: 11% Funded



We were so incredibly blessed this month to get a one-time donation of \$500, 5 new monthly ministry partners, and to have our Grace Community Church family vote to approve us as missionaries! We now have 46% of our monthly support raised! If you click the link above the chart on the left, you will also see that we have someone supporting us at every level - from \$10 to \$650 a month! It blesses our hearts so much to see churches and individuals with differing financial abilities each giving sacrificially to spread the gospel in Asia!

We just need an additional \$376.71 in committed monthly support in by June 20 to be at 50% and be able to attend ABWE's Essential Missions Components Training. This required training is only offered once a year in July, so if we don't make this deadline it will certainly be another full year before we can move to Thailand. **Will you join us in praying that over the next 7 weeks God will raise up individuals to partner with us for the remaining \$376.71 we need to get to 50%?**

This could possibly be 8 people partnering with us like this:

- 2 partners at \$100 per month
- 2 partners at \$50 per month
- 3 partners at \$25 per month
- 1 partner at \$10 per month

Praises and Prayer Requests

Thank you so much for praising God with us and praying for our needs. Please email us with any prayer requests you have so that we can be praying for you as well!

1) Praise God Greg will graduate with his ThM degree on May 21! Please pray for peace and wisdom as he defends his thesis this month.

2) Praise God Isaac's blood pressure is normal and that Isaac was potty trained this month! Please pray for us to have patience as we wait for upcoming doctor appointments, and for the doctor's to have wisdom in treating Isaac's kidney reflux problem.

3) Praise God for providing us with individuals to guide through *The Story of Hope* and *The Path to Joy* Bible studies! Please pray for Daisy, a seeking, college-age, Korean exchange student to become a followers of Jesus Christ!

4) Praise God we have 46% of our monthly support raised! Please pray that over the next 7 weeks God will raise up individuals to partner with us for the remaining \$376.71 we need to get to 50% and be able to attend EMC Training in July.

Thank you so much for all of your love and support!

Greg + Rachel

