



the VRUGGINKS

TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

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Missions Minded Children

This month we were able to share with three groups of children! Rachel shared with a small group of American Heritage Girls who were seeking to get their "Missions Minded" badge. Greg shared with the 3rd-6th grade boys club at our church, and together we shared at

Libertas Christian School's Elementary Chapel! It was so much fun to share with these little ones about the culture of Thailand. They were amazed that it's always hot in Thailand and many people have never seen snow. They giggled when they saw pictures of Greg eating grubbs for a snack. They squealed with excitement when we described Songkran the three-day water festival celebrated each April. But most touching of all we saw their little hearts breaking as we described the religion of Buddhism and shared that the vast majority of people in Asia have never heard the name of Jesus Christ.



Many children were eager to take our prayer magnets in order to pray for our family and the people of Asia. One of the teachers at the school sent us a picture of our prayer magnets stuck on many of the students' lockers as a reminder to pray for us.

Upcoming Events

Grace Community Church
Hudsonville, MI
April 3, 2016

Grace Baptist Church
Mason, OH
April 10, 2016

Individual Appointments
Indianapolis, IN
April 15-17, 2016

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

Watson Bible Church
Otsego, MI
June 5, 2016

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If you want daily updates about our ministry, please click the link below to "Like" our ministry Facebook page.



Sometimes it can be easy for us to forget that the prayers of children are just as powerful and effective as the prayers of adults. We are so honored that these precious missions minded children have a burden for Asia and are fighting for us by partnering with us in prayer!



If you want to get more personal updates about our family's adventures and growing kiddos, please follow our blog. You can subscribe via RSS feed or have the blog updates emailed to you.



Isaac's Kidney



Thank you so much for praying for Isaac! To be honest this month was really difficult for our family. On Friday, March 18, Isaac had a VCUg test done. Even though Isaac was given a mild sedative he still screamed, cried, and thrashed during the procedure so much that he had to be strapped down and two days later on Sunday, March 20 (Isaac's 3rd birthday - poor little guy!) we ended up in the ER because he was in so much pain due to his urethra having been irritated during the VCUg.

Monday, March 21 we met with the pediatric nephrologist and were told that urine is refluxing at a very high level into Isaac's right kidney and this is likely the

reason it has not developed properly and is badly scarred. The nephrologist referred us to a pediatric urologist to discuss the possibility of surgery and other treatment options. Depending on his kidney function, we might need to either remove the kidney or if it's functioning at 30% or higher he may need surgery on his ureter to prevent the reflux from occurring.

We also learned that kidney damage is irreversible, so his right kidney will always be underdeveloped and scarred. He will never be able to take medicines that contain ibuprofen or that are hard on the kidney, and he will always have to monitor his blood pressure as high blood pressure is directly related to kidney function. Isaac is hysterical when nurses try to take his blood pressure (so we're not sure if his current high blood pressure numbers are accurate), so we've started taking his blood pressure every day at home to get him used to it in order to get accurate numbers when at the hospital.

This month has been really hard on Isaac and our parent hearts, but at the same time we are so grateful that this problem has been discovered and is being treated while we are living in a city with an amazing children's hospital. We have also been blessed that most days Isaac is his normal, happy, feisty self, so it brings us joy that he's not struggling with too much pain. He's a strong little fighter for sure! Please be praying for our appointment with the urologist on April 18th and for the doctors to have wisdom in knowing how to best treat him.

Graduation Day

We found out this month that Greg did not get into Calvin's PhD program. We were a little disappointed, but we also have complete confidence that God's perfect will was accomplished. Greg is excited that in the future he'll be able to get his PhD in Old Testament, which is his area of focus. (If he would have gotten into Calvin's program he would have been in the Systematic Theology program). We're excited to finish the fundraising process and be able to get to Asia soon, and Greg's looking forward to a break from school as he'll be graduating with his Master's of Theology on May 21st! Please "Save-the-Date" and plan on stopping by to celebrate with us at Greg's graduation open house from 3:00 - 5:00 PM on Saturday, May 21st!



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)

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:
37% Supported

Outfit and Passage: 10% Funded



Praise God for blessing us this month with 2 new church partners and 4 more individual monthly partners! One of our new church partners was very significant bringing us to 37% of our committed monthly support! We are so blessed to now have a total of 35 individuals and churches committed to partnering with us on a monthly basis! Please check out the [detailed breakdown of our monthly financial partners progress](#) and pray about if God would have you fill a spot in our financial support team!

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 for helping us to discover Isaac's kidney problems while we're living near a great children's hospital. Please pray for the doctors to have wisdom in knowing how to best treat him.
- 2) Praise God Greg will be graduating with his ThM on May 21st! Please pray for him to finish well!
- 3) Praise God we are both going through *The Way to Joy* Bible studies with new believers and it appears God is also opening up a door for Greg to go through *The Story of Hope* Bible study. Please pray for us to be able to complete these studies as it's one of our ABWE requirements.
- 4) Praise God for opportunities to share our ministry with three children's groups and several individuals this month! Praise God for 2 new church partners and 4 more individual monthly partners bringing us to 37% of our committed monthly support! Please continue to pray for God to work in the hearts of churches and individuals to partner with our ministry in prayer and financially.

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

Greg + Rachel

