

# LITHUANIA REPORT

July 14, 2008



## Moving to the States

Greetings all, it appears that after seven years this baltic sojourn has completed its course. My wife, Son-dra, and I have discussed the state of my ministry in Kaunas and we have concluded that after seven years I have done what I am capable of doing in these chal-lenging circumstances and for the well-being of our marriage, family and my health we want to return to the States.

Last spring, during a tumultuous time in the Kaunas work, we sought to relocate with a church in the Czech Republic. That did not work out and so we re-turned to Lithuania. After much discussion and prayer our hope and desire was to continue to support the work in Kaunas. Throughout the year we labored with the Lord and our supporters in these Baltic harvest fields. We also started up a small English language les-sons business in order to add some financial stability and to help us better integrate with the culture. Nev-ertheless, despite our hope and best intentions our observations persuade us that a change in course is needed.

Currently, we seek to depart Lithuania by the end of July, 2008. We will begin this new chapter in our life in my hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio. This will allow my parents to develop a relationship with my wife and daughters (whom they have never met face to face). I do not plan to relocate with a church immediately. Rather, I will find other employment for a year or two before resuming the work of an evangelist.

Regarding the church in Kaunas, I regret that there are no immediate resolutions to the challenge of our departure. When we do leave, there Kaunas church will number three adults and three children. In the short term, Gediminas will be able to lead the church in worship. And it is possible that Kestutis, a Christian in Vilnius (60 miles away), may be able to help with worship services periodically. Realistically, a long term solution is necessary. We must pray that God will provide. I wish the answer to our dilemma was as sim-ple as inviting another evangelist to move to Kaunas with this family. However, residence visas are not easily obtained in these circumstances. My visa has been ob-

tained through my marriage to a Lithuanian. Outside of that visas must be obtained by means of employment, study, or invitation from a registered church. Regrettably, the Kaunas church is not able to meet the government registration requirements due to their small size.

Immediate funds are needed to transfer and establish our family in the States. Gracious brethren have thus far contributed funds to cover more than half of our immediate needs (\$7,500 of \$13,500). We would be grateful for any assistance you might be able to provide to help us immediately cover a portion of these expenses.

Please begin using [mlfenner@mac.com](mailto:mlfenner@mac.com) to contact me via email.

Peace be to you,

Lee and Sondra Fenner

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**PHOTO KEY:**

**page 1:** special portrait of the family in Kaunas in anticipation of our move to the States.

**page 2:** <TR> Gathering wild berries on a blade of grass is local custom for the kids <ML> Fausta at her first circus <MR> The kids watch two balloons lift off <BL> The kids and I attended a concertina concert <BR> Gediminas and his kids enjoying a forest walk

