

# The Hearron Family

## Missionaries to Russia

*On the field since 1996*



**DUE TO SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA, US POSTAL MAIL DOES NOT COME TO CRIMEA**  
My new telephone is: +7 (978) 069-6506 (Moscow Time Zone)

**Covid-19** has plunged the world into panic and chaos. Now is the time for true followers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, by their strong faith in our Lord and God, demonstrate a settled peace that will lead desperate and fearful people to our Savior. **"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16**

I feel that I have fully recovered from my emergency operation in Vienna, Austria last December. I continue to have some issues with my chronic gastritis, but I think that it is more stress-related than anything else. Just before falling ill in December, our family purchased an apartment and began a much needed remodel to fix some issues before we could move in. Work resumed a week after my return, in January, from the Hospital in Vienna.

After consulting with our pastor and mission director, we felt owning this apartment and taking on the debt to make it happen, would, in 6 years, equal the costs of renting and lend stability to our mission here in Simferopol. **But things have changed.**

All foreign BIMl missionaries are required to participate in the CIGNA group health insurance plan. My medical evacuation expenses in December and January raised red flags with CIGNA. Because we officially reside in Crimea, a territory under US Sanctions, they determined that continuing to ensure our family could be considered a violation of US Sanction law. Our mission board, BIMl, has determined the same, as it relates to our employment status with BIMl. The same might be true of our sending church. **CIGNA revoked our medical insurance coverage.** Our family needs more than ever your prayers to ensure that we remain healthy.

**Two weeks ago, our family was instructed by our sending church pastor to leave Crimea.** This decision was not made lightly but in agreement with BIMl's judgment regarding the sanction question and their policy that missionaries have health insurance. Therefore, our family must try to liquidate our apartment and at the same time quickly obtain official residency in Russia proper, at which time, we should be reinstated to the CIGNA group health policy. This will put us in a better position to seek God's will for further ministry. **The Russian ruble has devalued in one week 30%. We are devastated by the financial loss we will incur, in addition to having to leave the people to whom we have ministered.**

Couple this with the pandemic that torments the world and restricted global travel and I am sure you will understand, when I say, **"I am physically and mentally exhausted"**. If I allow it, the fear and uncertainty of the days ahead can consume my thoughts and affect me physically. **I need your prayers; my family needs your prayers.**

I know that Satan would love for us to second guess past decisions or make rash decisions. But when compared with what the Apostle Paul and other servants of the Cross have endured, our current trial pails in comparison. **It is a fact that Satan opposes the work of the Lord.** Change in ministry and direction are not uncommon in the Lord's work. We are not held responsible for these changes. But, what we are responsible for is how we handle these changes and adapt to them in God's will. **God has promised not to allow more than what we are capable of overcoming. In this our family trusts.**

Pray for me and my family in the days ahead, as we **press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

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