

# FAMILY UPDATE

The Van Wijngaarden Family in **Cambridge, England** (well, coming soon actually ;-)

## Time flew

Time flew since we sent out our first family update in March 2019.

Not long after, we moved everything we had (which was not so much anymore after selling/giving away most of it) and went to St. Louis in the USA. Many things changed. From the beginning, we had lots to figure out — from creating new life rhythms to developing new relationships. Although it never became easy, we definitely got used to the strange season of life we had entered.



## *Planning to stay*

The longer you have known us, the more you will notice that our family's decisions have not been so traditional. Especially since 2015 it became quite dynamic, one could say. That is when we started home education, moved several times in a few years, lived in Belgium, England and now even across the Atlantic. Yes, we agree it was quite a ride. Some of you might know that when we returned to the Netherlands in 2017, we were (finally, some would say) more than ready to stay for the long haul. And that was seriously the plan...

## *There we go again*

Nevertheless, plans changed. We believe God reminded us of a desire for Christian ministry, a desire which we had held for several years. Soon after, we both also became convicted it was what we should do in the future. In the summer of 2018, we decided to go ahead (again, in some ways). Andreas sold the business that we made a living with, we sold most of our furniture and packed fewer than a hundred boxes for shipping. Finally, in April 2019, we also packed our suitcases. While we left the Netherlands to have a season of preparation, we did not know exactly how long we would be gone and where we would end up in the long run.

## Ways to be involved:

You can partner in the ministry with prayer and financial support. If you are interested, send us an email for more information:

**Fam.Van.Wijngaarden@icloud.com**

### Prayer Support

We would love you to pray for the ministry with us. To make that possible, we will inform you with several prayer letters throughout the year.

### Financial Support

In the **USA**, we are part of Presbyterian Mission International ([PMLweb.org/avw.php](http://PMLweb.org/avw.php)). You can choose from the following options to donate tax-deductible:

- join the Monthly Support Team by filling out the EFT form ([PMLweb.org/EFTformPMI2020](http://PMLweb.org/EFTformPMI2020)) and sending it in;
- mail a check with a note "for Van Wijngaarden" to PMI, 12330 Conway Rd, St. Louis, MO 63141;
- or see the following link ([PMLweb.org/donations.php](http://PMLweb.org/donations.php)) for alternative ways of financial giving.

If you live in the **UK** and want to donate to the ministry, please reach out and we will give you further instructions how to do that tax-deductible

In **Nederland** zijn we aangesloten bij de ANBI-Stichting Samen op de Bres en kan er belastingaftrekbaar worden gedoneerd. Dit kan worden gedaan door geld over te maken naar IBAN NL35INGB0001152914 t.n.v. St. Samen op de Bres en o.v.v. "Wijngaarden planten." Het is ook mogelijk om de donatie automatisch te laten incasseren. Stuur ons een bericht en wij zullen het benodigde formulier dan toesturen.

## *Puzzle pieces*

After arrival in 2019, we slowly, but steadily were gaining clarity on the missing puzzle pieces. And after the summer of 2020 we became convicted that our mission & vision was leading us to Cambridge, England. The most important puzzle pieces that fell in place regarded church ministry. In November 2020, we were asked to join the core team of an intended church plant in Cambridge with a focus on witnessing to secular skeptics. In the same period, Andreas was asked to extend the activities of a ministry for the workplace ([FaithandWorkSTL.org](http://FaithandWorkSTL.org)) to Europe. With Andreas' background, and Silicon Fen nearby, this was an exciting development, completing the picture how to start out after arrival. Other pieces included receiving our visas in just a matter of weeks and finding two available spots at a good school for the boys.

## *Summer 2021*

As missionaries, there is no "business model" through which to profit and thus we are raising support, which we have been doing since the end of 2020. So far, we have already been blessed to raise almost 50% of the Monthly Support Team. If that blessing continues, we expect to enter England this coming summer. But not without spending a few weeks in the Netherlands, if possible. We must say that two years without seeing family and our Dutch friends in real life was just too long. We are looking forward to hearing from you, so feel free to reply and update us as well!

*Greeting you all with the warmest regards,*

*Andreas, Katharine, Luca & Sem van Wijngaarden*

