



## Reunions – May 2024 Update

Reunions are often happy times. Friendships separated by time and distance are rekindled, milestones are celebrated, losses are grieved, and visions are refreshed. We recently returned from our ministry's leadership conference in Warsaw, Poland, where pastors and teams were encouraged and equipped to develop our local leaders for greater ministry effectiveness. These are also times of renewed friendships and standing with those facing personal or ministry difficulties.



Praying for campus outreach at the conference



Our amazing team in Central Europe

One reunion was incredibly touching. Igor Galushka was one of our first disciples during our original L'viv, Ukraine, outreach in August 1993. His journey with us spanned five years, but unforeseen circumstances led him elsewhere as he continued to follow Jesus. This was a bittersweet moment for me, as I had hoped to see him become one of our pastors. We reunited last week in Warsaw, where he now resides, and I asked him who is pastoring his Ukrainian church. He responded with a smile. I asked again, and his smile grew. It was then that I realized, with a full heart, that Igor is the pastor.



My dear friend, Pastor Igor Galushka



Our first outreach follow-up in 1993. I am standing with Igor in the back row

“To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.”  
– 1 Corinthians 9:22

Igor shared a heartwarming message from his daughter, expressing gratitude for leading her dad to the Lord. Our journey with Igor is far from over. We are already planning our next trip, and he has invited me to preach. This simple story is the essence of most cross-cultural endeavors: love people, respect your host culture, be motivated by Jesus's compassion for those needing good news, and learn the language.

### Partnership Needs

- Special gifts for our upcoming trip to the US for seminary
- Increase in monthly partners for our expanding ministry roles
- Funding for Mike's seminary studies

Another recent highlight was our trip to Zagreb, Croatia, where Myra spoke at a conference on discipleship. She presented strategies for navigating religious nationalism in the region, and also interacted with scholars on their research. We are excited that Myra's course on social responsibility is ready to be released throughout our global ministry within a few weeks. While in Zagreb, we enjoyed spending time with our fellow cross-cultural church planters, Hansie and Marna Reinecke, who are doing a fantastic job learning the language and have started outreach in the Croatian language.



Myra presented her research on “Public Witness Through the Church as a Disciple Community.”



Meeting with the Zagreb team

We will finish our Prague church registration in a few weeks and are entering a phase of campus outreach and team recruitment. Thanks again for standing with us on this mission. Blessings!

*Mike & Myra*

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### Prayer Requests

- Peace for Ukraine and continued resources for refugee relief
- Outreach opportunities with university students
- Increase in monthly partnership for our expanded ministry roles
- New team members for the Prague church plant

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