

UKRAINE

Ukraine – October 2024 Update

October was a significant month of travel that began with sorrow as we journeyed to London to honor our friend and Europe Director, Wolfgang Eckleben. Even while battling cancer, Wolfi's faith inspired and encouraged us. His leadership guided us to where we are today and laid the foundation for where we are going. It will not be easy to fill his shoes, and we all miss him deeply.



(L-R) Wolfi, me, Markus Marosch, & Roger Pearce, last May at our Warsaw conference



Me, Zbyszek, and Tom, after crossing into Ukraine

Two days after returning to Prague from London, I was on the road to Ukraine with my friends, Zbyszek Gadziala and Pastor Tom Jackson. Zbyszek has made over a hundred trips delivering humanitarian aid to Ukraine, but for Tom and me, this was our first visit since the war began. After a stop in Lviv, we traveled to Ternopil, Ukraine, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Every Nation church there: Love and Healing Church (Церква "Любов і Зцілення").



The conference theme was hope in a time of war based on Prov. 21:31



We've known Pastor Oleg and Natalie since the early 1990s and celebrate 30 years with the Ternopil church

Upon our arrival in Ternopil, Pastor Oleg invited me to minister to his chaplain team, and they honored me with a special chaplain's jacket. The jacket was more than just a gift; the

next morning, we visited a military hospital to pray for wounded soldiers. These courageous chaplains serve both on the home front and in forward operating areas, leading many to Jesus and ministering to soldiers who return in need of spiritual and physical healing.



Meeting with the chaplain team to hear their testimonies and bring needed encouragement



Pastor Oleg and I praying with a wounded soldier in the hospital (used with permission, but don't repost)

My last stop was Lviv, where Myra and I planted Christ Fellowship Church (Христове Спількування) in 1993. It was wonderful to reconnect with Pastor Igor and Elina and meet with their young leaders. We're encouraged to see the third generation of leaders serving in the Lviv church.



Our first evening in Lviv included a wonderful meal with Igor, Elina, and Zbyszek—nothing like Ukrainian borsch with dear friends in my second home!



Igor and his leaders, Roman and Olena Babinets, faithfully reaching the next generation with the gospel

Like every city in Ukraine, Lviv displays flags honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice, and many cities bear the scars of missile attacks that have devastated vulnerable neighborhoods. Amidst all this, God's people continue to bring hope to some of the most challenging places.



One of the many cemeteries honoring Ukraine's fallen defenders



A quiet Lviv neighborhood was recently struck by a Russian missile, killing eight, including a mother and her three daughters. Pray for Ukraine!

Our ministry schedule is full for the remainder of 2024. This week, Myra travels to the U.S. to complete her Ph.D. comprehensive exams and will be away throughout November. In a few weeks, I'll travel to Yerevan, Armenia, to minister to the remarkable church there, and we're also planning a Christmas outreach for our church in Prague.

None of this would be possible without your prayers and generosity. Thank you!

Mike & Myra

Prayer Points

- Peace in Ukraine, refugee relief resources, and travel safety
- Favor for residency approval and outreach with students
- Growth in partnerships and new team members for Prague

To mail support:

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