



Mukachevo ^{USA} → Kyiv

Prayer letter of George & Sarah de Vuyst
Serving with Christian Reformed World Missions in Ukraine

April 2013

 **Christian Reformed World Missions**
2850 Kalamazoo Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49560
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Our Vision

We envision healthy congregations emerging to bring healing and transformation to lives and communities throughout Ukraine and Eastern Europe's post-communist countries.

Our Mission

Together with our partners in Ukraine, we are training church leaders in Ukraine's post-Soviet, post-Christian, and post-atheist society in order to develop healthy churches with a biblical understanding of Christianity so that the Kingdom of God may transform all spheres of life and society.

Points for praise

- Excellent time visiting our supporting churches & strengthening our partnerships
- Uplifting and empowering continuing education
- House to rent in Kyiv
- Teaching positions at Kiev Christian Academy have been filled

Points for prayer

- Wisdom and guidance as we consider partnerships with Ukrainian organizations
- Peaceful transition for our family as we move and settle in Kyiv

Home Service Complete

Over the past 8 months we have visited 20 churches to preach and share about the ministry in Ukraine. Our circuit took us to Washington, Wisconsin, all-around western Michigan, Indiana, Maryland, Ohio and Florida. We end our home service encouraged by all the interest, prayers, and support that we received. We also appreciate the many pastors and their wives who took time to meet individually with us. It is an honor and

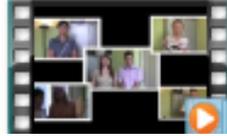
blessing to partner with each of these churches and individuals.

If we missed you, you can listen to George's sermon and view our ministry video on our website

www.devuysts.com. We also have a very special video that the kids made about life in Ukraine. If you haven't see it yet, you won't want to miss it!



Ukraine: Our Home



God Has Used You



For God, With You, In Ukraine

VIDEOS

All our videos are now available on our website www.devuysts.com

Destination: Kyiv

George departs Michigan on May 7 and has a very full calendar and long to-do list before Sarah and the kids arrive on June 25. On that list is working on the final Russian version of the Timothy Leadership



Training manuals, making arrangements for our rent of a house in Kyiv, moving all our belongings from Mukachevo to Kyiv, sifting through the registration process, and leading a week-long

Timothy Leadership Training in Mukachevo.

Meanwhile, Sarah will stay with the kids in Michigan until they finish school on June 20. The 7 week separation will be difficult but we are hoping it will pass quickly.

Home Service Contact

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More stories and pictures at
www.devuysts.com and
www.devuysts.blogspot.com

Continuing Education

George thoroughly enjoyed his participation in a 6 month Clinical Pastoral Education program. He served as an intern chaplain at Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services. Learning a lot about mental health as well as practical tools for pastoral care, this training increased George's ability to under-

stand, provide, and train other pastors in pastoral care. In Ukraine the role of pastor as a trusted counselor is practically non-existent. George would like to see this role of pastor rebirthed in Ukraine as a step toward developing healthy churches.

Prayer for Housing Answered

Amazingly, God has provided a house for us to rent in Kyiv even before we started looking for one! Another missionary family who send their children to Kiev Christian Academy sought us out to house-sit for them while they are on home service for the coming year. This arrangement is a blessing for both our families. They will have their home when they return and we have a year to find something suitable for our family. The pressure is off George to find a house for our family in two short weeks! In addition, the landlord is willing to provide

the legal documents we need to be registered in Kyiv. This legal requirement can be difficult to achieve because many landlords want to avoid paying taxes and refuse to provide a lease and other documentation.

The house we will enjoy for the next year is a lovely 4 bedroom home with an office, ample storage in the attic, and fenced yard. We will thoroughly enjoy being in a single-family home and the kids are ecstatic about having their own rooms. Come visit us!

Projects to Support

Consider supporting two special projects in Ukraine:

Timothy Leadership Training

Help off-set the expense of translation of materials and the cost of trainings.
Goal: \$1,200

Mukachevo Pastor Support

Help cover high taxes the congregation must pay on top of the pastor's salary
Goal: \$1,200

Donate online at crwm.org/donate

Mukachevo ≠ Kyiv

Our return to Ukraine ushers in a major transition for our family. For 14 years we lived in Mukachevo and this is the home town of our 3 children. Everything about our lives as we've known it is about to change. With that comes apprehension and excitement.

Mukachevo	Kyiv
Population: 86,000	Population: 2.8 million
3 working traffic lights	Crazy traffic
Average salary: \$250/month	Average salary: \$560/month
Sarah homeschooled the kids	Sarah will teach 5th grade & kids will attend Christian school
Ministry involved church planting & leadership development	Ministry will involve leadership development
2 bedroom apartment	4 bedroom house for first year