



Mukachevo Minutes

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

November 2011

 **Christian Reformed
World Missions**
2850 Kalamazoo Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49560
phone: 1-800-346-0075
website: www.crwmm.org

Our vision

We see healthy congregations emerging through church planting and leadership training as well as in partnership with existing Reformed congregations in Ukraine in order to bring healing and transformation to lives and communities throughout Ukraine and beyond her borders in the post-Soviet countries of Eastern Europe so that more and more people hear the gospel and lives and communities are transformed.

Points for praise

- Participants of worship symposium gained deeper understanding of worship
- Strong, dedicated leadership in the Mukachevo congregation
- Signs of God's leading and blessings on our plans to move to Kyiv

Points for prayer

- God's blessing on the future of the Mukachevo congregation
- All the details surrounding our upcoming home service in the US and move to Kyiv
- Growth and renewal retreat that we'll be participating in for 3 weeks in December

New Horizons

We are soon to turn the page in our missionary journey in Ukraine. Following our home service and continued education (mid-July 2012 through May 2013) **we will be moving to Kyiv**, the capital of Ukraine!

Kyiv is a more ideal location for focusing on leadership development, allowing us to connect with more church leaders

throughout Ukraine and other countries of the former Soviet Union.



The Mukachevo congregation has been a blessing to serve in. The congregation has also provided us with hands

on experience in the joys and challenges of establishing a healthy congregation in Ukraine. With this experience, we feel better equipped to address the needs of pastors and church leaders.

We are grateful for strong leadership in the Mukachevo congregation and trust that God will continue to bless them as they seek to glorify God as a healthy congregation.

Worship Redefined

Worship took on new, deeper meaning for the participants of the worship conference in Mukachevo and symposium in Kyiv.

Greg Scheer and Dave Vroege came to Ukraine as part of Cal-

vin Institute of Christian Worship to introduce a biblical theology of worship. Over 40 church leaders



Greg leads session for musicians



Dave preaches on each aspect of a worship service

READ ABOUT THEIR JOURNEY

You can read about Greg and Dave's trip to Ukraine on the blog:

www.mukachevominutes.blogspot.com

from multiple denominations attended the three day symposium in Kyiv. They were so eager to learn more that they have asked for the symposium to become an annual event.

How to contact us

Ilona Zrini 10/2
Mukachevo 89600
Transcarpathia, Ukraine
Skype ID: gdevuyst
Email: gdevuyst@crcna.org

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

TLT Heads to Kyiv

George, together with the founder of Timothy Leadership Training (TLT), Harold Kallameyn, are planning to introduce the first module of TLT to mission



agencies and other English-speaking church leaders in Kyiv. Preparations are now underway for the January training.

Sacrifice Leads to Transformation

Sergei rode the train for over 30 hours one-way; Christina left her 8 month old baby at home; Arpie gave of his family's meager wages—each of them sacrificing so they could attend the worship symposium.

Every time we host a conference or training we hear stories of sacrifice. In this case, people gave of their time, money and resources in order to learn



more about a topic that has hardly been addressed in Ukraine: worship. Greg Scheer writes in his blog, "Dave [Vroege] and I led sessions on the basics of worship--things we've heard and taught hundreds of times--but you could see lights going on around the room as people heard these ideas for the first time.

Worship as formation, worshipers as participants rather than audience, using the Psalms in worship--all of these were being heard with

fresh ears."

Although we've encountered a cultural avoidance towards personal improvement (whether it be parenting, marriage, health, budgeting, etc.), there are those who are eager to learn and grow. It is in these few individuals who not only attend but give up something in order to do so that transformation takes place. When someone sacrifices, they value what they learn. When they value learning, they apply it to their lives. And it is in this moment that transformation begins.

Financial Update

Missions is one way in which the members of the "body of Christ" work together. Through your prayers, encouragement, and financial support we are able to serve as your hands and feet. We see God transforming lives and building his church here in Ukraine!

The CRC has covenanted to provide 40% of the average cost of keeping a missionary family on the field. We are asked to seek the support of churches and individuals to (at minimum) meet the remaining 60%. At the end of the first quarter, we have received 22% of the minimum fund raising goal of \$72,600. We are \$2,000 be-

hind our goal at this point. Please consider making a year-end gift to help us meet our minimum monthly goal of \$6,050.

Gifts can be made online at www.crw.org/donate.

Thank you for partnering with us to serve God in Ukraine!