



*In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your **partnership in the gospel** from the first day until now....*

*Phil. 1:4-5*

## Countdown To Departure!

### Praise Reports:

- God's goodness in providing 95% support.
- We have a furnished apartment waiting for us in Kiev! We also have a mentor-couple who has been extremely helpful in answering questions about what to pack.
- We are able to spend the next week with extended family before we leave.

### Prayer Requests:

- Pray that in God's timing we would receive the remaining 5% of support needed.
- Safety as we travel to North Carolina and Ohio in July, then to Louisville, KY on August 6 to take Karissa to school.
- Ability to express love and appreciation to those we love and who we are leaving with hope and joy.

### Church Itinerary

July 26 – Fountain of Grace Church, Medina, Ohio

August 2 – Commissioning service at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Roseville, Michigan

### Contact Information:

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It's hard to believe, but our anticipated time of departure is almost here. Lord willing, within 40 days we will be flying from Detroit Metropolitan airport to Kiev's Borispol airport and beginning our new ministry in Ukraine. In the meantime, we are at our church mission house wrapping up our present ministry and preparing to leave.

This morning (July 12) I had the *bittersweet* opportunity of preaching at our home church, Cornerstone Baptist of Roseville, Michigan, for the last time as associate pastor. Cornerstone is not only our sending church, it is where Kellie and I have served and our children have grown up for the past 14 years. We will dearly miss our church family and friends here.

In the meantime, Kellie and I have been busy downsizing our possessions (selling or giving away furniture, clothing, and other stuff) and packing what we will need for Ukraine. While it has been tedious and even a bit hectic at times ("Do

we keep it or get rid of it?"), we thank the Lord for His grace in helping us to move through this phase of pre-field ministry. It has been a great reminder of the relatively temporal value of "things." On Thursday (July 16) a truck will arrive to pick up 30+ boxes to take and load on a boat which should arrive in Kiev about the same time we do.

For the next several days (July 14-23) we are traveling to North Carolina to spend time with family members (on both sides of our family) and say "goodbye" before our departure. We also hope to spend a few days with our daughter in the Smoky Mountains on the way back, our last time with her before she goes to Bible College and we leave for Ukraine.

As you can tell, we are excited to get to Kiev on one hand, but also facing the sadness of leaving family and friends. Pray that God will manifest His grace in the midst of our frailty and that all eyes will

be ultimately fixed on His un-failing promises (Hebrews 13:5).

And finally, we have received nearly 95% of our support for which we praise the Lord! We are *almost* there—but we cannot yet reserve our plane tickets until we are at 100%. Please pray that God will bring in the remaining funds that are needed for us to proceed to Kiev. In the meantime, **T minus 40 days... and counting.**

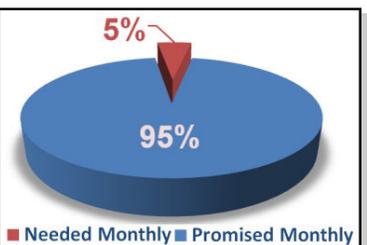


*All packed and ready to ship!*



*Cornerstone Mission House (Our final stop before we leave for Ukraine)*

### Monthly Funding Update



Needed monthly: 5%

(Current status: 95% promised)

**Note:** Contributions are solicited with the understanding that the donee organization has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.

