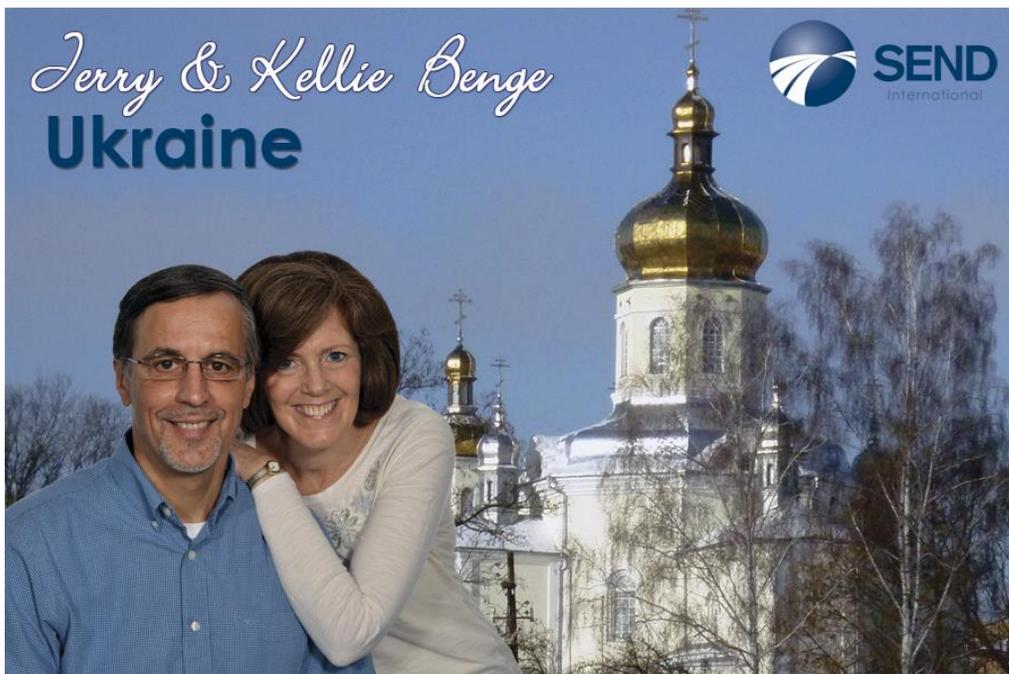


# The Benge Bulletin

*Jerry & Kellie Benge*  
**Ukraine**



## Update on Ukraine

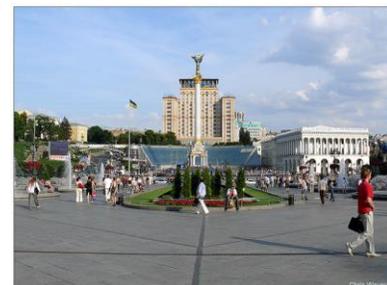
When we departed on March 14, Ukraine was in the midst of a crisis over its future. The interim government was facing the annexation of Crimea and the threat of an invasion from Russia. Since then, the people of Ukraine have voted in a new government led by the newly inaugurated President, Petro Poroshenko (known also as the billionaire “Chocolate King”).

For now, the threat of an invasion has subsided, though hostilities are still ongoing as Russia seems bent on de-stabilizing eastern Ukraine in order to maintain its controlling influence in the country. Casualties continue to mount. According to a UN estimate reported this week, at least 356 people, including 257 civilians, have been killed in eastern Ukraine since May 7. So, the future is far from certain.

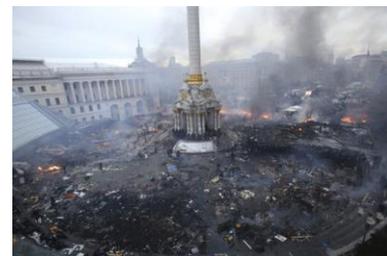
Please continue to pray for the nation of Ukraine that God would use this difficult time to purify His Church and to cause God’s people to increasingly depend on Him. Pray that they will experience His strength in the midst of their weakness (2 Corinthians 12:10), resulting in many “Gospel conversations” with neighbors and co-workers.

Pray also for President Poroshenko (2 Timothy 2:1-4). He has a humanly impossible task before him as there is much unrest in the country (both from within and without). He needs unusual wisdom in dealing with the issues that divide the country. He also has much work to do in cleaning up a long-standing problem of graft and corruption that has plagued the country for many years.

Many have asked us if we will be returning to Ukraine. It is our sincere desire and firm intention to return to Ukraine for our second term of ministry on August 26 of this year. Please pray with us to that end, God willing.



Independence Sq. before the protest...



...and after!



Presidential inauguration on June 7

# Where in the world are the Benges?

We are back in the states for five months of home service. When we are not traveling, we reside at our home church's mission house in Roseville, MI.

We have been using our time to: visit (and vacation!) with family; attend Karissa's graduation from Boyce our College in Louisville, KY; be present at the birth of our fourth grandchild; give reports about our ministry to supporting and prospective churches; participate in a Metro Detroit public forum and a local radio broadcast (both about Ukraine); spend time getting spiritually refreshed at two Christian conferences; and prepare teaching plans for the upcoming Fall semester at Kiev Theological Seminary. In the midst of a busy schedule, we are also enjoying the opportunity to reconnect with many of our friends and faithful supporters.



## What's Ahead?

- June** 22: First Baptist: Farmington, MI  
29: Fountain of Grace: Medina, OH
- July** 13: Oakbrooke Bible: Waterford, MI  
20: First Baptist, Bad Axe, MI  
27: Bethel Baptist, St Clair Shores, MI
- August** 3: Wellspring Bible, Waterford, MI  
9-16: Benge Family Vacation



- 24: Cornerstone Baptist, Roseville, MI  
26: **Return to Kiev, Ukraine**

Contact us at:  
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Website: <http://www.sendbenge.com>

## Praises and Requests

Join us in praising God for:

- Karissa's graduation with a degree in Elementary Ed.
- The birth of Ella Reese Benge on May 8.
- Safe return to the US and quality time(s) with our children and grandchildren.

Please pray with us for:

- Gospel conversations with a Ukrainian man that Jerry met on a train in December.
- Growth in knowing Christ and experiencing His power in our weakness.
- Ongoing mutual ministry with our ministry partners and churches.
- A monthly support deficit of \$75.00.