

Update from Holly November 2015

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

The beginning of November I attended our regions Missions Roundtable in Tbilisi, Georgia with our Ukrainian partners. The goal was for God grow their vision for cross-cultural missions. While I do trust that the Roundtable was effective in achieving that goal, I myself received far more blessing and challenge than I anticipated. I was challenged as I heard of the sacrifices our brothers and sisters make to share the gospel in countries where Christians are persecuted. My heart was broken as I heard first hand accounts of the terrible plight of displaced persons in Syria and refugees in neighboring Middle Eastern countries as well as along the corridor of those fleeing into Europe. I have seen first hand the plight of refugees here in Ukraine, but as we heard from brothers who are ministering within the occupied territories of Ukraine, my heart was broken again by the plight of people in these areas who live with constant fear of shelling on their homes and with the stress of extreme economic crisis. At the same time, my heart was filled with praise to our amazing God as I heard stories of how God is filling churches in eastern Ukraine with people who initially are seeking help for physical needs, but are also finding hope and eternal life in Christ. Stories of how God is at work bringing Muslims to salvation in all parts of the world brought tears to my eyes and challenged me to pray for revival to sweep across the Muslim world. During the conference, we were reminded of our duty as Christians to be involved in some way in every level of the Great Commission given to us in Acts 1:8. What am I doing to reach my Jerusalem? How am I involved in reaching my Judea, and Samaria, and in the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth? I know that recent events have generated strong emotions and opinions on the topic of refugees and the Muslim religion. Regardless of our political opinions, I hope that we will never lose sight of the Great Commission we have as believers. May we long to see God use current events to give us unprecedented opportunities to share Christ's love and the amazing hope of the gospel in all the world!

Thank you for your participation in the Great Commission through your prayers and support of the ministry here in Ukraine. Thank you for praying for a peaceful and fair election process last month. Although many were disappointed by the results, the election process was carried out peacefully. There has been increased fighting again in the east this past month and more lives have been lost. Please continue to pray for God to bring peace to Ukraine. God blessed our medical trip to eastern Ukraine the end of October. In four days of clinics, Dr. Tim with his translator Sasha & I saw over 200 patients. Our clinic assistants Diana & Lena helped things to run smoothly and blessed our patients with their kindness. Pastor Lonya and Christian counselor Oleg traveled with us and assisted the local pastors in ministering to the emotional and spiritual needs of our patients. They talked to and prayed with many of them.



I will share more about the pro-life ministry in my next update. Please continue to keep our Women's Center counselors and clients in your prayers. We are working with several unsaved clients who have shown some interest in spiritual things. Pray for their salvation.

Grateful for the Holy Spirit's power,
Holly Friesen

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Donation Info: Gifts can be sent to ABWE, PO Box 8585, Harrisburg PA 17105-8585 or online www.abwe.org

- Ukraine Crisis Fund, account #0717401
- Pro-Life in Ukraine, account # 0757353
- Holly's ministry account # 0139523