



Following the Francises

September 2018

Volume 50

Ukrainian summers bring us long hours of daylight, markets filled with fresh produce, opportunities to serve in camps and the annual SEND Ukraine Area Conference. This summer brought all of these plus two summer interns and the opportunity for Judy to return to her hometown for its bicentennial celebration.

Anna and Alan arrived at the end of May. We enjoyed getting to know them, introducing them to Ukraine – her people, culture, history, languages – cross-cultural ministry, and SEND International. They both had a variety of experiences, including a few challenges, and I trust that God will use memories of their time here in a special way.

(Maybe YOU or someone you know would like to come spend a few months with us like Anna and Alan did!)

Jay's highlight this summer was helping at the Christian Youth Academy camp. Our friends in the small town of Yarmolintsy have been leading a 2-year academy, which trains youth to become Christian leaders among their peers. Those who completed this program were treated to a week of camp on the Dniester River. Our summer intern, Alan, and Jay participated by providing English lessons during the camp. They were blessed to have a small part in preparing the youth to serve God and to attend their graduation (pictured below). We have been helping in the Yarmolintsy camps for 10 years now. It is so fun to see how young kids that came to Christ in earlier camps are now serving as leaders and workers to bring the next generation to Christ!



Some of you contributed financially to the Resurrection Church family camp. We want to share how God used that camp. Jay has been praying that our church here in Kyiv would become a missions-minded church. Thanks to the gifts from U.S. friends and churches, 85 people were able to attend. The theme was, "Mission Possible – God, His Church, and Our Needy World." During our 5 days, we had 15 sessions about missions, discussion groups and special presentations by the kids. The children's ministry also focused on missions. Teaching times included the Biblical mandate for missions from Genesis to Revelation, the history of missions, unreached peoples, the missions call, and testimonies from two young Ukrainian missionaries who have worked in China and Kenya. This was the first time that many in our church had learned about missions. We heard comments like, "I have heard about missions, but never knew any details about what it means." As a result, a friend of ours is planning to serve for two months in Nepal helping missionaries. Others have expressed interest in

going on a group mission trip. It will be interesting to see how God uses this camp in the life of our church. We believe that a church cannot be healthy while ignoring the Great Commission. Pray for Resurrection Church to become a healthy church.

Each year our SEND Ukraine team travels to a different place in Ukraine for a 5-day conference. This year we went to the Carpathian Mountains. The conference was a double blessing for us – spending time in mountains that look similar to East Tennessee and spending time with our teammates! In the ten years that we have been with SEND in Ukraine, we have said good-bye to at least 18 family units. Five families have joined us during that time. Three of those five transferred to Ukraine from other fields. The two other units are a young family and a couple about our age. This year two more families plan to return to the U.S. Please pray with our team for God's wisdom and guidance in how to face these changes.

As the season changes from summer to fall, so does our ministry. Jay is taking a more active role in SEND's mobilization of Ukrainians for cross-cultural ministry. He also hopes to be invited to teach some at Bible Colleges this fall. Judy continues to serve as the administrator of SEND's small language school for missionaries. One of our church's small groups meets in our home. And we are VERY excited that we received an invitation to be on the team that will represent SEND International at the Urbana Missions Conference at the end of December!

We had already planned a 3-week trip to Knoxville in November for routine doctor appointments, family Thanksgiving celebrations and doing other business like a few house repairs. After talking with our director, we have all agreed that we will extend our November visit and delay our return to Ukraine until after the Urbana Conference which will take place December 27-31 in St. Louis. We are still planning our time in the U.S., but we are considering adding a trip to Florida in December to visit supporters. So, we hope to see many of you in a few months!

Praise God that:

many children heard about Jesus at summer camps.

He supplies us with good health and energy for ministry.

on August 10th we celebrated 10 years in Ukraine!

our missionary language school got off to a good start.

we will celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary this month!

Pray that God will:

nourish the seeds of the Gospel that were sown and that many will come to know Him.

continue to bless us with good health and safety.

give us many more years here.

supply more students for our language school.

give us travelling mercies during our vacation from September 12th through the 21st.

We hope you enjoy the photos on the next page. More photos can be seen at

<https://www.facebook.com/JayinKiev/videos/10156646683576095/> and

<https://www.facebook.com/JayinKiev/videos/10156722753956095/>

Jay and Judy Francis, Kyiv Ukraine

Correspondence by e-mail:

jayjudyfrancis@gmail.com or judylynnfrancis@gmail.com

U.S. phone number 865-637-2150:

You can call us from early morning to early afternoon!

For Contributions:

SEND International P.O. Box 513 Farmington, MI 48332 (account 178948)



SEND Ukraine: healthy churches, passionate senders, global disciplemakers



EVERYONE learned how to make vareniki stuffed with potatoes. Most Americans know these by the Polish word pirogi.



One of the two camps in villages that Judy helped with



Our summer interns, Alan and Anna



Our church's summer camp for children. "Jesus - My Super Hero"



Resurrection Church Family camp attendees (above)
Judy sharing how we came to be missionaries (right)
Judy leading crafts (far right)

