

# PARTNERS IN MISSIONS

*"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." Philipians 1:4-5*



Today is March 20<sup>th</sup>, which is the Spring Equinox, or the first day of Spring for 2018. As I look out my office window, I see snow covering the ground and lots more coming down. We returned to Odessa on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. The flight was good and there were no delays, but our flight was the last flight into Odessa before the airport closed, three hours later due to heavy snow. After dropping us off at the airport in Atlanta, Sasha stayed to pick up a Ukrainian colleague who was flying in the next day. ... At least he thought he was flying in the next day. He spent the first night on a train out of Odessa because all flights were cancelled, the second night in Istanbul because of flight delays, and the third night in London because of missed connections. (His flight to the US, took approximately 70 hours.)

Upon arrival in Odessa, Ray had an intensive course in Church Growth. Although the snow was piled high outside, the buildings were warm and most students arrived without problems.

Ray's trip going to Armenia the following week was uneventful. But the return was delayed by 16 hours. The first delay was because of a sick passenger just before takeoff. Boarding for the connecting flight was delayed because of fog, then delayed again as we sat on the runway because of fog. Once we arrived over Odessa, the plane circled but was unable to land because of fog, so we flew back to Kiev with plans to try again the next morning. An additional six inches of snow fell in Kiev overnight, so that flight was delayed as well. We read in the Book of Acts, about Paul's trip to Rome and how a shipwreck delayed him by months. We thank God for modern transportation and communications that make missionary service easier than in the days of Paul.

***We would like to update you on our family.  
Without their love and support our work in Ukraine would be difficult.***

Ray's parents, Mary Jo and Thomas Trantham, are in their 70s, but remain active in the Waldron Street Christian Church where Pam's brother, Chuck Hassell is the minister.

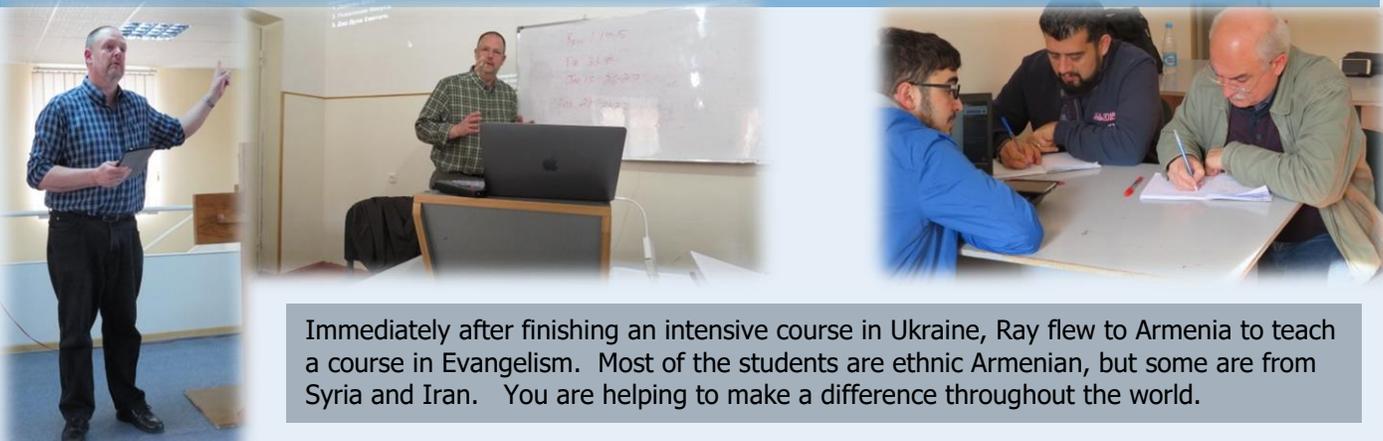
Pam's step mother, Sandra Hassell, is facing some health issues but remains a faithful member of the FCC in Baldwyn.

Regina, Sasha, Emily and Evelynna Kyrylov live in Ukraine and serve as missionaries under the name "Hearts 4 Ukraine."

Rena, Derrel, Joseph, and Ashely Deroche live in Hattiesburg. Rena is music director for the Learning Depot and Derrel is a craftsman in the area.



Sasha pulls Emily and Evelynna home from school on the sled. On the same day, Rena wrote and said they had their air-conditioner on in Hattiesburg. Although Ukrainian schools were recently closed because of an outbreak of the measles, "snow" is rarely a reason to close schools.



Immediately after finishing an intensive course in Ukraine, Ray flew to Armenia to teach a course in Evangelism. Most of the students are ethnic Armenian, but some are from Syria and Iran. You are helping to make a difference throughout the world.

Tax-deductible contributions:  
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