

WE HAVE FINALLY MOVED IN



Hi Family and Friends:

We hope and pray that you are doing well!

We want to share our great joy with you! Finally, our big project (that lasted for almost 3 years) is over. We have finally moved into our new home, which we own. It's truly a fantastic feeling. We've been here for just a little over a month now, and we love it so much. It's cozy, it's warm, it's quiet, and it is just the right size for us and in a great location. Of course, we need to add some details and finish things outside, and we are completing them little by little. We want to offer a BIG THANK YOU to each of you for being a BIG part of this process.

We started moving our stuff slowly in early October, and we moved into our house on November 1st. We are enjoying our new home and having our own space and yard where Emma can run and play. It is quiet and peaceful here. We already met our neighbor, and she is very friendly and really excited to have us live next to her. It's taking some time to adjust



to living in a house after living in an apartment for many years. There is a lot to learn about maintaining a home, for example, but we are so blessed to have our own house and space. God is good, and we are blessed!

Russia has been hitting Ukraine's electrical and gas infrastructure. So, for the last three weeks, we have been experiencing power outages, especially in Kyiv; and other parts of Ukraine have not even had water for half-day

periods. We have been warned to charge our power banks and to get ready for a bad winter, as we could have months of power outages before spring. Please pray for us and Ukraine and for this war to end. We are coming to year 4 of this war, and during every winter, some springs, and some summers, we have had power outages. We are tired and worn out of these issues. Sadly, it's becoming normal for us. But we are called here and are otherwise blessed to be living here in this nation.

A couple of weeks ago, we got to host a military chaplain from the USA. He came to visit us and to check what ministry we were doing here in Ternopil and Ukraine. We took him with us during visits to a couple of hospitals in Ternopil and the surrounding region; there, we visited wounded soldiers, asked how they got injured, and prayed with them for themselves and their families. Most of the injuries were from drone attacks. Most of them are wounded in the legs, arms, and hands. Many of them have leg and/or arm brackets with screws, as their limbs were severely injured. It is sad what this war has done to innocent people in this country; many of them had regular jobs, like carpenters, delivery guys, etc.



We also visited a widow who lost her husband a couple of months ago in the war. Sadly, there is no compensation for her husband's death. She is renting a one-room apartment and has a seven-year-old daughter. We visited them and delivered food to them. Our chaplains here in Ukraine are helping the woman and her daughter and are going to many hospitals in our region and visiting and caring for wounded soldiers.

November 19th was a terrible day for us. Our city, Ternopil, was hit by several rockets, and within a 1-kilometer radius, twenty-nine people died and over ninety people were severely injured, including 16 children. Several apartment buildings were hit by those rockets. Many families don't have a home now. One big apartment building was totally burned down, and another is half gone, so 260 families don't have a home to go to. Churches and Christian organizations like YWAM Ternopil have prepared beds and food for families that need a place to stay.



(Oksana) We've stated before that our home will be important in our ministry. Our greatest desire is to bless people through our gift of hospitality. This month, we were able to host fifteen adults and eleven children. These people included our friends, family, neighbors from our last place, people from church, people from our YWAM base, and even some "random" people. We would like to share a little bit about those random people.



One of our base leaders, Yaroslav, was drafted into the army; he is working in Ternopil, mostly with foreign soldiers, as an interpreter and document manager, checking backgrounds and the like. Knowing about our love for hospitality, he asked if we would be open to spending some time with some of the foreigners, and we said, "Of course, we would love to do that." We didn't know anything about these people; we just knew that one was from the Faroe Islands and the other was from the States. As we ate some Ukrainian food and listened to the stories of these two young men, we went through a lot of emotions. Some of the stories brought us almost to a feeling of despair, but we told them, "Believe and know that God has the best plans and intentions for our country (for any country really), and we are praying for it to be fulfilled. God is the God of hope and light even in the midst of such a mess and darkness. It was hard to believe that these young guys had already gone through so much. The guys were very open about their experiences, and we felt very comfortable with them. It was exciting when we asked the guy from the USA what had brought him to Ukraine to fight for our country. He said, "After the Budapest memorandum (an agreement signed in 1994 by four nuclear powers, including the U.S, to provide security assurances to Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine after they gave up their nuclear stockpiles) was signed, eventually all the countries bailed out on Ukraine, and the USA was one of them." But he felt that he wanted to fulfill that promise – an admirable act. In the very end, before they left, we prayed for them and their safety. We are still in brief touch with them and are still praying for them.

Thank you for your financial support, prayers, and for helping our dream come true: owning our own home and continuing our ministry using it. We are enjoying it now. Thank you, thank you.

Rosen, Oksana & Emma :-)