April, 2021

**Our Plans for the Future:**

We would like to tell you about one of our dreams. We believe that God is telling us to put down roots in Ukraine for the long-term, to buy a house in which we can start a family and host groups in our missionary efforts. We’ve both had this wish/desire/dream – to have a house - for a long time already, way before we got married July 2017, and we now believe that God has set the timing for now. Maybe some of you are thinking: what is the big deal about having your own place, you don't have to really dream about, it's pretty doable. But let me tell you, when you are growing up in an orphanage or Soviet Communist country, having your own place is almost equivalent to going to space.

Growing up it is not that I, Oksana, didn't have my own room, and I didn’t even have my own little corner. Since I was two years old my family lived in a small studio apartment. And there were 6 of us (my mom, dad, my two older brothers and my grandma). After 6 years of living like that we got a 3-bedroom apartment from the government. I had to share my room with my grandma for a long time. But in a while, both of my brothers got married and had kids, so at one point there were 10 of us in that space. I remember sometimes sleeping on the floor in the living room with my parents sleeping on a couch. In these kinds of almost desperate moments, I was opening my heart to God and to dream about someday having my own place or even a house. Later when I became a missionary, I was always renting some place with other roommates

Rosen grew up in an orphanage in Bulgaria, and the orphanage was in terrible condition, where there were 10 kids in one room. For 13 years he did not have anything that would belong to him. So, as a little boy he dreamed about family and his own house. He was adopted at age of 13 and he did have his own small room with his new family and home in Minnesota, but it wasn’t for long. As he felt God's call to missions, he now had to share his living space with numerous roommates.

Renting in the long term we see as not very good stewardship of the money that God has entrusted to us. Thinking about all this finances that we spent renting we could invest in our own place. But: "there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens" So, now we feel like (God is leading us) this is the time for us to think about investing in our own place. It is very scary to both of us, but we believe and trust God will give us wisdom in this all process. We want our place/apartment/house to be a blessing to us but also to so many more. Because hospitality is a big part of Ukrainian culture, our home will always be where ministry happens.  We would like to invite you to this journey of faith along with us with your thoughts and prayers.

So, we both dreamed and prayed about our own living space for a long time, even long before we met. Now we are married for almost 4 years. All this time we are renting a place from our friend’s parents. The owners of this apartment lived in the States for a while, but now they decided to come back to Ukraine for good. So, we see this time as a good time to invest in something of our own. We think that by faith God is leading us toward that dream of ours. It is very scary, but as someone says: “if your dreams don’t scare you, it means you don’t dream big enough” it is scary but we believe it is opportunity to trust and rely on God.

WE BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING AND LEADING US TO EXPANDING OUR MINISTRY AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST WITH OUR OWN HOUSE/HOME.