

Ukraine Update

January 28, 2010



"Surgery again?" Yes, Brenda will be undergoing surgery to fuse the 3rd and 4th cervical vertebrae in her neck on Monday, February 1st. The operation will be done in Wenatchee and will once again require that she be in a neck brace for 6-8 weeks and not travel for at least 4 months. As always, it's been difficult being apart. However, I'll be flying to the states this Saturday, January 30 to rejoin her. My plans are to return to Ukraine again on March 6th. Then, hopefully in June sometime, she'll be ready to travel and I'll go back and get her (so that she doesn't have to travel back to Ukraine alone).

Thank you so much for your love and prayers for Brenda. If you would like to send her a card her mailing address in Wenatchee is: P.O. Box 5602, Wenatchee, WA 98807.



As you might imagine, over the past months we've been re-assessing a number of things, not the least of which is how much longer should we stay in Ukraine. After much prayer, thought and discussion with our mission, we decided that the time has come to begin transitioning back to living in America. Our goal is to complete this transition by September sometime. We will however, continue on as FM missionaries through the end of 2010 utilizing the last 4 months of the year speaking and sharing with supporters and supporting churches on what is called "Home Assignment".



Our plans are to relocate in the Wenatchee area but a large part of our hearts will remain with the people in Ukraine. A proposal is being considered that would allow us to make 1 to 2 short trips/year back to Ukraine to encourage and pray with those nationals whom God has raised up to carry on the work. We rejoice in how HE has been drawing some very special people to serve Him.

Remember this young couple? Their names are Misha and Lena Petrochenko. God has been actively drawing them to Himself and it has been so wonderful to observe. Last week Lena wrote, "We have made some changes in our lives. We've made a very important decision in our lives – to follow God! We had got a strong feeling that we also want that God would change our lives forever. We realized a very strong desire in our hearts to get to know God more and more. Frankly speaking we really need a wisdom during this transition time especially.. as

for me I had some doubts – frankly speaking- but Misha never did! I am talking about quit his job and stuff.. but now when I look at him I can see a peace and God's love and it's the best thing I can ever feel!!!!" (*Note: recently Misha decided to change jobs so that he'd have more time to serve God.*)

How we thank God for this young couple who's hearts have been set afire for God. Thank you for praying for them. Please continue to pray for their spiritual growth.

Blessed be the Name of our Lord!

Greg (for Brenda and I)