

## **LVIV, UKRAINE visit 24th June -1<sup>st</sup> August August 2025**

Dear Fellow believers,

From the 24th of June until the 1st of August, Agnes and I made a visit to Lviv, Ukraine. The purpose of the visit was to continue the spread of the Gospel in different aspects of the work there and to encourage the Christians and to visit many personal contacts that we have built up over the last 15 years. We had the joy of meeting with the believers in the Lviv assembly and remembering the Lord on 5 Lord's Days. Although the assembly is numerically weak, we were amazed by their strength of faith and worship. I enjoyed the opportunity to minister from the Scriptures of Truth and encourage the saints in these dark days of war.

Unfortunately, during the 5 weeks we experienced air raid sirens many times both day and night - it certainly was very eerie and a little unsettling. It very much improved our "prayer life" and our trust in God for His preservation and protection. The poor population of Ukraine have suffered and endured this for 3.5 years. We do recall on two separate Friday nights two significant drone attacks on the city of Lviv. It was quite alarming to hear the distinct sound of the drones passing overhead en-route to their target and then to listen to the sound of explosions. Thankfully on both occasions there was no injuries or fatalities but a lot of damage.

It was a great joy to visit 6 different orphanages and to speak to the boys and girls and the many carers and teachers in these institutions, the Gospel of God. We also had a time of singing and with brother Ruslan's help to teach them the Scriptures and trust that the Holy Scriptures will make them wise unto salvation.

We enjoyed two visits to the "homeless shelter" in the city centre and on both occasions, we had over 40 men and women who were ready to spend the night in the shelter. It was a lovely opportunity to open the Bible and to read God's Word and preach a short message in the Gospel. After this we distributed hot dogs, chocolate biscuits, fresh fruit, coffee and tea. All these dear people had been on the "street" all day and had refuge in the shelter only until 8am the next morning.

With the weather very good and temperatures more than +30 C on two separate occasions we went to the Carpathian Mountains. It was very precious to have 20 people on the side of the road in the village at Holivets and to preach on the golden text "**Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners**". After the meeting we emptied the van of 10 large boxes of second-hand clothes and each family went home with a full bag of groceries.

On a second visit to Carpatia we made a stop with dear Yarislava a lady who had been saved many years ago and met with her daughter and grandson. Again, we had the joy of reading to her Psalm 23 and encouraging her in the Lord and the work of the Great shepherd of the sheep. We then went another 20 miles and had a Gospel meeting in a field beside a big shed. On this occasion both Ruslan and I spoke, and the gathering of over 30 people listened carefully and as Ruslan spoke, I noticed a few women with tears in their eyes, visibly moved by the message. We also shared second hand clothes, and 25 families again went home with good full bag of groceries.

On 4 Tuesday's of the 5 weeks visit we went South to Ivano-Frankivsk and shared in the Gospel in that needy city. We were very encouraged with the numbers who attended those meetings. Our hope and our prayer is that God would move in Holy Ghost power as His Word is preached that sinners might respond and believe the message and take Christ to be their personal Saviour.

Another visit was made to the town of Drohobish and to the general hospital where we had a good time with the mothers, children and staff of the Mothers Centre. We trust God will richly bless His Word.

On 3 of the Saturdays, we were in Lviv we went to Sosnivska and again had a time of singing and learning verses with both old and young and preached the Gospel. We have no doubt our responsibility is to sow the seed, water it with our prayers and look to God to bring the increase. Salvation is of the Lord!

Six years ago, at the orphanage Lviv No.1 a new director was appointed who asked us not to come any more with the Gospel message as she had a statue of "Mary" that they could pray to for help

and so the *door closed* at that time!! We decided to go back with some knitted clothes by the sisters in N Ireland and took lots of fresh fruit and yoghurts, caviar and bread for the children. As we approached this situation nervously to our great surprise another new director had taken over and received us with open arms and we were able to see the children and meet with many of the staff... God in His grace has **opened up this opportunity to bring the Gospel to these dear souls.**

We valued sincerely the prayers and support of so many before and during our visit. We also bow humbly with thanksgivings for God's mercy, protection and grace in bringing us home safely!

Because of HIM,

Edmund&Agnes  
Edmund & Agnes.

**I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.  
Psalm 121:1&2**