## **Bob & Carol Marsh Mission Update**

For the safety and security of our team, please do not post this information to any website or broadcast in any way!

## Hello, dear praying friends!

We are so grateful to you for your prayers and financial support that make our ministry in Europe and the Mediterranean Region possible. Our work centers on helping locally led gospel movements reach their own people and neighboring peoples. Here are a few quick updates of how God is granting us opportunities to further the gospel across the region.

**UKRAINE:** Of course, when we think of Europe these days, Ukraine is where our minds first turn. Our meeting with church leaders in Lviv last month emphasized several specific areas of great need. 1) The approaching winter will find many without adequate cold-weather clothing, and the government warns of shortages of heating fuel. 2) Many pastors have been displaced or drafted into military service. There are perhaps 1,000 pastors needed across the land. Many who have stayed have little support, as people have lost jobs, costs have risen, and offerings have all but disappeared. In other cases, lay leaders have stepped up to fill the role of pastor

since their pastor was drafted into the military, left with their family, or were killed or wounded. We are working to connect churches, families, in the USA who would be willing to help pastors and their families. 3) The lay leaders need training and support. We are working with the Baptist Union of Ukraine to help equip and support them as they "stand in the gap." 4) We're working to support

church planting across Europe among the displaced Ukrainians in places like Estonia, Germany, Poland, etc.

**RUSSIA:** When we think of the war, we obviously think of the other side of the conflict, Russia. We've been working with the evangelical church there for years, and the work continues. One example is our continuing efforts to engage the deaf population. The development of a Russian Sign Language (RSL) Bible translation, and materials to train pastors, leaders, children's workers and church planters would not only impact this marginalized segment of Russia, it would have impact in the many nations who use RSL. These include Eastern Europe and Central Asian nations (the "Stans"). We're also working to equip and encourage pastors and church planters across Russia. Pray for us as we continue to work with leaders there in very difficult times!

**ESTONIA:** We've provided coaching to a group of missionaries to Russia who are unable to enter the country. They are headed to eastern Estonia where they will minister to the 97% Russian-speaking population along the border, while they await the chance to return to Russia.

**ROMANIA:** We are connected to a local businessman in Southern Romania who has been used by God to plant a church and lead it. He's got a great vision for developing leaders, planting churches, and seeing his nation transformed by the power of the gospel!

In addition, we're working with gospel movements in Egypt, Sweden, Germany, Israel, and more!

**PERSONAL NOTE:** We are aware that these days are financially difficult for many of us. We've had a number of loving supporters who've had to reduce or end their support, and we understand that times are hard. We're currently about \$1,000/month short in our account that pays our salary, benefits, and ministry expenses. Would you please pray about whether God would have you join us in this ministry? Every gift of any size helps us in our work to see local gospel movements among least-reached people groups!



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