



Return to the ends of the earth

Dec. 2019



An interesting thing happens after studying a language – in my case, Russian – for over 30 years. You can actually read it! I was surprised on our recent second trip to Tbilisi, [Georgia](#) that I was able to read a text in Old Church Slavonic which is like Gothic Middle English script. The man in this icon is [Sergii Radonezhski](#), and his inscription says, “Children, remember the ceaselessly unknown and tremulous hour of death.”

As we return to what the early church considered, the “ends of the earth,” I am intrigued at the remnants of truth still found in ancient churches and engraved on pillars of stone. These men wanted people to grapple with the truth of eternity, but this call now goes unheeded as tourists observe the beauty of history while oblivious to the message of history.

As usual, I will not mention the names of our fellow missionaries because they serve in sensitive locations, but here you see the wonderful faces of teams from Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. On this trip we met with my counterpart from the Philippines, Michael Paderes, and we finalized the transfer of these missionary church plants from Asia to Europe. This was a strategic realignment within our ministry because these teams sent from Asia had expanded across so much territory that they were now practically within the European sphere.



Our next steps will be to bring our missionary, church planting, and campus ministry resources as close to the field as we can. This means we hope to eventually raise up nationals to lead these churches and plant new churches, and to do this we need to equip them in their own languages. In

short, we will be sending more reports from these regions, and if you take a look at this map, you will see the opportunities to reach neighboring restricted-access nations. In fact, there are already first fruits from this endeavor.



Just before this trip, we were in Timisoara, Romania working on that church plant project with the local team, and I will visit Germany next week to serve with local church planters and pastors there to strategize on how their ministries can take the next steps in attaining a renewed vitality that will bless their cities and reach their campuses. These leaders have stood strong against rapid secularization, and they are undaunted in believing that their nations can be reached.

On the home front, our daughters, Abigail and Rebecca, will visit for Christmas, then Rebecca will head to Belfast for her missions internship. We are very grateful for all of you who stand with us, and we pray that you have a blessed Christmas with your loved ones. God bless,

Mike and Myra

Prayer Requests

1. Strength and grace for our travels
2. New financial partners for our expanded ministry
3. Team development for projects in Romania, the Caucasus, and Prague
4. Peace for Ukraine & Georgia

Join Our Partnership Team!

Mail support to:

Global Impact Resources
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