



Speed bump

July 2022 Update

I recently used the example of speed bumps in a message and illustrated their wisdom and humor. There is usually a sign that says, “slow down, speed bump ahead,” with another sign pointing down to the florescent speed bump. Nevertheless, the scrapes on the road indicate that cars hit the bumps at full speed, to the surprise of the airborne passengers.

I figuratively hit my own speed bump several months ago when we discovered through a routine physical exam and tests that I have early-stage prostate cancer. Although this has affected our summer plans to be in Europe, my doctor sees no reason to delay our goal to move to Prague by January 2023, and I also have a trip planned for this fall. The good news is that my outlook is excellent with minimal treatment. Nevertheless, this has been a humbling and sobering experience, and we are thankful for the prayers and support of many as we continue on our journey. What is the moral of the speed bump example? Get a checkup!



Pastors Oleg & Igor from Ukraine



Our central Europe team

It has been an eventful first half to 2022, to say the least, with the war in Ukraine and resourcing our teams there to bring in critical supplies for the millions of displaced people. Our churches in Poland and Ukraine are constantly adapting to the changing refugee needs, including providing children’s summer camps for those they assist long-term. Please continue to stand with our brothers and sisters in prayer and with resources as they remain beacons of help and hope in the darkest circumstances. [CLICK HERE TO SUPPORT RELIEF EFFORTS.](#)

A recent ministry highlight was our Build Conference in Krakow, Poland, last May for all our Europe pastors. It was the first time we had all seen each other since the beginning of Covid. Pastors Oleg and Igor were able to leave Ukraine to attend, and we were all encouraged by their powerful testimonies.



To Putin from Prague!



With our Prague team on the tram

So, what comes after speed bumps and during wars? In our case, we are using this summer to finish up writing some training curriculums we have both been developing for our ministry, and I will focus on partnership development, team recruiting, and setting up our visas for Prague. Myra is also continuing her Ph.D. studies and providing valuable research on how we can better reach Europe's multi-religious and secular contexts. Finally, we continue to stand with Ukraine until our friends achieve a secure peace, and we embrace the brutal truth and commitment that it will take a generation to rebuild.

We are very grateful for your partnership and prayer in all that we do, and I greatly appreciate your continued prayers as I trust God for complete healing. Blessings! Mike & Myra

Join Our Partnership Team!

Mail support to:

Global Impact Resources
Attn: Mike & Myra Watkins
P.O. Box 3012 Greenville, NC 27836

Note: Michael Watkins acct# 101

Contact

cell: 919-348-3884

mike.watkins@everynation.org

Prayer Requests

1. Peace and security for Ukraine
 2. New monthly partnerships
 3. Mike's health and upcoming travels
 4. New team members and visas for Prague
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