



### Bless the Lord

### October 2022 Update

I begin each day with a strong cup of coffee and Psalm 103 which reminds us not to forget any of God's benefits, and yes, healing is one of those benefits. I have three devotional times per day, but not because I must "fill my tank" for my ministry load. I do so because this enables me to proclaim with the psalmist, "Bless the Lord, my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name." (Psalm 103:1)

But I also need to stay full of faith and truth because of the obstacles we face. My first phase of treatment for prostate cancer began in August, and I had my first radiation treatment today. Thankfully, I can still work – I have slight fatigue – and my treatment will end before Christmas, allowing us to continue with our Prague plans. I greatly appreciate your words of encouragement and prayers.



My local pastor, Aaron Rooks, praying with me at the hospital



The machine (it wasn't too scary)

In the midst of it all, we are both very involved with education and equipping. I met with my friend, Tom Jackson, last month in the US rather than traveling to Scotland, and we worked on curriculum development for our Europe School of Ministry. I lead the church planter training, and we will have our residential week for European students in Krakow, Poland, in February 2023. I am also preparing a teaching on cross-cultural discipleship, which will assist our missionary planters and campus ministers in understanding new contexts.

My Doctor of Ministry classes are going well, and I meet with my dissertation coach this week to nail down my topic and map out my field research over the next three years. Myra's Ph.D. studies are also going well, and she recently presented a paper in a colloquium on hybrid education for seminaries based on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's seminary vision. We continue to pioneer in Europe but are also transitioning to training the next generation of missionary church planters.



Myra presenting at Asbury Seminary's Advanced Research Programs Interdisciplinary Colloquium



My Doctor of Ministry online class, almost 30 students from around the world.

Many European churches are enjoying a post-Covid evangelistic thrust, and we are already planning for an outreach team to come to Prague in 2023. Please pray for us as we research several visa options, plan our move, and raise support.

Also, continue to stand with our friends in Ukraine. The Ukrainian army is winning on the field, but Putin is weaponizing winter by destroying the Ukrainian power grid and heating infrastructure. Winter will be brutal, and our churches are preparing to help those in need.

Thanks for standing with us, and we would love to hear from you. God bless! Mike & Myra

### Join Our Partnership Team!

Mail support to:

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Note: Michael Watkins acct# 101

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### Prayer Requests

1. Peace and security for Ukraine
2. New monthly partnerships
3. Mike's health: energy, better sleep, and complete healing
4. New team members and visas for Prague

