

## Summary of Ukraine 2020 Mission Trip

On October 8, 2020 we departed for Ukraine and some forty hours later we arrived tired but thrilled to finally be back in Ukraine. Clearing customs and immigration, took time because of all the paperwork to take a Covid-19 test. When we finished, Taras, an incredible young man we have known for several years, met us outside the airport. We had a lengthy layover, so we asked if we could visit with the children he works with as their youth minister and enjoyed the time we spent with them!

When we left, he took us to the train station so we could catch the train to Kramatorsk. The trains have finally been renewed inside. Our compartment was really nice and as comfortable as we could be (while trying to sleep on a very narrow bed that is moving). In Kramatorsk, Vlad and Oksana met us at the train station. They took us to the church building where we stayed, and Kate was there waiting for us. It was so good to see these wonderful friends!

We both got a shower and changed clothes before going to lunch. Shortly after returning from lunch we received the results from our Covid-19 test which was negative and that released us from any restrictions for movement in Ukraine. We took a nap then visited with any who came by the church building.

Sunday I preached and taught Bible class in Kramatorsk. We spent most weekdays teaching either adults or children at three congregations, depending on the day and class schedule. Each of us averaged about three lessons a day. We taught a wide range of topics and let



*Original part of monastery*

the teachers suggest what we would cover in class. Some days it was easy. Other days it was more difficult because the language barrier made it hard to understand what was being asked. Once we understood the question, we were able to help them. The following Sunday I preached in Konstantinovka and Ava taught the children.

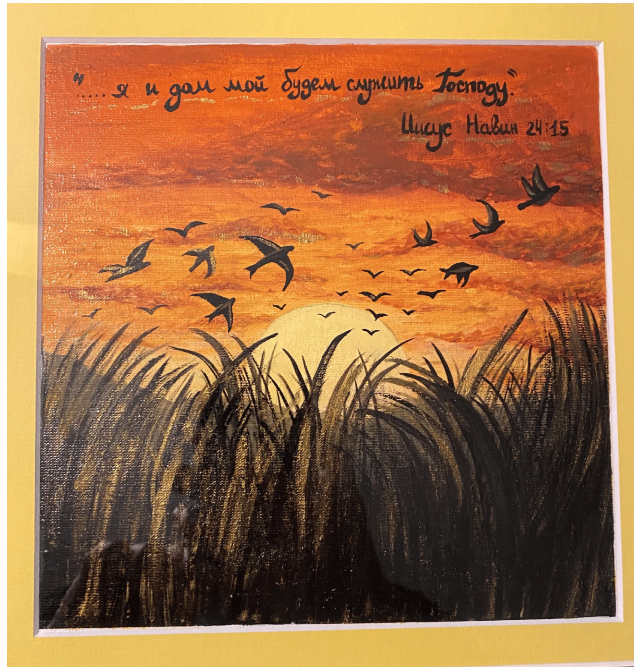
In addition to our teaching schedule, we visited with some members who have long term illnesses and assisted with several benevolence and other financial needs. We

were successful in helping Oleg, the preacher in Konstantinovka, purchase an automobile. We assisted the church in Kramatorsk purchase equipment that was needed to help keep the school safe for students and teachers. It helps the parents of students feel better about letting their children attend classes.

On Sunday afternoon, October 25, 2020, we departed Kramatorsk for Kyiv. Taras met us as we got off the train. He took us to get something to eat and then to the airport. We waited four hours before we could check in for



*Statue of Artum overlooking the valley*



*Painting by Masha a young lady in Kramatorsk  
the Verse is Joshua 24:15b*

In His Service  
Scott & Ava Dutton

our first of three flights. We landed in Wichita on Monday, October 26, at 7:35 p.m. central time. Jimmy and Pat picked us up and we got home safely about 9:30 p.m. (just before the ice storm hit).

I'm sure I have left out many details but if you are receiving this you also received our detailed daily reports. If you have specific questions, please feel free to ask. We love to talk about Ukraine.

Ava and I have decided this will be our last trip abroad because of health reasons. I know many my age still travel but we have circumstances that will prevent us from going in the future. Our love for the people there and our desire to help has not diminished in any degree. We will continue to do what we can from here for as long as God permits.

This was the best mission trip we have ever made. We left with tears in our eyes and our hearts full of love. To God be the Glory!