



# The Update

Ukrainian Orthodox Church

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## More Good News from Ukraine

In the far reaches of eastern Ukraine, God is using several leaders who have a vision to reach their communities and city. ICM is working with five key leaders and their teams. Their ministries include new church plants and the realignment of vision of several existing churches. Phil was just with Maxym (the MCNet local ministry coach in the area) in March. Together with his wife, they oversee a ministry to displaced/dysfunctional families. It is exciting to see Max and Anya plant a new church that has formed as a result of this ministry.

In March, Phil spent a week with Max and the leaders of these various ministries, equipping them as they use ICM's MCNet materials to encourage other emerging servant leaders. The goal is to see existing ministries renewed in vision and new ministries initiated. Vladimir is one of those pastors (as well as being a professor in the local Seminary). He sent the following email after one of Phil's recent trips:



Jakov (3<sup>rd</sup> from Right) and team



Vladimir & Phil

Dear Phil,

*Greetings from Zaporozhye. Just wanted to say "hi" and thank you for coming to Ukraine. Your visit was very helpful for me personally and our church. It's a privilege to have a "professional alongside" who would occasionally take a look at what is actually going on and encourage for further development. Thank you! I used your advise within the last few months and it was a blessing and encouragement for our church. I used your material on "Developing Others 1" and "Leadership Foundations" with our: 1. Church deacons/brother's council, 2. Team leaders and their team members / people who are serving in the church. We will continue to discuss the materials before your next visit.*

*It will be great to have you back with us,*

*Vladimir*

In addition to the interest in using our leadership and other ministry team resources in Ukraine, they are looking forward to having our new Discipleship materials (a one year program to help believers disciple a new follower of Jesus) translated into Russian. Thank you for considering a special donation for our translation projects this year into Russian, French, and Spanish.



Maxym with other teams

# EXPANDING THE MINISTRY THRU THE PRINTED PAGE

At a missions conference earlier this year, Phil met a missionary working in Kenya, close to where the Jeske's used to live in western Kenya in the early 1990s. At the conference, Phil passed on the manual that was written while living in Berlin in the early 2000s. Over the last 15+ years it has been

used to equip leaders to develop emerging leaders through a relational process (*Mentoring thru Intentional Relationships*, 2003, 2013). A few weeks after the conference in Canada, Phil received the following email from this missionary who had since returned to Kenya:

*Hey Dr Phil,*

*I am so indebted to you for blessing me with this awesome tool – Mentoring thru Intentional Relationships.*

*I've been going through it this past while- I read a bunch of it during my 48 hour trip back to Kenya ...but once I got home and settled, I really dug in to see the way forward with it.*

*I had my first hour and a half session this morning with six of my leaders ....so powerful ...so wonderful and so exactly what I needed for my ministry. Phil, you have blessed me and helped me so much through your generosity ....giving me this awesome, helpful tool.*

*I gave them all a summarized intro of 1-4 with 3 chapters each... today – we only managed page 1 as there was so much discussion. What I saw was a great beginning....in that, through the side questions probing into our personalities ...we all got so much closer to each other and we already are a very close group of leaders.*

*But this helped break down things in such an open and honest, vulnerable way. We each got to see each other's weaknesses and challenges in our own personalities which was so extremely helpful for us to develop even deeper interpersonal relationships. I could go on and on.*

*At the end of our session – I asked if it was helpful to anyone ...they all raved about how much it already helped them and how they truly love the format of this methodology to help us in every area of our lives as believers, leaders & children of God. Everyone was so very blessed, so happy to participate. I'm so so grateful.*

*I can see this format is proven and works very well and am anticipating great things for the future of our leadership, mentoring program. I welcome any input you may have.*

*Buckets of blessings,  
Greg*



## NEW DISCIPLESHIP MATERIALS

We have begun to introduce our new *Discipling thru Intentional Relationships* with our various ministry coaches in the Network. As was mentioned in the last Update, this material is designed to help someone grow as a believer, while our

Mentoring Guides (see above) are intended to help someone grow as a leader.

Those using the English versions are providing encouraging feedback, but we have now begun the translation into other languages. After reading Guide 1, a pastor in Canada, who had been thinking of starting a new work in his town, realized that this relational approach to discipling was exactly what he had been looking for. Though

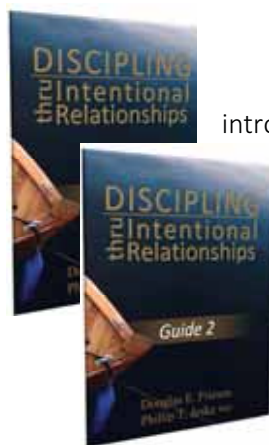
*... this Guide can be easily used cross culturally and cross denominationally, which makes it even more valuable. I am really thankful to Doug and Phil for their efforts in putting this material together and for helping the Church of today to focus on developing not just programs, but people – from new converts to church leaders.*

*Maxym, Church Planter,  
Multiply Ukraine, E. Europe*

an experienced church planter and pastor, this material rekindled

his passion for discipleship and provided a way forward for him to begin a new ministry in his community.

The feedback we have received over the years is what motivated us to write these discipleship materials based upon a relational approach that Jesus modeled. Thank you for your continued support for the translation into Russian, Spanish and French so that we can provide these to believers around the world in their own language. Our translation budget for this year is approximately \$15-20,000.



# GLOBAL FORUM IN LATIN AMERICA

Carlos and Raydel continue to provide training for the leaders in their network in Dominican Republic and Cuba. However, their vision includes providing leadership training throughout Latin America. Recently they were in Puerto Rico and

Panama with leaders across region, sharing with national leaders how we can provide training for their leadership. Phil will be joining Carlos, Javier and the Cuban team in June to continue with the training in that country.

## *Greetings from Puerto Rico!*

*This weekend we were in Puerto Rico fulfilling an invitation from NALEC (National Latin Evangelical Coalition). This visit had the main purpose of knowing more closely the reality of the churches on the Island after the passage of Hurricane Mary, after losing a large percentage of their active leadership after this natural phenomenon; as well as exploring the hunger of the churches for the Word and the need to prepare new leaders in the churches and local works.*

*On our trip we had the opportunity to participate and introduce the K242 Network [the Latin American affiliate of MCNet Intl., which was an initiative of ICM Canada.] There was a meeting of missions and district directors of the AoG Churches who are in charge of coordinating the missionary work of the Region as well as a meeting of interdenominational leaders promoted by NALEC where we presented the program to more than 100 leaders of different churches, some of who were very interested and open to continue walking in a relationship with K242 and to examine more thoroughly the tools that we offer in the area of leadership development.*

*In addition to these activities, we had other meetings with pastors the capital and with the City to City representative, who asked K242 [MCNet] to join in a fellowship relationship in the training of their planters in the Caribbean, Latin America and Florida. We ask everyone to pray that God will prosper in his will and his time the extension of K242 to this beautiful and needed Caribbean Island for the benefit of the Church of Christ.*

*Raydel*



*Raydel (far left) with leaders in Puerto Rico*

## *Greetings from Panama City!*

*I sent this email to inform you of what happened this week in Panama where our Network of Mentoring and Discipleship was invited to a global forum of leaders in Latin America.*

*In this event, where about 100 key leaders from various evangelical networks of Latin America met, we had the opportunity to present our experience, values and the tools with which we are able to contribute to the development of leadership in the local Church.*

*Many leaders have been interested in what we do and we ask you to please pray for God to guide us towards those who share our vision of the development of leaders and would like to walk together in the K242 Network.*

*Thank you for being part of what happened today.*

*Raydel*



*Sharing with leaders in Panama (left) & in Puerto Rico (lower pic)*



## **Around the Corner**

**MAY:** Rafik and Phil will be back in Tanzania to follow up the training there.

**JUNE:** Phil will be joining Carlos (from DR) to do leadership training in Cuba.

**AUGUST:** MCNet Coaches' Consultation, Wittenberg-Lutherstadt, Germany. Equipping and encouraging of key leaders in Network from Russia, Ukraine, Europe, North America, Latin America and Africa.

### Our Mission

*Serving the church by mentoring and coaching ministry teams.*

### Our Purpose

Our goal is to see another generation equipped so that they may be relevant witnesses in their culture. We accomplish this through mentoring leaders, coaching and consulting with ministry teams, and providing culturally relevant materials that facilitate this process.

### Accountability

ICM is an interdenominational non-profit charity registered in both Canada and the USA. It is a faith mission and supported by free-will donations of those of like vision.

ICM adheres to the WEF & Lausanne Covenants statements of faith and takes an evangelical approach to Scripture.

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### ICM, CANADA

34181 - 17790 #10 Hwy  
Surrey, BC V3S 8C4  
604.614-4473

### ICM, USA

P.O. Box 129  
Monument, CO 80132  
661.832-9740

### E-mail

office@icmcanada.org

[www.icmcanada.org](http://www.icmcanada.org)



# From My Desk



**Phil Jeske, PhD**  
President

Well in June of this year it will be 30 years since we began ICM in Canada (originally, *Global Outreach Association*). We first spent a couple years in Africa and then, after returning to Canada for a few years, relocated to Berlin to facilitate leadership training in Eastern Europe.

As I reflect on those early days in Africa, I have been thinking about the many changes that have happened since then. In those "good 'ol days" there was no internet, no email . . . no instant access. Phone calls were expensive and almost unheard of, getting a fax (remember those?) was an event.

Obviously, there have been a few changes in our family also. Our daughter, Alysia, is now in her early thirties, has a degree in Science and serves her clients as a Speech Language Pathologist and Vocologist. As for Nancy and I, we look like we have just gotten thirty years older!

As I think about the mission and the results of all these efforts over the years, I sometimes wonder if after three decades of leadership training if we have even made a dent in the need? I would like to think that we have made a difference within our sphere of influence, but to say that the task is accomplished would be a bit of a stretch.

The work in Africa is being led by local Africa leaders and it is exciting to see the Church in Africa continue to grow. During this time there has also been a massive change in Eastern Europe. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, many came to Christ in Eastern Europe. But today things are a bit more complex as some countries again have more repressive regimes and church growth has slowed. At the same time, as some of these countries have adopted more *western* values, the Gospel message has been drowned out and the focus on making disciples has become diluted.

Our ministry, which began in Africa and then transitioned to Eastern Europe, has in the last fifteen years also expanded into Latin America, with some forays into China and Asia. We have continued to develop leadership materials in various languages and have seen a movement of leaders committed to servanthood, training other leaders within our Ministry Coaching Network (MCNet).

As I look back at all the changes in the last thirty years, one thing that has not changed is our commitment to training the next generation of leaders (though we are now closer to the "older" generation than the younger one!). Though our vision and purpose has not change, our strategies and methodology obviously need to continually adapt in order to fulfill this vision. Witnessing these leaders train those who are now continuing to train others confirms that our efforts have not been in vain.

A constant source of encouragement has been the consistent commitment of our prayer and financial partners who have stood with us, and continue to do so, after all these years. It is a privilege and honor to have been partners in Gospel over the decades. We remain committed to meeting the need of training and encouraging leaders and those they serve. Thank you for your faithfulness in helping us be your hands and feet extended around the world.

### **Partnering Together**

- ☐ Please find enclosed my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ I would like to join the team as a monthly partner:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_/month

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