



The Update

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Serving Under Fire

Maxym and Anya continue to serve through their ministry (New Hope Centre) in Zaporizhzhya (in the south eastern part of Ukraine). You may have heard of this city in the news as it is the location of a nuclear station and is on the front lines of the war. Though they have had the opportunity to leave, they have felt they should stay to serve those fleeing the war further east. Though more recently it is now on their doorstep.

Maxym sent our team the following update:

Life in Ukraine has been quite stressful and painful. The war is cruel and evil thing. It takes physical lives from so many and emotionally drains the rest of us. Most of Zaporizhzhya region territory has been occupied by the Russian army. The city of Zaporizhzhya as well as surrounding villages have been under



Zaporizhzhya, Ukraine

severe missile attacks daily. Most missiles are shot at night so you can hardly sleep. It repeats most every night. It will take years to restore places

and people to have normal life.

During past six months New Hope Center has been able to host over 700 refugees at our facility that we remodeled to serve as a temporary shelter. People have been running for their lives as well as coming from occupied places not being able to stand psychological and physical pressure from the occupation. We are able to serve the refugees by providing a place to stay, hot meals and a loving atmosphere to help them reduce their stress level. Some people began to attend Sunday services at our church. So much so, that we have had to move Church services into a larger facility. We are praying that our regular church family can experience reunion when people, who are temporary staying in

It was a great disappointment this year that we could not meet them in person and had to cancel our retreat with our team planned to take place in a third country outside of both Ukraine and Russia. Of course we want to do more than just provide moral support, we also want to help them in practical ways. So as the end of the year approaches if you would like to participate with us and invest in their ministry you can use our website (icmcanada.org/donate) or Bank Interact in Canada (office@icmcanada.org) to do that.

other countries because of the war (mostly mothers with small children), come back!

Personally, we have been staying in Zaporizhzhya this whole time. We feel we need to stay just because it is our land and our home. Staying also means that we can keep providing leadership for New Hope Center and our church, God's Family Church ministries. However, the fact is that for everyone who has decided to stay there is great stress and weariness. For greater safety we have moved to the outskirts of town to our dacha [ed. a small plot of land with limited cottage type of structure, see picture above] even though we hear missile attacks every night. Our daughter who returned from Germany in August narrowly missed a rocket attack near our apartment building in town.

Once the war is ended, we know that the restoration of broken places and hearts will take time. Getting ready for this process, we purchased a small property out of town to be used as small restoration hub for our local church community. At the moment we are doing some minor renovations to be able to host people and provide therapeutic weekends soon. We hope to be able to do same type of therapeutic retreats on a larger scale as God provides such opportunities and resources.

*Thank you for your prayers and support!
Max*



Maxym, Anya & Katya



Refugees at New Hope Ctr

“Running the Race” in Africa

This past fall Phil had the opportunity to join Rafik (ICM board member and ministry coach) to teach and reconnect with the leaders in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, that they have been working with over the past few years. Rafik grew up in Tanzania as a Muslim before turning his life over to Jesus. He was a traveling evangelist and planted several churches in the country. After immigrating to Canada in over ten years ago, he has continued to travel back to Tanzania to serve leaders there.



Rafik and Phil with Pastors Dondo

Pastor Dondo of City Harvest Church gathered leaders together from various denominations in the city. He and his wife continue to invest in the next generation as their focus is on university

students and young professionals. They were able to share in both services and Rafik shared an evangelistic message that was combined with a wedding ceremony.

The two-day leadership conference focused on the need to mentor and invest in others in order to finish our race well. Phil and Rafik shared from both the *Intro to Mentoring* materials as well as Phil’s new materials on “Finishing the Race.” Franklin, who is also an associate pastor at City Harvest, has been mentoring several young

men and so it was great to provide some one-on-one coaching with him as he has a vision of reaching into



Leadership Conference, TZ

all the universities in the area.

It was also a highlight to meet again with James Kamau, who Phil worked with in Kenya in the early 1990s. James and his wife Mary are Kenyans who began their ministry with ICM over three



Kamau's Outreach to the Masai

decades ago in Kenya. Then about twenty years ago they responded to the need for leadership training in Tanzania and

started an ICM Seminary in Dar es Salaam. While he has passed over the day to day operations to others, he continues to serve leaders in both Tanzania and Kenya.



The latest initiative is his ministry among the Masai people of Tanzania. Together with some students from the Seminary, he has helped to establish a church among this tribe earlier this year. He and his team continue to take the arduous trek on outback trails to disciple the new believers in the village.

Another exciting new development is the forming of the new CJ Africa Cohort which will meet by video for monthly leadership coaching. Several of these young leaders have enrolled in the MCNet CJ (Christian Leadership Institute) and will meet regularly with Rafik, Phil and James. This new competency based mentorship has been launched in Latin America, however has had to be paused in Eurasia (incl. Ukraine/Russia) due to the ongoing war. If you would like more information regarding our innovative ministerial training program you can visit: <https://mcnetdi.org/>



Rafik and Phil with James (above) and Franklin(right)

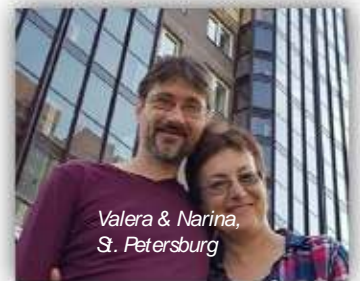


Coaching Worship Teams in Russia



In November Narina and Valera facilitated a workshop for Worship leaders in

within their context. So it is particularly fulfilling to see materials that have been developed years ago continue to be used to serve others.



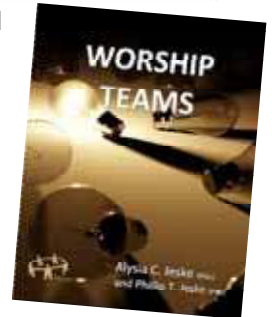
Valera & Narina, St. Petersburg



Previous Worship Conference, Caucasus, 2012

St. Petersburg, Russia. This seminar was first developed and presented by Phil and his daughter, Alysia, in 2012. At that time, they had the opportunity to be in Russia to share this in the Caucasus where Narina and Valera were living and ministering at the time. Our main priority as a ministry has been to develop leadership materials and then train others to use them

The printed page (or in electronic pdf version as all of our materials are) in the local language has a shelf life that extends far beyond the lifespan of any author or even an organization. Once local coaches have been trained they then have access and ongoing coaching as they share these materials with other leaders and train others to do the same.



Thank you for participating with us all these years making it possible for us to develop these materials and then provide them free of charge to leaders in countries around the world. If you want to see any of our materials you can visit: <https://www.icmcanada.org/resources/>

Alive and Well in the Congo



Deo with his organ donor in Congo earlier this year

This year Deo (MCNet Coach for Francophone Africa) was cleared by his doctor to return to the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) after his kidney transplant.

It was an exciting time as he was able to visit family and friends and minister in his birth country once again. He was joined by an American missionary who was his organ donor (pic above). It was a true celebration as many had thought that Deo was no longer alive!

Currently he divides his time between the US and his home in DRC, however, now he will be able to stay for longer periods in the country continuing his ministry of equipping African leaders.

You can hear his amazing testimony on our YouTube channel (MCNet International).

Year End Participation

As the end of the year approaches if you would like to participate in supporting the work in Ukraine, the expansion in Latin America, or any other facet of our ministry you may do so with:

- PayPal/ Credit Card at our website: icmcanada.org/donation/
- Or if in Canada you can use bank Interac using office@icmcanada.org.
- Of course we still process good ol' cheques sent in the mail also!

Thank you for another year of "storing up treasures in heaven. . . ."

From My Desk



Phil Jeske, PhD
President

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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This year sure has had its ups and downs. On one hand it was great to be able to connect again with some of our global team members, but this was overshadowed by the heartache of the war; not being able to meet our team members from both Ukraine and Russia where we have spent so much time over the last two decades. As so many plans in the last few years, our retreat in Turkey had to postponed as team members from these regions could not leave their countries.

Personally, we have also had our own losses, having to say goodbye on this earth to a sister, a niece, a cousin, as well as many good friends. I am sure you also have had your own fair share of grief and loss. So as we anticipate celebrating Christmas again and the end of 2022, it may be worth not only reflecting on the past, but also with anticipation of what the next year holds. For so many, the last few years have taken their toll in many ways and sometimes all the changes can feel overwhelming. Yet often at the times we seem to need it most, the "heavens" seem silent.

I am sure this was what the Jewish people felt like before the miracle of Bethlehem and Emmanuel – God coming to tangibly be with us. Those too were dark days. God had been silent with his people for some 400 years. But then in a very unassuming yet profound way, he showed up. However, it was not in the way that they were expecting. He came as a vulnerable baby, not a powerful ruler. Yes, he was the answer they needed, but the answer was wrapped up in a package they could not comprehend. I wonder how often God sends us answers that we need, but at the time we cannot conceive of how his response is the answer?

Of course, with the benefit of hindsight, God's dealings eventually make a bit more sense. With the passage of enough time his "gifts" to us usually become more obvious, regardless of how painful they may seem at the time. So often, while in the middle of the storms and battles of life, God can seem far away. His "answers" are anything but clear and sometimes don't even seem to make sense! While in time his dealings with us may become more clear on this side of eternity, true clarity will likely only come when we get to our eternal home and see him face to face.

So as we reflect this Christmas season, may we be reminded that Emmanuel is with us even during the times when we may not understand his ways. He cared for us by sending his only Son as a babe, who then became our perfect sacrifice. Surely he will care for us and guide us throughout our earthly journey. He has not changed, he is faithful. In time his plan in our lives will become as obvious as the unlikely story of Christmas has become for us today. And that is with only 2000 years of perspective. Imagine how clear the questions of our lives will become once we enter eternity, see him face to face . . . and have a few million years of hindsight.

Nancy and I pray that you will have a meaningful Christmas season and that you will be aware of Emmanuel's presence leading and guiding you throughout the New Year!

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