



Dear Praying Friends,

February 2025

This month marks the three-year anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the country that became my home thirteen years ago. I have written little about the war in the past, but living in it for the past few months has given me firsthand experience.

Airstrikes are what we here in Kyiv deal with daily. Last night was one of the closest and loudest I have heard. It's a bit unnerving when you can hear the drones. I listen intently to hear if the sound is coming closer or moving away. For a brief moment after the sound fades away my body relaxes and then I remember it is headed to other parts of the city and possibly into an apartment building like so many times before. A couple of nights ago a ballistic missile hit just three and a half miles from my apartment just north of the center. I saw it as it flew across the sky. A few seconds later I heard the explosion. I'm starting to recognize the different kinds of explosions by the sound. This is the life my church family and all the people in Kyiv have lived for three years. I can't imagine how much more difficult it is for those who live closer to the front lines in other cities. I can only pray God keeps them safe and the gospel gets to them before it's too late. Each time I hear of another casualty, I wonder, "where are they spending eternity?" My heart breaks for what Ukraine is going through.

So, why I have decided to return fulltime and stay in a country at war when I could go to a more peaceful place to share the Gospel? First, this is where God has me. I am so grateful for this because my heart is here with these people. That became more real and evident to me when I was in Texas and couldn't be here with them. Secondly, my presence here is a great comfort to them. I don't totally understand why that is because I can't do anything to change what is happening with the war. I am just living through it with them, and they tell me this is a comfort. Thirdly, my ministry to my kids continues. There are so many more children in need of our Father's love. I just found out about another orphanage that is open to us visiting. I'm very excited about this and am anxious to meet the director and the kids. I pray that I have the opportunity to lead these and more children to Christ this year and in years to come.

There may come a day when I might not be allowed or able to live and minister in Ukraine, though I pray that will be many years away. As long as it is God's will for me, I will love, serve, and share the gospel with the Ukrainian people.

My life and ministry here would have been next to impossible without all the years of your faithfulness to the Lord and to me. I am so grateful to every one of you. Your prayers and support have carried me through some very difficult times in my life and I know I can count on them to continue carrying me through. God is faithful. I am beyond blessed to be so loved and cared for.

With a heart for Ukraine,  
Meisha Deane



Ali came to visit



Me and Olya



English & Art Club