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S.T.O.R.M. REPORT

Short Term Outreach, Relief & Missions

A Newsletter From the Office of the Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator

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“We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia...begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints.”

—II Corinthians 8: 1 & 4

Ministry To Those Suffering in Eastern Europe

by David Nakhla, Administrator for the OPC Committee on Diaconal Ministries

Five countries, nine days, ten organizations; a whirlwind trip, to be certain! My traveling companion, Rich Bout, URCNA Missions Coordinator, and I were quickly made aware of the deep appreciation of the people of Ukraine for the love, concerns, prayers, and encouragement from afar. The value of the communion of the saints cannot be under-estimated.



In Krakow, we met with several members of the Mission to the World (MTW) team, now displaced by the war, having served in church-planting in L'viv, Ukraine, alongside OPC missionaries, Heero and Anya Hacquebord. At the outset of the war, many of the missionary families left their homes in L'viv due to, among other things, the trauma inflicted upon them and their children by the continual missile warning sirens. These missionaries have temporarily resettled in Airbnb lodging 200 miles west in Krakow, Poland. PCA minister and team leader, Doug Shepherd, has been separated from his wife, Masha, and their children for much of the past three months, spending a great deal of time back in L'viv, coordinating relief efforts there.

We had the privilege to witness firsthand, on behalf of the body of Christ in each place, a consistently generous and gracious outpouring of love, compassion, and mercy. We witnessed, first-hand, the warm

welcome and care the Ukrainian refugees have received in each country: Hungary, Poland, Lithuania, and Italy. During our visit to the fifth country on our journey, Slovakia, (our route to drive from Hungary to Poland) a Polish man reported that Ukrainians were being welcomed

into Poland as if they were adopted as a province! Surely, the Lord is gracious!

With considerable donations available, much discernment is required, so as not to overwhelm the good work that is currently being carried out. Following the lessons of the now go-to book on the subject of charity, “When Helping Hurts”, we need to ask ourselves, how do we help without hurting? In this instance, we need to consider how to best aid the good labors of the indigenous churches as they seek to faithfully carry out their responsibility with the resources the Lord has entrusted to them, without overwhelming those good labors.

Please know that those on the ground in and near Ukraine rely on the prayers lifted daily on their behalf. Please don't stop praying and don't forget Ukraine.

[Read the full article on
OPCDisasterResponse.org.](https://www.opcdisasterresponse.org)



English 4 Kids— Quebec The OP mission in

Quebec is once again hosting their summer English Camp for Kids and OP member Olivia Durham is looking to lead a group of volunteers to serve. 5-7 teens are still needed! For more information, go to our website.

The Uganda Mission

IMMEDIATE NEED – Facilities Engineer in Karamoja, Uganda

There is an immediate need for a Facilities Engineer to serve in Uganda. While short-term help is welcome, there is a longer-term need for one to go and serve alongside Mark Van Essendelf upon his return to the field next January. Support package negotiable. If this would be something you would like to explore further, please don't hesitate to contact Douglas Clawson directly: douglas.clawson@opc.org.

The Boardwalk Chapel

Staff Position Openings:

- One male staffer position open!
- For those interested in spending a part of their summer with the Chapel, end of the summer staffing positions are available!

Churches Helping Churches

Is it ever overwhelming to think about gathering volunteers for projects, refugee ministry, or vacation Bible school? Consider reaching out to short-term missions to ask for staffing help!

Check out more opportunities on our website, www.OPCstm.org



Serve In Ukraine
Mission To the World (PCA)

continues to

take applications to gather basic information from people willing to serve MTW Ukraine's crisis response efforts. No short term trips are planned at this time but they will be in touch as teams and trips develop. Mission to the World (PCA) is building a list of people with special skill sets and a willingness to help with efforts both in Ukraine and in bordering countries. See other open and upcoming opportunities to serve on OPCdisasterresponse.org.

Looking for Help in Tornado-Damaged Kentucky

Reformed Mission Services, an organization we have worked with for many years, has an opportunity for volunteers to come alongside those affected by the tornadoes that hit Kentucky back in December of 2021. A schedule is being put together for August, but help is still needed through the summer months. If you are interested in assisting with response efforts in Kentucky, please contact [Rob Brinks](#).

Find out more by visiting OPCdisasterresponse.org



Allison Hill is the CDM's new administrative assistant! She is originally from Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, and is a graduate of Campbellsville University where she was 2022 valedictorian with a bachelor's degree in Marriage and Family Ministry. Allison has since moved to Glenside, PA and will be attending Faith Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Elmer, NJ. Welcome to the team, Allison!

Where you can find us:

opcstm@opc.org or opcdisasterresponse@opc.org



David Nakhla,
OPC Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator
david.nakhla@opc.org
(215) 935-1007



Trish Duggan,
Communications Coordinator
trish.duggan@opc.org



Allison Hill,
Administrative Assistant
allison.hill@opc.org



Hannah White,
CDM Intern
CDMIntern@opc.org



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