



OCTOBER 2023

THE PEREKOTIYS

MISSIONARIES TO UKRAINE

SERVING VULNERABLE CHILDREN, FAMILIES, REFUGEES + THE UNREACHED, THAT THEY WOULD PRAISE + PROCLAIM JESUS CHRIST IN UKRAINE + AROUND THE WORLD!

WE MADE IT!

Bucharest, searched for an apartment, moved into our new place, started school... Even reading that list makes me tired! God has been gracious to us, especially in the hard moments. Here are the most significant happenings since we moved to Bucharest.

1. The kids started school!

A lot was riding on our choice of Bucharest Christian Academy. We hoped it would be a great environment for learning and growth, and it also dictated where we would live. We wanted to live within 30 minutes of public transportation from school. The Lord provided all of those things! Our kids really love the school, their teachers, and new friends who are from many different countries and cultures.

2. We found an apartment and settled in!

After 12 days of searching, we found an apartment that ticks all the boxes for us. Specifically it is the right size, 3 bedrooms, and only 30 minutes on the tram to school! We are definitely tired of moving, so it is a relief to feel settled in our apartment.

3. Culture shock is real, and moving to a new place is hard.

We spent so much time seeking God's will, choosing a new city, and moving that we did not fully prepare ourselves for how hard this adjustment would be. There are enough things in Bucharest to remind us of Ukraine, yet so many things are different that we are often frustrated. The language is difficult (not similar to Russian or Ukrainian). This has been disheartening to the point of "expat depression" (a new phrase I think I coined ;). We both feel a little lost and skill-less in a new country and culture. The enemy has used this to shout doubts at us, but the Lord combats those with His truths.

4. Being with Ukrainians gives us a second wind!

We are in a unique position in that we came to Romania because we couldn't go back to Ukraine, and we came here to serve Ukrainians. We have slowly begun to meet and spend time with Ukrainian refugees at UBC22 — each time we do, the Lord affirms that we are in the right place. Yura had the opportunity to interpret at a medical clinic for refugees, and we have been visiting two churches with services for Ukrainians.

5. The choices keep coming!

Making decisions takes a toll — "decision fatigue". We sort of forgot that once we made all these choices to move, where to live, school, etc., that we would be ready to roll! However, we now face more choices - where to serve, how to spend our time, the best way to disciple Ukrainians, how to effectively reach refugees... So we praise God for the ability and privilege to have choices while asking Him to make clear His "best" for us.

Thank you for journeying with us as we seek to make Jesus famous among Ukrainians and others!

in Christ, Madison + Yura

PRAYER NEEDS

- Wisdom in ministry opportunities and time management.
- Languages: We are searching for a Ukrainian tutor for the kids so they don't forget! We are also prayerfully considering Romanian lessons at the start of the year.
- Ukrainians at school: there are several Ukrainian families at our kids' school! Some are not believers, and the Lord has already opened doors for us to share the gospel with them.
- Upcoming conference: Lifeline's Global Orphan Care Summit for Eastern Europe is coming up in November in northern Romania. Please pray we can find someone willing to hang with the kids for a few days so that we can both attend!



Chambers 5th, Lev 3rd, Mila 1st,
Remi Pre-K3



Celebrating Ukrainian Independence
Day in our new apartment



We are well-acquainted with IKEA!



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