

Ukraine Newsletter

By Missionary Tammy Swailes

"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will dream on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)



It's been a long time since I wrote an official update. Every day, for more than 800 days during the war, I lead a prayer for Ukraine and Ukrainians on my Facebook and Instagram accounts. I'd love for you to join me there.

However, to inform you now: the war continues to affect our nation. Although I am safe and live far from the front, the impact of this war is deeply felt at all levels of life here. We all know someone who serves in the military, many have loved ones who are prisoners of war, missing in action, or who will never return home to their families. My godson Max is among the prisoners of war (over 450 days ago). It weighs heavily on everyone's hearts. While Ukrainians yearn for peace, at the same time they are resolutely fighting against enemy occupation.

Despite the harsh conditions, Inste miraculously continues to serve the Church in Ukraine. Recently, some students returned to our office, eager to re-enroll after 9 years and complete their studies. Yes! We are happy for their return.

Every year, new INSTE students enroll, and others graduate with certificates and diplomas. Currently, most of our students are from the central and western parts of Ukraine. Understandably, the closer one is to the front lines, the more difficult it is to continue studies due to the constant threat of guided missiles and drones launched by the enemy. Just last month, 3,500 missiles and drones were launched. One day we will again serve churches throughout Ukraine. Meanwhile, we remember and pray for the hundreds and hundreds of former INSTE students and graduates who now live under occupation, as refugees or defending their country. May God give them strength to stand!

In addition to working with Inste in Ukraine, I work and collaborate with INSTE directors in Romania, Hungary and France. I visited them all in recent months and am



Joining Tammy is INSTE Director of Romania, Timotei.

working with them to strengthen INSTE in Europe. I am also part of an INSTE team in a confidential location. We hope to visit them later this summer for training. Hopefully there will be photos and news from that trip in the coming months.



This spring we translated a manual on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) to help Ukrainians overcome and cope with trauma. Thanks to generous donors, we have distributed hundreds of these manuals and continue to print and distribute more.

I also have the privilege of helping disburse some Open Bible funds, given to support Ukrainians. With energy infrastructure severely compromised, we recently purchased lamps powered by power banks to cope with long periods of blackouts across the country. We have also helped children, orphans, widows and the elderly with medicines, medical treatments, power banks, food and even dentures. Many Ukrainians can care for their families, but the elderly and children are especially vulnerable and close to my heart.

Thank you for your prayers, for your generosity, and for your unwavering support. Despite the war, maybe even because of the war, I feel that this is the place where God has placed me. It is my honor to serve Him in Ukraine!



To learn more about Tammy Swailes' ministry or to become a one-time or monthly donor, please visit <http://www.bit.ly/MVPswailes>.

To see the most recent **video**, please visit: <https://vimeo.com/683973627>

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