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## QUARTERMAN YEARLY REPORT

**mtw**  
Mission to the World  
*1600 N. Brown Rd.  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043*

Dear Fathers & Brethren,

July 13, 2013

Twenty years ago, we left Portugal to relocate our ministry in Ukraine. This month, we have also relocated from Odessa to the capital city of Kiev! This move is necessary to oversee the transition of seminary operations over the next few years to Ukrainian leadership and to integrate new staff members. It was hard to leave Odessa after living there for 19 years, but the church there held a goodbye party for us which was very special.

From November to May, we travelled in the States, visiting 49 churches in 13 states. We had packed up our household goods in September, so we lived out of suitcases for 9 months. It is good finally to have a home, although we are still adapting to Kiev – an ancient city of 4 million people and the cradle of the Russian Orthodox church and the Russian principality of Rus'.

In October, the Reformed Church of the Netherlands sent a delegation to review the relationship with MTW over the past decade. Both churches committed to another decade of partnership in ERSU Seminary. As a part of this commitment, they are sending us another professor for seminary: Pastor Erik van Alten. Last week, I was invited to the Netherlands to lay on hands in his commissioning service.

ERSU Seminary has 24 active students. We held 8 weeks of intensive sessions this year, in addition to Staff meetings & Board meetings, and meetings with visiting Dutch sponsors.

Here is a summary of my ministerial activity over the past year:

### **TEACHING, PREACHING & WRITING**

In ERSU Seminary, I taught our intensive 3-hour Missions course in October, and our 3-hour Leadership course in January. I also wrote regular seminary and personal reports and prayerletters.

I preached several times in Russian before we left Odessa, and preached and spoke many times in our 11,000 miles of car travel for itineration in PCA churches on our 6-month Home Ministry Assignment. We covered the area from Dallas to New Jersey to Orlando by car. During this time, we also flew to Denver for a funeral, to Spain for a retreat, and to Ukraine for seminary.

Last summer, I organized and led a summer team that did music outreach and VBS. Darlene and I also taught the English camp for the Odessa church plant, since their summer team was delayed. I continued to organize and lead weekly English worship with several missionary families in Odessa.

We also added several courses to our online Russian Bible college this year.  
(Please direct Russian-language contacts to our site: [www.college.ersu.org](http://www.college.ersu.org) )

### **ADMINISTRATION**

I continued to work as MTW Team Leader for Theological Education in Ukraine, taking part in the meetings of our Ukraine Country Leadership Team.

I also served the Presbytery of Ukraine, participating on committees of Church Planting, Publications (TULIP), Credentials, and on loaned sessions for church plants in Izmail and N. Odessa. I helped examine and receive

new members. I was also present in October to ordain 3 elders at the particularization of the Presbyterian Church of the Big City in Kiev, led by one of our seminary graduates.

We served as consultants to the Odessa Christian Counseling Center and Odessa Arts Center. We hosted Richard Pratt at our Odessa Leadership Conference. We also attended several conferences: the Ukraine Team Retreat in Slavske, Ukraine; and the MTW Europe regional conference in Spain.

The Reformed denomination of Ukraine (UERC) approached our Ukrainian Presbyterian denomination (EPCU) to hold joint meetings, which have gone very well. There is open discussion about differences and common goals. The seminary has been central to developing this atmosphere of cooperation, for which we praise the Lord!

I wrote quarterly prayerletters and monthly newsletters, kept up websites and a photo site. I continued to handle our seminary bookkeeping.

## **DISCIPLING & COUNSEL**

We have been counseling a number of our missionaries as they change fields and decide on new directions, as well as supporting our colleague Mel Pike after the unexpected death of his wife in January. We also met with Korean Presbyterian missionaries in Kiev (Hap Dong).

We continue to work with our 24 seminary students. One of them decided to interrupt seminary training to serve for a year aboard the missionary ship Logos-Hope. We encouraged Pastor Valera Z. of Odessa to get a Masters in St. Petersburg, which he successfully defended in April! Our graduate Kolya Koretsky finally received a visa to the Netherlands, and made two month-long visits there to work on his European Masters.

## **REQUESTS**

I would again request permission to labor out of bounds with MTW in Ukraine.

In times when every Dollar counts, I would invite you to partner with MTW & ERSU Seminary for a completely Reformed, Covenantal, and Connectional mission ministry (MTW Account #95995). We need your help!

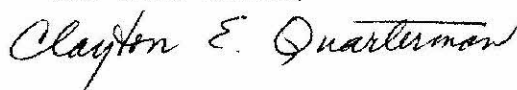
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[www.ClayQ.com](http://www.ClayQ.com)

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Your fellow-servant,



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