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# QUARTERMAN YEARLY REPORT



Dear Fathers & Brethren,

June 6, 2017

It's been <u>24 years</u> since my first visit to Ukraine! How much has changed! It was still soviet back then, but now Ukraine's president proclaimed 2017 the "Year of the Reformation"! Now, Ukraine is the "Bible Belt" of this region – providing pastors, books, and missionaries for the Russian and Ukrainian world--and beyond.

We came to plant churches with this vision, and by the Grace of God we have. Now, even though Russia has invaded Ukraine, we have a Reformed seminary and churches here with their own missionary vision. ERSU seminary had **three graduates** in the past year. **Four of our alumni** are enrolled in post-grad studies in the Netherlands, and we just brought on our **first Ukrainian Staff member!** 

I've been quite busy this year:

## **SPEAKING:**

Lectures at Lydia women's institute in Odessa; preached 15 times, communion twice (in Russian), seminary devotionals, taught a 3-credit Masters course on Missions and Church planting; facilitated courses on covenants and counseling. Spoke at city-wide Reformation 500 Forum in Nikolaev, TV interview, lectures on the Reformation at Nikolaev University.

## **WRITING:**

Wrote a chapter on "The Practical Influence of the Reformed System" in a volume the seminary is publishing for quincentennial of the Reformation. Wrote Review of VanDoodeward's *The Quest for the Historical Adam* for the *ERSU Theological Journal*.

Wrote and published "Preparing for Leadership" -- a 16-week course for training deacon and elder candidates. We field-tested it over 5 months in Trinity church, and organized a conference near Odessa to present it to 20 Reformed and Presbyterian pastors.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

I headed the search for a seminary campus property, drawing up plans and negotiating. We had two properties sold from under us at the last minute; so keep praying.

I'm in charge of Christian Education for two denominations, and I wrote and launched a CE website (Prosvita.ersu.org) in 3 languages. Besides CE research, planning, and consultations, I've had oversight of a CE staff member, and other Ukrainian leaders are growing in their vision for CE.

Besides all this, I spent nine weeks in camp at our intensive seminary sessions, and we've participated in the church's weekly English club and been regular in participation at Meetings of staff, team, board, presbytery, committees, webinars; and attended conferences in Lviv, Truskavets, Odessa, Nikolaev, Crete, Athens, and Toulouse (France).

#### **REQUESTS**

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

Thank you for praying for us as we've served overseas for <u>38 years</u>! But we need churches and individuals to participate **financially**. The churches are young and small, and Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Ukraine depends on our contributions; **ERSU NEEDS REGULAR SUPPORT** which can be given through MTW.

**JOIN US!** Please lead your church to consider partnering regularly with **ERSU Seminary** for a completely **Reformed, Covenantal, and Connectional** mission ministry (MTW Account **#95995**). We need your help!

Visit our web-page:

www.ClayQ.com

www.ERSU.org
and pictures at:

www.clayq.smugmug.com



Your fellow-servant,

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