

Some of you have been getting our newsletters for a long time, keeping up with us for years. This slightly different newsletter is going out to you, just a part of our mailing list, and it's a little more personal one from us, more like the kind we used to send out back in the old days when we were missionaries. Thank you so much for keeping up with us. We appreciate it more than you will ever know.

It's official: We're getting results! A quick look at what Kontaktmission is doing...

Sending out missionaries – KMUSA now has 4 missionary families in the process of preparing themselves to go to needy mission fields in Europe. We have sent a number of interns to various locations and others on short-term trips of varying lengths to help them in their missions-service decision processes. KM missionaries are constantly being sent from other countries as well... South Americans working in Germany, Germans working in Lithuania, and Ukrainians working in Russia are just a few examples of that.

Planting churches – While our American missionaries are being recruited and preparing to go, Kontaktmission USA has already been involved in starting several new churches with local workers in the countries of Ukraine, Russia, and Georgia. Meanwhile, the international team of Kontaktmission also continues to grow and expand the work. We are now working in 16, soon to be 17, countries and we are strategizing for more.

Connecting American churches with national / local workers and projects – American churches in *Arizona, Virginia, Kansas, Tennessee, Utah, Texas, Oklahoma, Michigan, and Wisconsin* (with more on the horizon) are already involved, or are getting involved, in local works in eastern and western Europe. Does your church want to play a part in helping to start a new church in Morocco? Romania? Albania? Ukraine? We are set to make a connection with your church for projects in those countries right now.

And with regard to stewardship, we have been **using our resources wisely**. Kontaktmission sends out missionaries at much lower cost because we use both American and on-the-field resources conscientiously and because we train efficiently on the field. We spend as little as possible on equipment and overhead, using it instead for the costs of keeping workers on the job. KMUSA uses only *free* office space, volunteer labor whenever possible, and maximum efficiency in travel, both for recruiting and for research, training and leadership meetings. We believe that the missions funds of churches and individuals are to be used with the utmost respect for the Great Commission and for the evangelistic and church-planting goals of those who supply them.

A Personal Note from Carla Harris

As U.S. Director of KM, my husband, Rob, has seen his role grow and evolve over the last few years. He gets to spend lots of time e-mailing, calling and visiting with people literally all over the world. He recently returned from the fall meeting of the KM leaders which was hosted this year by the KM team in Lithuania. He came home speaking a little Lithuanian and wearing the same pants he'd worn every day for the previous 10 days, since his suitcase seemingly vanished on the flights there. We wrote it off as lost (international travel can be an adventure!), however two and a half weeks later it showed up at our door at home missing only a battery. Wish we knew where it went! By the way, yes, those pants went immediately in the washer!

My role with Kontaktmission USA is constantly growing and changing as well. Although I have no official title, I could be called "bookkeeper", "assistant to the Director", "recruiter/PR/hospitality person", "office cleaning lady", or "keep the house and family going so dad can travel person"... though I do try to travel with Rob when I can, especially to conventions. As our recruit families get further along in their process, I hope to be a resource person especially to the women, having been through the various aspects of missionary life myself. You wouldn't believe how many things there are to consider and think about!

My biggest role at present is handling the financial end of KMUSA. This includes recordkeeping, depositing and receipting all donations, and forwarding those funds to the appropriate missionary or project recipient... and of course paying the bills. Rob recently tried to explain to a small business owner what we have to do to keep our records. The man was flabbergasted at how complicated it is. This year so far we have been a channel and source of support to 20 different missionaries and projects. I've never really thought of it as difficult, only exciting to see what God is doing. It is such a joy to see how the ledger has grown this year and how many new churches and individuals have partnered with us. In a time in which money is tight for many, we are so humbled at the way God's people have been used by Him to bless the ministry of Kontaktmission. We often don't see how our financial needs will be met, but we have witnessed over and over how God takes care of His people as they do His work. I really enjoy keeping in touch with many of you through personal notes on those donations and receipts. Thanks for your faithful support, both prayer and otherwise – keep it up!



Maxim, one of our newest Ukrainian church planters, will be supported from the US through KMUSA.



Notes from All Over

Brief news items and prayer requests from KM missionaries. Look at what God is doing and at the need.

Lenilson & Liane Marques da Silva, Viseu, Portugal. A major effort called “Bible Manuscript” is running throughout November in all Portugal. The president of Portugal wrote the first Bible verse on Nov. 6 for a live television audience. Lenilson is singing frequently at related functions throughout the month, and Liane is working with respondents.

Ulrich Breest, Ludwigsfelde, Germany. This month our church is holding a series of events with the headline, “Crisis as Opportunity”. Please pray for lots of participation, good contacts, and God’s leading.

Amarildo & Geisy Antunes, Bochum, Germany. Please pray for our international worship services. The next one takes place on Nov. 20th. We’re asking God for people with whom we’ve been in contact to come, as well as others who have attended other international services.

Tobias & Sissi Nestler, Thessaloniki, Greece. Please pray for the healthy development of our new, 2nd home cell group from our church. We are a culturally very diverse group.

Eduard & Diana Goss, Kaunas, Lithuania. I’m right in the middle of my language and cultural study, and I am in constant need of motivation to learn the vocabulary, and of courage to use my limited conversational skills.

Letta Gafencu, Iasi, Romania. It seems that Satan is certainly attacking us directly. We are having trouble with real demonic activity. Please pray for our battle to go well. We are trusting in the Lord. Pray also that our new church building in the village of Cota-Mori can be completed so that we can begin to use it for Him.

Matthias & Sabine Valenta, Diksmuide, Belgium. Our church has contact to about 40 individuals to whom we bring an evangelistic magazine about 4 times per year. Please pray with us, that the contact to these people will become deeper and that they begin to long for more understanding of the Christian faith.

Missionary recruiting from Rob’s perspective

Just yesterday I had the opportunity to speak with a young married couple, still finishing up Bible college, who are ready to take the huge step to become missionaries, beginning with an internship with Kontaktmission. As I was talking to them I was overwhelmed with the enormity both of their willingness to serve and be stretched, and of the far-reaching effects of their decision. That conversation is going to be the beginning of a life-changing process of becoming useful to Jesus in another cultural setting. They will be radically changed by that culture, and they will be doing their best to be used by God in changing people within that culture as well.

My response to this conversation was an inner sense that “this is what it’s all about”. I know that this couple will be in good hands with Kontaktmission’s help, that they have an excellent opportunity for a great internship experience and that they will make many meaningful contacts for their future mission service. I will find joy in knowing that I helped them along the way to doing the most meaningful work I can imagine. In short, I feel blessed and honored to be a part of this process.

But I also know that it has not been easy for us to get to this point, and that we could not have made it here alone. From my perspective, many of YOU are also involved in missionary recruitment, too. Carla and I are humbled and astounded when we think of all the generosity and support of all the Christians who have stood behind Kontaktmission USA since we launched it. We’ve now been at it full-time for about two years, and the second year has more than doubled the results of the first. What will the next year hold? I am hoping and praying it holds many more opportunities to work with people who are ready and willing to take the big step to become missionaries in Europe.

I also hope the next year brings many opportunities to share with churches like yours about getting behind local national workers who are ready to serve. This is missionary recruiting as well, and we’re excited to be in the business of helping them reach their own peoples.

Finally and most importantly, I hope and pray that we are honoring God with this work, not just pushing a human endeavor for human purposes. I am working with that intention, and promise to continue.

***Until next time, keep trusting Jesus,
Rob & Carla Harris, Ryan and Alissa***



We met Steve and Teri at the missionary convention. We’re helping them go on an exploratory trip to Europe. I’d love to recruit them, too!