

## God calls us to Odessa, Ukraine

Our Lord has commanded us to **go** and take his gospel of salvation to all nations of the earth. This includes the Eastern European country of Ukraine. During the time of the Soviet Union, Ukraine was the third largest Soviet state, but on August 24, 1991, Ukraine declared its independence. Ukraine is about the size of Texas and is *Motherland* to 45 million people and the second largest country in Europe. Agriculture makes up one-fourth of Ukrainian GNP, and industry contributes two-fifths. Ukraine exports meat, milk, grain, corn and other vegetables as well as iron and coal. For centuries Ukraine has been the *bread basket* of the region.



## “And how can they preach unless they are sent?”

### ... unless they are sent?”

This is the question the apostle Paul asked the church in Rome concerning Missionaries. In order to “be sent” we raise 100% of our financial support for our mission work. This support comes from individuals and Churches in the States who contribute to the ministry of

**PARTNERS IN MISSIONS.**

Even though we work with a college, foreign teachers receive no financial payment for teaching. Each month we are pleased to mail a newsletter to churches and individuals to provide an update of our activities and to report on finances. Many people have given to the work of the Lord through their financial contributions and we are truly thankful to God for the way he has worked through your generosity.

Each month we are dependent upon God's provision through your financial giving when you take time to write out a check and send it to:

**PARTNERS IN MISSIONS  
P.O. Box 212  
Fulton, MS 38843**



Average Monthly Income and Expenses December 2020 – November 2021	
Monthly income: (including for students)	8,886
Salary	2,160
Missionary care (health)	518
Housing	541
Fees, postage, documents	491
Office operations and equipment	962
Travel – internal and external	775
Designated projects (mission students)	3292

# PARTNERS IN MISSIONS 2022

*"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your **partnership** in the gospel from the first day until now."  
Philippians 1:4-5*

## Ray & Pam Trantham

Training National Leaders for Ministry in Ukraine



For the past 26 years our family has lived and worked in Odessa, Ukraine as missionaries. We are truly thankful to God for his blessing in the work of, *"Training National Leaders for Ministry."*

We are also grateful to you for your prayers and financial support, and the fact that you share with us in this calling.

We take pride in what has been accomplished and we thank you for your continued confidence in us and the ministry in Ukraine.

PARTNERS IN MISSIONS

## *The Work and Ministry of the Tranthams*

## *“Training National Leaders for Ministry”*



**What do Ray and Pam do?** – Thirty years ago, in the city of Odessa, Ukraine, the first Bible college was founded to train men and women to serve in local churches. Ray and Pam were invited to teach in this college, which now has more than 2300 graduates. Students come from many parts of Ukraine for intensive week-long courses, and then return to continue working as leaders in their local churches. Graduates are currently teaching in other Bible colleges, planting churches, and serving as leaders in existing churches.



**Churches** – Church planting remains one of the greatest needs. Ray teaches classes in World Missions, Church Growth, Church Planting, to equip students to work in new churches in the area. We have seen new churches started and our students begin new ministries. Our work is not only in the classroom but involves time with students in area ministries. We feel it is important to share our lives with students as they grow in Christ.



**Professor Exchange** – Our seminary is not the only place missionary teachers are needed. New Bible colleges have begun in the nearby countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Armenia. These places are looking to Odessa for help. Ray has traveled to these areas to teach courses and will continue to travel to nearby Russian speaking areas to teach in similar Bible colleges.



**Training and sending Ukrainian Missionaries** – During the Soviet period, one method of restricting Christianity was to not allow missionary activity outside the walls of existing congregations, to not allow the training of workers for missionary activity, and to not allow the creation of mission organizations for sending missionaries. As a result of the Soviet experience, when the churches of Ukraine and Russia emerged with new religious freedoms in the early 1990's, they did so without missionaries, mission organizations, or theological schools for training missionaries. The idea of sending cross-cultural missionaries was simply absent in the churches of Russia and Ukraine. During recent years the need to train, and then have Ukrainian churches, send out their own people as missionaries has taken on new urgency. For over twenty-five years our task has been to train Ukrainians to reach their own people with the gospel, but now much of our time is devoted to preparing Ukrainians to serve as foreign missionaries. This takes much of our time now.



### **Who are the Christians of Ukraine?**

Even before the time of Communism there was a movement in Ukraine and Russia to return to the Bible and be the simple New Testament Church. These are the Christians that we work with. They share our faith and commitment.

