

"Healing the Healers" Retreat in Poland

April 30 - May 9

Trip Leader: Tom Boone

Since February 2022, The Outreach Foundation has been pleased to come alongside The College of Theology and Social Science's (CTSS) enormous challenge of living on the front lines of the war in Ukraine. Since the war's outbreak, the staff and students have faithfully and without pause provided humanitarian, psychological, and spiritual relief to hundreds of displaced Ukrainian people. In 2023, CTSS birthed the region's first EU-accredited Christian counseling program focusing on trauma and PTSD and launched Novus Centre. Novus Counseling Center, through its trained counselors, addresses the psychological and spiritual needs of Ukrainian refugees and other war-affected people, especially women and children. Quite meaningfully, too, is that when we visit Ukraine, Novus Centre leadership drives us to Kyiv. This is a terrific partnership.

Centerpiece of the visit: a restorative retreat for caregivers of the war in Ukraine: The Outreach Foundation has fielded a number of teams to visit the region and teams there have hosted us graciously. With this visit we will be providing some much-needed respite for a war-wearied team, focusing on restoring marriages, and helping the Novus Centre team build each other up. Our team will conduct a 3-day retreat in Krakow for 10-12 couples leading Novus. Facilitating the retreat will be Rev. Dr. Larry Michael from Birmingham,



Alabama, and his wife Kathryn. Larry is a trauma specialist and a teacher in CTSS's trauma and PTSD counseling certification program. Our team will add intercessory prayer, worship leading, listening opportunities, and much-needed Christian encouragement through our presence. This team requires no specialized training though people experienced in Marriage and Family Therapy are especially encouraged to consider joining.

The team will fly from the U.S. into Krakow, Poland, where we will learn the historical context of the region and visit Auschwitz and Birkenau. The Novus Centre staff will join us in Krakow for the 3-day retreat (May 5-7). Following the retreat, our team will journey by speed train to Warsaw where we will visit Novus Centre, meet more of the team, and spend a day touring Old Town to learn more about the region's rich history. Our final dinner will be at our favorite, the Red Pig!

The dates for this visit are April 30 (U.S. departure) – May 9. The cost for this visit is \$1,900 per person for double occupancy (+ \$400 for single occupancy). Please indicate your preference during registration. Participants are expected to arrange their own flights to Krakow (KRK) and from Warsaw (WAW). Trip costs include all food, transportation, and lodging.

You can apply online or print the application and waiver and mail it in. A non-refundable \$150 deposit is required to secure your place.

For more information, contact Carol Dublin at carol@theoutreachfoundation.org or call (615) 778-8881.