



# UKRAINE TRIP

**April 11-23**

**Trip Leader: Tom Boone**

**Resiliency and Hope: “Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God” (Ps 42:11)**

**Background:** Russia has waged war in Eastern Ukraine since April 2014, and in 2022 turned the entire country of Ukraine into a war zone. Since February 2022, The Outreach Foundation has been pleased to stand alongside the church in Ukraine. Twice in 2022, we organized visits with refugees and key relief partners. Then in March 2023, we made a surprise visit to Kyiv to hear their stories. We listened to pastors, soldiers, and people trying to rebuild their homes.



Since that visit, the war has raged on while the world's attention has been diverted to other crises. More significantly, Ukrainian morale has declined significantly as Russia's war of attrition continues. Dr. Ivan Rusyn, president of Ukraine Evangelical Theological Seminary and a significant religious voice in Ukraine, has shared that a visit from us will bring hope amidst increasing despair.

**Responding with our “yes”:** The Outreach Foundation is assembling a team to visit Ukraine. City Church in Lithuania and staff from The College of Theology and Social Sciences (Warsaw) will join our team. Key elements of the visit include the following:

- In Lviv, we will facilitate a resiliency retreat for UETS staff, pastors, military chaplains, and their spouses.
- In Kyiv, we will visit key relief partners and join in their work.
- Around Kyiv, we will visit people in neighborhoods working to rebuild their communities.
- Outside Kyiv, in undisclosed areas as determined by the military, some of our team will visit soldiers and small church pastors.



**What are the goals of this visit?** Our partner has identified four key goals that will guide our visit.

1. To bring the hope of Christ and Christian encouragement to people needing to see the face of Jesus in this time.
2. To lead war-wearied and traumatized Christian caregivers in a gospel-centered resiliency retreat, including time for listening and intercessory prayer.
3. To join with a pastoral team to visit active military and pastors engaged in the war, and to share the gospel with them, pray together, and offer the Lord's Supper.
4. To be present among people and leaders rebuilding their own

neighborhoods and communities around Kyiv, and to hear their stories so that we can share them back home.

**Supplies:** Troops are again requesting IFAKs (Immediate First Aid Kits) for use by soldiers on the front line. These improve the survivability of wounded troops by 90%. Our team will bring as many as we can carry. **This is an urgent request.** To donate please send \$110/kit to The Outreach Foundation, designated “IFAKs.”

**Cost and inclusions:** The cost for this visit is \$1,700 for double occupancy (+\$400 for single occupancy). This includes all land transportation in Poland and Ukraine, food, and lodging. Our stay in Kyiv will be at the secure Radisson Blu, which has superb accommodations and a bomb shelter. Roundtrip airfare into and out of Warsaw, Poland (WAW) is each participant's responsibility. We are working with Delta to waive baggage fees, so booking with Delta is preferable.

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](mailto:carol@theoutreachfoundation.org) or call (615) 778-8881.

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