



## Detour Ahead

by Andrew Hawes

Detours aren't usually very fun. They are often complicated and take extra time. But usually they are there for a reason. They are either protecting you from a danger or allowing necessary work to be completed. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11) We have had to keep verses like this close to heart over the past few months. As we wrote in our last newsletter, this past month would be a time of decision. While we are very grateful for the new support that came in at years end, our ministry is still significantly underfunded. We consulted with our mission and church about our options. First, it was clear that we would not be able to return to Ukraine in the near future without a significant increase in support. Second, we considered continuing GEM ministry from the US until we could return to Ukraine. That option was also not sustainable as it would require an even larger support increase as well as continued uncertainty about our future. In end it seemed like our best and only real option was to begin the process of transitioning out of full-time missions. It was a difficult decision to be sure, but we are trusting in God's sovereignty. We still have plans to go back to Ukraine. Our ministry passion and call are very much alive and well. For now, we will regroup in the states and wait for the Lord to open another door back to Ukraine. We will use the time to continue to prepare and hope to hit the ground running when the time comes.



work for GEM full-time. I'll be working on web and graphic design projects for various ministries across Europe and possibly some projects for Ukraine.

### How you can help.

Please remember us in your prayers. As you might imagine this hasn't been an easy time. We are very thankful for God's provision in our lives, hearts, and spirits. We will continue to depend on gifts from our supporters during our transition, so we ask our supporters not to stop sending your gifts just yet. If you would like to make a special gift to assist us with the transition we would be very grateful. Giving information is included below.

### Thank You

We can't begin to express how thankful we are for all your prayers and support for our family and ministry over the past five years. You have been a significant part our ministry and we know the Lord has used you to make a positive impact in Ukraine. We look forward to the day when we can return to Ukraine and continue the work He has called us to. We will let you know how our transition goes and send you periodic updates over the next few years. Thanks again for everything. We serve a great God!

### What does that mean now?

I will be flying back to Ukraine in a week to pack up the things we left in Ukraine and ship them back to the U.S. We will be looking for permanent housing, jobs, and all the other things we need to re-establish a household. When we left for Ukraine three years ago we sold almost everything we had. We would like to stay near where we are in New Castle, PA if we can, but a lot will depend on getting good work. Our church here in New Castle has been very supportive and we are grateful for the use of the Mission House while we transition. During the transition I will continue to do ministry

## Special gifts

Your special gift to help us with the costs of transitioning back into life here in the U.S. and re-establishing a household are greatly appreciated. Information on giving can be found on our website at [www.fish4him.net/giving](http://www.fish4him.net/giving) or you can mail your gifts to Greater Europe Mission at the address below with a note saying it is for Andrew & Jody Hawes (**Account #21320**).

Mission Address

**Greater Europe Mission**  
**18950 Base Camp Rd.**  
**Monument, CO 80132**