



# Holy Trinity Claygate

*Following Jesus Together*

## **SUMMER MISSION TO UKRAINE 2010**

*Friday 23 July -  
Monday 2 August 2010*

*(with an option to stay in Budapest  
and return on Tuesday 3 August)*

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND WHY?**

Holy Trinity Claygate and Petersfield United Reformed Churches first developed a link with three Christian communities in Ukraine in 2004. To that end successful visits to Akli, Uj Akli and Gyula took place over six previous summers (2004-2009) providing places for church members to serve in various capacities and also to experience life living with Christian families in remote Ukraine villages for just over a week.

As part of the ongoing planning it has been decided to focus our support to provide more sustainability long-term and to offer more 'year round' support. The summer 2010 mission is a core part of our mission to Ukraine and a great opportunity for participants to both serve and share with the communities there and aligns with the winter mission being planned for February 2010.

## **2. WHERE?**

Trans-Carpathia is the part of Ukraine, west of the Carpathian Mountains which contains a large ethnic mix and was taken from Hungary in 1919 to become part of Czechoslovakia, then formed part of the Soviet Union after World War II and latterly part of an independent Ukraine. With all these border changes the population has been through much change and Christians in particular have been called to witness their faith both under communism and more recently as great poverty and unemployment take their toll.

The Mission takes place in an area of Ukraine near the tri-point of the Romanian - Hungarian - Ukrainian Border. The villages are remote, so it is important to be prepared for the basic conditions in villagers homes (e.g. no inside loos!!).

The location can be reached from Budapest in around 8 hours and as Budapest will be the flight arrival location, participation in the Mission could be combined with a few days there or other parts of Eastern Europe.

## **3. WHAT ARE WE INTENDING TO ACHIEVE?**

What we achieve will depend on the key priorities identified by our partner churches in the Ukraine villages and on suitable volunteers coming forward. Attila and Jenó (the two local ministers) have identified Children, Youth and Medical/Dental Needs as the focus for the summer trip as well as joining with them to share the Christian message with local villagers over the period of our stay.

We aim to be a helpful Christian presence in the villages for the 8 days of the summer trip and to work with our church and community partners in initiatives that can be sustained locally following our visit.

So for the core in the summer we want to provide Gospel based teaching and other activities for children in local schools as well as local youth up to the ages of about 19. We also intend to provide a basic medical service for villagers (including dentists and opticians if available) and hope to have a community based mission visiting local Christian and non-Christian families.

#### **4. WHO ARE WE SEEKING TO RECRUIT?**

Whilst we have some specialisms that would be particularly helpful, we welcome applications from any church members, from young people to the retired, who have a commitment to serve the Lord in the most appropriate way. Young people under 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent (or should speak to Drew Waller about the possibility of serving in the youth team) but will be expected to serve independently as appropriate – we will also do our best to accommodate families together in the villages. We do want people to be flexible and willing to serve at any task – this is much more important than experience in any similar projects. There is however an obligation to be involved in a number of planning and orientation sessions in the UK in the run up to the trips.

**We are urging people to apply early and anticipate being able to confirm places by mid December. We will be interviewing applicants to ensure a fair balance – if you not accepted your deposit will be returned promptly.**

#### **5. WHAT IS THE ITINERARY AND COSTS?**

The summer group will leave on flights from London on Friday 23 July, staying overnight in Budapest and then travelling to Ukraine early on Saturday 24 July. We will be staying in the villages until after church on Sunday 1 August, returning to stay overnight in Budapest before flying back to the UK on Monday 2 August – with an option to stay in the wonderful city of Budapest for a day of R+R (albeit independently – but in a good hotel!) and return on Tuesday 3 August.

The trip cost of £690 (£490 children under 18) is made up of a basic price of £400 covering return airfares, transfers to villages and meals en route, two overnight stays in Budapest and a payment to host families for board and lodging as well as a contribution of £290 towards the translators' expenses, and costs of the medical, dental, youth and school supplies as well as the activities we undertake in our summer week in the villages. For those who are financially restrained there will be no obligation to pay any more than the basic price – and payments can be made in instalments to suit the individual. It will be the individual's responsibility to make sure that they are sufficiently covered with appropriate insurance. Transfer to and from the UK airport (and also Budapest airport) will also be the responsibility of the individual. As we try to economise on costs to ensure that the maximum possible amount is donated to support the villages, we will be seeking to get the cheapest flights (e.g. Easyjet) and you should be prepared to travel from any London airport at any time on the departure and return date.

#### **6. ONE DAY EXTENSION POSSIBILITY**

Why not extend your visit by one day and see the wonderful city of Budapest? During the summer trip there is an option to return on 3 August and stay an extra day in Budapest. The cost of this (including extra overnight accommodation and breakfast but excluding additional meals) is only £50 per person.

## 7. WHAT IF I CANNOT COME BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED?

If you are not able to come (or indeed if you are!) there will be a need for basic items (e.g. stationery, toys, books and clothes) to support the trip as well as for specific help in planning the activities. We would also welcome financial contributions to cover any shortfall in medicines, materials and translators' expenses etc.

## 8. WHO ARE THE LEADERS?

Ian Vale and Andrew Tarcy plan to lead the work in the villages and to oversee all mission activities – building on the programme developed in 2009. Andrew speaks fluent Hungarian, and knows the area well, having led 5 similar projects. (Due to work commitments Ian will only be able to finally confirm his availability in early 2010).

Michael Webb-Peploe will be leading the medical and dental teams and has already developed much expertise from five trips there in 2004 - 2009

We will be working through and with the local ministers in Akli and (Szolos) Gyula and will also have the support of a number of translators from local universities and schools who live with us in our village families to make sure that we are understood!

## 9. HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY?

Please free to contact the church office for any general questions about the summer mission or how to apply. You can also contact the leaders listed below or you might also find it useful to speak to some of the group who went in summer 2008 (or earlier years) to get an impression of what to expect.

Linda Morgan    01372 462911    email: [lindamorgan@holyltrinityclaygate.org.uk](mailto:lindamorgan@holyltrinityclaygate.org.uk)

Andrew Tarcy    01372 470963    email: [andrew@tarcy.co.uk](mailto:andrew@tarcy.co.uk)

Ian Vale    01372 467134    email: [ianvale@exigenesys.co.uk](mailto:ianvale@exigenesys.co.uk)

Michael Webb-Peploe 01372 464879    email: [m.webb-peploe@doctors.org.uk](mailto:m.webb-peploe@doctors.org.uk)

**Application forms are available from Holy Trinity Church Office and we need to receive all applications with £200 deposit by Sunday 29 November - so please be prepared!**

### Diary dates

14 February	Last date to return application forms with deposit Confirmation of applicants place
1 May	Final instalment due
23 July	Depart for Ukraine – various London airports and times
2/3 August	Return to the UK - various times according to availability