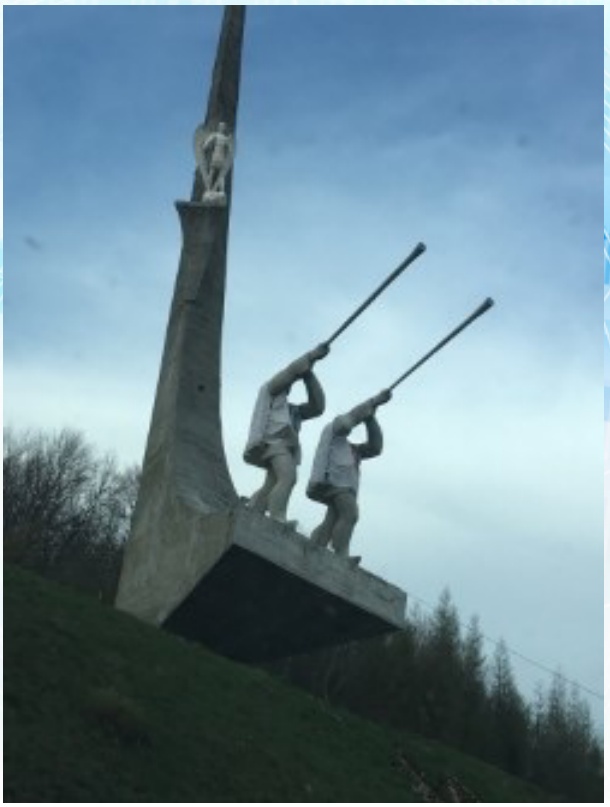


St. James Alumni Project.

April 2018 Update

1 New Baptist church opens in Poroshkovo.

2 Korosten Pastors.

3 Reformed church in Ukraine.

4 May in Ukriane.

New church opens in Poroshkovo, Ukraine

The village of Poroshkovo is found deep in the Carpathian mountains. The region, Zacarpatija, is in the western most parts of Ukraine bordering with Romania. In fact this village, which consists of a large Roma ghetto, is mainly Romainan speaking. It is not too difficult to communicate as the schools are run in Ukrainian and Romanian the language spoken in the homes. Yet, many of the Roma people do not encourage their children to attend school but prefer that they learn their native culture in the home. Alumni,Ruslan Zuev, (who since graduating from St. James went on to study in Finland and is a major in the Ukrainian branch of the Salvation Army) first came to this village as a scout master with a group of scouts. The scouts were allowed to use a field in the village for a their camp site. While there he got to know pastor John who was in Poroshkovo working to establish a church amongst the Roma people. In their conversations Ruslan mentioned that these grounds would be a good place for a church, and now a new church has opened to serve this village.

It seems everyone in the village knows pastor John. Our instuctions from Ruslan were to ask the locals for directions when we got into town. As we drove in on the rocky, dirt road we asked a woman and she told us to wait right here. She pulled her husband out of the house and sat him in our car to guide us to the new church.

The church meeting lasted for at least four hours with guests from Romania, Canada, Ukraine and the United States. The whole community seemed to be involved with local children singing; church elders and guests sharing the gospel. It is was a blessing to see the great number of people attending and the fantastic work Ruslan is involved with in Ukraine. He is not only working with the Salvation Army through out the country but with local minstries and churches, even serving the solders in war on the eastern front. Ruslan lives in Lviv with his wife Marina.







Korosten 1991

2018

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