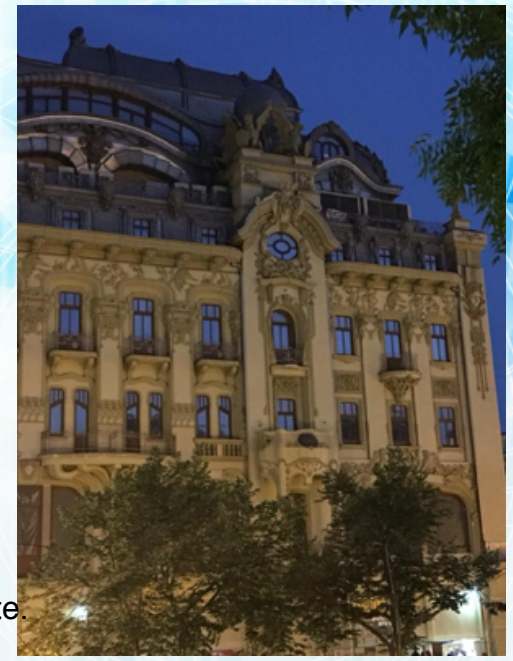
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Odessa, Ukraine

Summer 2018 Update

2018



Vasyl Novakovets class of '96

St. James Alumni seem to have spread out to many differnt countries since 2005 when the college closed. I have been fascinated to discover the fruits of the ministry of St. James and to see how many people have been brought to the knowledge of Christ by our graduates. Of the alumni that I have met thus far many are in full time ministry and do vital work in churches and para-church ministry. Last month I was able to travel to Odessa, Ukraine and meet up with an alumnus there. I visited with Vasyl Novakovets class of '96. He is now living in Odessa, Ukraine. After Graduting from St. James he went on to study at the Odessa Theological Seminary and completed his Masters with Biola's Talbot Seminary, Kyiv. He is currently teaching at the Ukrainian Baptist Seminary in Lviv, and is completing his doctorate. We spoke about about his current position and the seminary in Lviv. Vasily explained he was very happy with the position of the seminary. They are training the students in a very practical way so that their studies have a direct application to their ministry. The seminary is academically challenging yet stresses the value of applying knowledge and skills in active ministry rather than a strickly academic approach. He recalls his time at St. James and shared, as so many of our alumni have, that St. James gave him such a strong foundation, grounded in the Bible.



Ukrainian Baptist Seminary, Lviv, 2018

The small city of Idar-Oberstein in the western part of Germany is home to Pastor Andreas Patz and his family. After recieveing a visa to immigrate as refugees they moved from Russia to this town. Now, pastor of the Russian speaking church he has managed to start and run the largest slavic language christian book store in western Europe. Also, he is the editor of the largest christian newspaper subscribed to by Russian speakers all around the globe. Konstantine Schyder an alumnus class of '01 is a member of his church in Idar-Oberstein.



Pastor Andreas Patz and his wife Olga

The Christian bookstore has hundreds of books translated into Russian as well as Russian authors. This is a great resource for ministers in all Russian speaking areas.
WWW.CHRISTIANIN.EU





Pastor Vladimir Kerasidi and his wife Nina are both alumni of St. James Bible college. Since their graduation they have continued to serve as pastors in Kiev. Pastor Vladimir had a vision to open a church in a outlying neighborhood of Kiev. A place known as a tough, working class area, quite a distance from downtown. They were able to buy a small house and began to develop it into the church that has grown there and is thriving today. Several hundred attend his church every Sunday and the local neighbors have a wonderful place to worship and a caring pastor to serve them. At the lively Sunday meeting the hall is full of young and old singing God's praises together. The church literally grew around their home and they are blessed by living and working in this community.

Alumni from group #105 Kyiv, reunited on a visit to the USA.

Peter Stallin, Oleksander Pavliuk, Vasyl Vatsyk

