

Jim and Evie's Adventures

Summer 2010

Next week will mark three months since we left Kiev. I'm not quite sure how we expected things to go here, but the transition—dealing with reverse culture shock, finding a place to live, job hunting—has been harder than we thought. We are still looking for jobs, joining forces with many others in Charlotte, and apparently in the country, in the same boat. Yesterday in my Bible study, I listened to other seminary wives discuss their tight funds and the effects of unemployment on their families. One woman, whose husband has been out of regular work for two years, shared with me that she just constantly clings to the Lord, trusting that He has them here for a reason. This, we all know, is much harder said than done, but Jim and I do remind each other that times of refining are necessary in life. We're definitely being stretched!

At the same time, we have so much to be thankful for. We have personal relationships with the Lord who has sacrificed Himself for us. We have a nice apartment in a safe area and everything we need to fill it. Jim is enjoying seminary, and we are slowly making friends here and settling in. And we have you, our wonderful friends and supporters! These last three months we have seen the continued provision of God (which makes our worries about jobs seem so silly) through the remains of your monetary support through RCE. In June, July, and August we were able to receive our full monthly salary from RCE, and this month we will receive the last of the money in the account (less than a full salary).

I have had some job interviews with high schools in the area and am waiting to hear back from one or two. I have also applied to various tutoring agencies and retail stores, so I am hoping to hear from something soon! In the meantime, I have set up an etsy store to sell some of my handmade art and crafts—check it out sometime! (URL below.) Jim has been talking to various churches and ministries, looking into pastor and youth pastor positions. Right now he is also planning to start up his painting business here in the Charlotte area.

Yesterday at my Bible study we briefly discussed this passage:

"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would

seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.” Acts 17: 24-27

It’s comforting to know that He has determined our time and our place here and that we can reach out and find Him. Even in those moments when trusting seems hard, He’s there. I hope that you can find comfort in that today, too!

Prayer Requests:

- *that we will find jobs, whatever they may end being
- *that we will find community, both at the seminary and in a church body
- *that we will be able to minister and serve in some capacity

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Etsy: www.etsy.com/shop/awhimsicaljourney