

# Burkey Beacon

Ministry in Macedonia

June 15, 2018



## Packing Up!

We have entered our last month of living in Macedonia.... It is a time of celebrations and sorrow. We are celebrating what the Lord has done over our 14 years serving here, yet so sad to leave our good friends and colleagues and the exciting things they are preparing to do. Their written vision plan says, "...to reach all of Macedonia, the Balkans, and beyond." May God continue to use Macedonians to reach the world for Christ!



We are celebrating the growth of Campus Crusade for Christ in Macedonia. Amy and I are privileged to have been around these 14 years to help train staff and offer guidance to the ministry as it grew and stabilized. Now there are 25 Macedonian staff. Macedonians are directing the ministry and leading all five of the ministry teams. We are confident the Lord will continue to use them because He wants to make Himself known, and our staff want to be used for that same purpose!

## Our Transition

**What we are going to miss:** We are so grateful that many kind people have said we will be missed. We have come to love the people here, our teammates and friends, the food, the mountains, Ohrid lake, the youth group and our youth baseball team. Our kids are having even a worse time saying goodbye to the friends that the Lord provided us with. Nathan was born here, and Seth and Lauren arrived at 1 and 3 years of age. They don't identify with "going home." They would probably like better to say that they are transitioning away from home to the USA. But don't worry, they are solid Ohio State Buckeye fans! They are really going to miss friends and where they grew up. So please pray for them and us as we pack up and head "home." I still call Ohio "home."

### **What we look forward to:**

We are very happy to get our kids a chance to attend at least one year of American high school. I know there are challenges there, but there are so many opportunities that I think our kids really would enjoy. We are thankful also for the chance to transition back to the USA at our Cru world headquarters in Orlando, Florida. There is a good missionary community there that will help our kids adjust, and help Amy and me adjust back and also sharpen ourselves to get ready for our next assignment with Cru's International School Project.

## Our Schedule and Locations

We have a one way ticket back to the USA on **June 26, landing in Columbus, Ohio** at 9:53 PM on flight AC7343. Generally, we'll stay with Adam's parents in Alexandria, Ohio for all of July. Then **August 1st we'll move to Orlando, Florida** for our Lake Hart Stint program. Then in **June of 2019, we'll move back to Ohio** and start with the International School Project (ISP) with a team out of Columbus. ISP is an exciting part of Cru that is strategic for reaching nations with the Gospel of Christ, through building movements of teachers in foreign countries: Equipping Educators—Building Leaders—Shaping a Generation. We feel this is the direction that the Lord is calling us long term: helping reach the nations through ISP from Ohio.

While we are in Ohio in July, we would love to SEE YOU and reconnect. If you have time lets get together!

## Update for Cru Macedonia

### Helping Reach Ukraine from Bulgaria with Macedonians!

Hi, my name is Elena and I'm from Ukraine. I am a third year journalism major at The University of Sofia, in Bulgaria. I have been a student volunteer in Cru since November 2017, when I first went to a course on sign language that they sponsored. From that time I participated in Bible study, mentorship, and evangelism. My mentor is **Lile from Cru Macedonia** and I mentor a Bulgarian student named Alena. I come from a believing family and I love God very much. I have been a Christian since I remember myself. I love people with my whole heart and I want to fulfill the will of God.

Cru gives me opportunity to serve Jesus. They inspire and support me. They teach me how to work with people and how to evangelize. I had the privilege to pray with several of students to accept Jesus. One of the most important things is that God gave me discipleship with Alena. I help her to grow in her new relationship with Jesus Christ. She is growing in the Lord very quickly and already leads one of the Biblical study groups.

I'm glad that I have an opportunity to serve in another country with the organization which I didn't even know about a year ago.



### Sending Macedonians

We are really excited that Macedonians have caught the vision of reaching the nations as Jesus commands and empowers us to help reach. Below is a list of places outside of Macedonia that our student ministry has sent Macedonian staff and students to this year to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and build spiritual movements among students.

- Kalingrad, Russia ( 3 week expedition)
- Nis, Serbia (5 day expedition)
- Middle East (3 week expedition)
- Sofia, Bulgaria (continuous team at University of Sofia, starting 3rd year)

### Please Pray

For **Tomo Josovik** who has picked up most of my responsibilities as the new Operations Director.

For **Speak Out 2018**—our biggest outreach of the year. This summer project involves new people that we have never met before that are coming for a fun English camp and also tutor teams from the USA and both our upcoming and experienced student leaders. Please pray for financial support, for spiritual growth and training of our student leaders, and for the new people to hear and experience the love of God and become connected to our spiritual movement.

For **our emotional and logistical** transition to the USA and our new roles . This is a big transition for us and our kids who have grown up nearly their whole lives so far in Macedonia.

For **our time in Ohio in July**. We would like to have quality time with family and friends, prepare for our move to Florida, and connect with ministry partners and churches, and raise support. That's a lot for one month. Please pray for the Lord to multiply our time and keep us disciplined and faithful to our goals.

We have been soooooo blessed during our time in Macedonia, from your partnership of care, prayer and provision for us. We have seen the Lord answer our prayers and build His Kingdom in Macedonia, to a point where we are confident to move on and help out somewhere else that needs us. **We are so grateful!**

***Thank you so much for your partnership! Adam & Amy***