

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

**UKRAINE**

General Information

- Population: 50 million. Kiev: 3 million.
- Religion: Orthodox Christians make up three-fifths of Ukraine's population of 50 million.
- Protestant Christians form around 2.19 percent of the population. Protestant numbers have grown greatly since Ukrainian independence. The Evangelical Baptist Union of Ukraine is the largest group, with more than 150,000 members and about 3000 clergy.
- Prior to independence in 1991, Ukraine was home to the second largest Baptist community in the world, after the United States, and was called the "Bible Belt" of the former Soviet Union.

Challenges

- Life expectancy is falling. The nation suffers a high mortality rate from environmental pollution, poor diets, widespread smoking, extensive alcoholism, and deteriorating medical care.
- Atheism; a majority of Ukraine (63%) do not belong to a church. Many of them are professing atheists.

Pray For

- Southern Baptist efforts to start church in Ukraine: Forty-eight new churches have begun meeting in Ukraine through the cooperative efforts of the International Mission Board (IMB), the Ukrainian Baptist Union (UBU) and the Don Betts Evangelistic Association (DBEA).
- Shannon Ford, (IMB): "I am truly amazed at how God is working in Ukraine, sometimes it is nearly impossible to take it all in. "

Reference

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukraine#Politics>
- <http://www.opendoormissions.org/Missions%20and%20Ministries694170694170694170>
- <http://imbeurope.org/2009/02/freedom-crusades-bring-thousands-to-christ-in-ukraine/>