

Angela Zimmerman



March 2023

Leaning In

March was an interesting month. The house slowly progressed and I was able to clean the house and start moving things into it, moving myself there on March 15th. I thought I had many things purchased, but as I unpacked boxes and started organizing, I realized that there is plenty more that needed to be purchased to make the home suitable for visitors and guests.

It's a slow process, settling a home. I am sure that many of you have moved in your lifetime at least once, and the unpacking and figuring out what's not needed anymore and what is now necessary—it takes a while.

I am realizing how much perseverance is also needed in our work. The UDG ag club may not have taken off, but I can still build good relationships with the students and staff, creating space for their interest and understanding of agriculture to grow (no pun intended). We can keep looking for available land around the house here, waiting until the prices people want for empty building plots w/o utilities becomes reasonable—maybe ½ of the \$12K they

are asking for a quarter acre? We can keep praying for agriculture people to join our staff here in Moldova.

And perseverance means a lot here in Moldova. People have seen many programs come and go, governments come and go, and even their own children and grandchildren leaving the country. To stay, to lean into difficult situations instead of giving up, earns their respect.

I have been praying about our work here—is it really necessary? Do I stay in a church with problems or go to the city so I can have a church in my own language? Do we work on the relationships in our team or just decide that we will just do our tasks and so we don't have to resolve issues? Do we keep working with farmers who don't want change?

Not to say that there are not times to leave, to quit, to stop and to release control. But I sense that for now, God wants us to lean in, to trust Him to help us scale the mountains that seem way too tall. Then He will have the glory!

Praises:

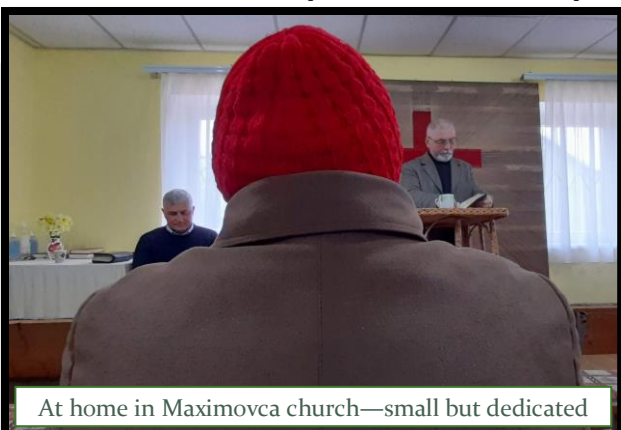
- Was able to engage UDG students in an analysis of my tomato greenhouse business
- I live in the ag house!
- Growing relationships in church and friends.

Prayer Requests:

- Team growth, for decisions that we need to make together
- To seek God, trust Him and persevere in doing His will.
- Growing relationships with UDG staff and students.



Kitchen table in Maximovca--I will probably spend significant time here!



At home in Maximovca church—small but dedicated



At the MallDova (haha) food court with friends