Bob Wood is a retired high school teacher, a Community College professor, an author, and a world traveler. He graduated from MSU in 1980. He lives in Spring Lake, MI. He recently returned from five weeks in Ukraine, where he traveled alone. He weaved camouflage nets, transferred supplies, and worked with orphans and IDPs. He also was provided an opportunity to teach for two weeks at Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine, which has since led to him being hired at UCU as a visiting professor for Spring Term.

Emily Rutkowski is a 2012 graduate of Michigan State’s James Madison College. She attended the University of Michigan law school and practiced at an international firm in Silicon Valley. Emily too spent five weeks in Poland and Ukraine, with most of the time in Kyiv, where she volunteered with humanitarian organizations and met and learned from fellow artists. She is a budding screenwriter and musician. In Michigan, she leads the CRC’s Government Advocacy and Outreach team.

Emily and Bob will introduce you to a Ukraine that you just don’t find on CNN. They traveled with and got to know folks on the ground. The people whom you will be introduced to, through video and photographs, and stories, are strong and soft people of all ages, people who are just like you and me, only in a war zone. There is so much more to know about Ukraine than political borders, military tactics, and CNN Breaking News. It is a nation filled with courageous people living life, and committed fully, to their free and sovereign homeland. We’ll have a conversation with you about these folks.