

Christ for Ukraine

Ray Grayham and Lynn Allison

Greetings from Ukraine

We arrived in Kiev on Jan. 20, with Rich Fillmon, one of the directors of His Kids Too. All these years, we have been telling folks that Ukraine is not located in Siberia. After the past couple of weeks, I think we



might want to reconsider what we say! Ukraine has experienced some bitter cold, with temps down

below -20 (not counting wind chill). This week is warmer and we are more use to it, so life goes on at a more usual pace.

We were met outside those sliding doors at Boryspil airport by Vanya, our faithful friend and helper, who informed us of a tragedy within our church family. The husband of our sister Vita had died in a home accident. He was an epileptic, had an attack in the kitchen, fell on the gas stove and

was badly burned. He was about 35 years old and he and Vita were doing well and planned to start a family. We grieve with Vita and ask your prayers to help her through this terrible time.

As we look forward to the rest of this year (and warmer weather!), we look forward to the challenges ahead and pray that God will use us in a powerful way to accomplish His will. More than ever, we are aware of and thankful for so many of you who give of yourselves to make the work in Ukraine possible. Our faith has been tested and strengthened by the necessity of fund-raising and that process is ongoing. We are still approximately \$9,000 short on our 2006 budget and ask for your prayers and financial contributions toward that end.

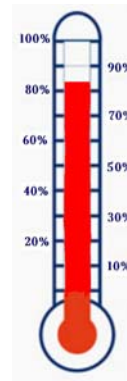
We love you and pray God's richest blessings upon you!

In Christian Service,
Ray Grayham and Lynn Allison



Our Goal

\$50,500



Thank You for Your Support of the work in Ukraine

Prayer List:

- **Vita**, who is grieving after the loss of her husband
- **Larissa**, our new sister in Christ
- **Olga**, a diabetic sister in poor health
- **Natasha**, who wants to win her husband Sasha to the Lord
- **Gene Parker**, missionary, suffering from shingles
- **Proposed Children's Home**, that government approval can be obtained

Check us out!



www.christ4ukraine.org

Contact Information:

Ray Grayham
raygrayham@yahoo.com

Lynn Allison
allisoninukraine@yahoo.com

Mailing Address (letters):
P.O. Box 1463
Donetsk, Ukraine
83110

Please make support checks payable to:

Woodland Hills Church of Christ
10011 Woodland Hills Drive
Cordova, Tennessee 38018
Phone: 901-755-7709
E-mail: info@woodlandhillschurch.com
Web-page: www.woodlandhillschurch.com

Look forward to an exciting update about **Natasha** and her Grandmother in our next issue!



New Sister in Christ

We are happy to tell you about our new sister Larissa who was baptized into Christ on January 04, 2006 She works in the school library with our sister Svetlana, who led her to Christ. We rejoice with Larissa and look forward to serving the Lord together with her.

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Luke 10:2



With Rich Fillmon, his interpreter Vanya, Margarita and director of "Our Kids", a children's home for babies

On the lighter side:

A few days ago, Lynn's parents, Marvin and Clemmie Allison were watching the international weather report. The weather man read: "Europe has been hit by a wave of cold weather. In Paris, it's 10 degrees; in Moscow, -20 and in Donetsk, -50.". The Allisons were alarmed and called to see if what they had heard was really true. Lynn answered the phone and Brother Marvin asked, "How cold is it there?".

Lynn answered, "Oh, about -25".

Bro. Marvin replied, "That's great news; the weather man said it was -50".

Lynn said, "Well, it may be true. I still haven't gone outside yet today".



Vikka with mom, Natasha

His Kids Too!

On January 25-26, we had the opportunity to work with Rich Fillmon and his interpreter Vanya in delivering benevolent donations to several needy recipients in Donetsk. Rich and his wife Teresa are the founders of His Kids Too, a Christian charity that serves needy children and widows in Ukraine. We invite you to check them out at www.hiskidstoo.org

On Wednesday and Thursday, we delivered clothing and other supplies to a hospital

Food for the Needy

In spite of inclement weather, Food for the Needy was delivered as usual on the last Saturday of the month. Valery, a brother who coordinates one of the 3 routes, spoke to the congregation yes-



terday about how important this program is for both the recipients and those who are involved in the purchasing and

for abandoned babies, a treatment center for disabled children, a temporary shelter for children and a hospital for HIV+/AIDS children. In addition, we were able to visit a local shelter for homeless adults and a shipment of thermal underwear, coats and other clothing for them was received just in time from Walter Steely and his congregation in Murray, KY. Thanks much!!

During his brief visit, Rich encouraged the church in

delivering of the food. Many people feel they have been forsaken and forgotten by their government and their families, yet the church shows love and concern to them.

On Saturday, one lady remarked that she receives a pension of approximately \$60 a month. Of that, \$20 goes for utilities and \$20 goes for medicine. Can you imagine having to limit your grocery bill to \$20 a month? Unfortunately, we hear similar stories every month.

A Child is Born!

On December 15, 2005, Victoria Alexandrovna Gapchenko entered the world. No newspapers were there to report on the birth and the major networks didn't interrupt their regularly scheduled programming, but little Vikka is, nevertheless, very special for the congregation which meets in Proletarsky. She is the first child born to a member of our congregation in its 10-year history. Her dear mother, Natsha and her brother Zaxar are faith-

ful members of our congregation. For us, she represents a new generation of children, growing up in the Lord, who will become the backbone of the Lord's church in Ukraine.

Unfortunately, as is so often the case, Vikka's father, Sasha, does not support his family's desire to serve God. He has decided that Vikka should be christened in the Russian Orthodox church and Natasha is upset about the family conflict and the planned baptism. Please pray for

Dzerzhinsk and he and Vanya visited several additional child-care facilities in and around Dzerzhinsk.



"For I was thirsty and you gave something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Matthew 15:35-36



The food is given in the name of the Proletarsky church of Christ with the help of sponsors from the church of Christ in America. God bless you for your care for those who haven't been blessed as richly as we have.

Natasha and her children to have the strength and the love to win over Sasha, so that their family can be united in Christ.

Thanks so much for your prayers and participation in the work here and for your encouragement and support. We appreciate you and pray God's richest blessings upon you!