



# Christ For Ukraine

Ray Grayham and Lynn Allison

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## Greetings from Donetsk

*"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Rom. 10:15)*

September started off with a tremendous boost of energy and enthusiasm thanks to a visit from nine brothers and sisters from **Mt. Juliet, TN**. Their primary objective in coming to Ukraine was to encourage the church in Krasnoarmeusk and to conduct Vacation Bible Schools in boarding schools for homeless and needy children. However, we persuaded them to come our way each evening during their first week here to conduct a Bible School for the children in our neighborhood.

Since the beginning of the Bible School coincided with the first day of school, we were gravely concerned that no one would show up. However, from a modest beginning, attendance and enthusiasm increased each night and many children from the surrounding community were acquainted with lessons from God's Word and had an opportunity to learn that Christian activities can actually be **fun!**

We appreciate so much **Andrew, Phil, Buddy, Sissy, Ben, Susan, David, Tony and Pat** for your servant hearts and your love for Christ

and lost souls.

Also visiting with the folks from Mt. Juliet were **Dave Phillips** from the Germantown (TN) congregation and **Josh Wyatt** from Rosemark (TN). They spent their time teaching at the Ukrainian Bible Institute and teaching and encouraging local congregations around Donetsk.



Team from Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

## Prayer List:

- **Youth** – for wisdom in making important life decisions
- **Knight Family** – for strength and comfort after the passing of Diana
- **Galina** – for continued recovery following back surgery
- **Evdokia** – for encouragement and motivation following her stroke
- **Victor Stepanovich** – for health and recovery following cancer surgery
- **Vitya** – for God's blessings on him as his future is being decided

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## Moving On

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:" (Eccl. 3:1)*

September was also a bittersweet month as we bade farewell to our beloved **Gene and Mary Parker**. They were instrumental in the forming of the congregation here in Prole-



tarsky. Although he's not exactly a youngster, Gene has worked tirelessly for the past 12 or so years to build the church in Proletarsky and to make sure that it has a nice place in which to meet. If you ask Mary, she'll tell you she didn't do much of anything, but don't you believe her. She just quietly goes about her business, taking care of Gene and looking for ways she can use her talents to serve the Lord. Their departure has

ripped a big hole in the heart of the Proletarsky congregation and we sorely miss them. We pray God's richest blessings on them as they begin this new chapter in their lives.



The Proletarsky American Team: Lynn Allison, Mary & Gene Parker, and Ray Grayham



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## Meet Vitya



We'd like to tell you about a little fellow who was here every night of the children's Bible School conducted during September. His name is **Vitya**, he's 9

years old and he has been coming to worship services by himself for over a year. His Mom is a single parent and she has a drinking problem. When Vitya was 7, he was hit by a car and had a long recovery period, both in the

hospital and at home. He got behind his classmates and didn't finish the first grade. He was labeled as 'mildly retarded' and sent to study at a boarding school for such children. His Mom had intended to try and get him back into a normal school, but the summer got away from her and she didn't get around to getting him enrolled into any school. We have taken Vitya on as a project. Several member of the church have been involved with having his 'retarded' label being removed and trying to get him into a nor-

mal school and into a private children's home where he will be tutored and can catch up academically and developmentally. There is an incredible amount of procedures and red tape that has to be navigated and it continues to be a real education for us.



### With Sympathy

We are sorry to share with you the news about the passing of **Diana Knight**. Diana and Dennis and their children, Rachel and Jedidiah, are long time missionaries to Ukraine. Our prayers and deepest sympathy goes out to Dennis, Rachel and Jedidiah.



## South Trail church of Christ



The **South Trail** congregation in lovely Sarasota, Florida is

our featured congregation this month. South Trail is involved in numerous evangelistic/benevolent activities both at home and around the world. They have a local bus ministry and provide meals for the children before Wednesday Bible study. In addition, they offer a Saturday Food

Pantry which serves 80-90 needy families a week with groceries and clothing.

They support three children's homes in America and are involved with mission work in India, Honduras and Ukraine. In previous newsletters, you may have read about blankets South Trail ladies have made and sent for children's homes in Ukraine. It has also been our privilege to have one of their elders, **Ron Doederlein** and his son **Dave** over for a visit in the summer of 2005. We salute South Trail and appreciate their love for Christ and for lost souls everywhere.

## Food for the Needy

Just a reminder that this program is still going strong! Every last Saturday of the month, volunteers from the congregation deliver packages of basic food items to 60 needy individuals in our area of the city. Last Wednesday at our prayer meeting, one of our older men prayed about the problem of sharply-rising utility rates. Not surprisingly, there is no corresponding increase in pensions planned. It is tough being a senior citizen in Ukraine!

**Congratulations!**

To **Linette Britt**, whose wedding was September 30 and to **David Mars** who will tie the knot on October 7. Many of you know that both Linette and David worked here in Donetsk with us in 1999-2000. We wish God's blessings on both new families.



*Linette and Nat Baker*



*David Mars and Christy Golden*

**Thank you!**

A "big" Ukrainian thank you to **Woodland Hills** for the box of clothing. We appreciate the effort you put forth to remember the people here.