

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Tkachuk Family

In Ukraine, we celebrate new years before Christmas and so we wanted to give you all a little taste in the video below of our New Year's celebration.... Katya authored the whole program including dancing, singing, clowns and a play! Never a dull moment!!! Happy New Year! You can watch the video at the following address:

<http://tkachuks.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/New-Years-2.wmv>



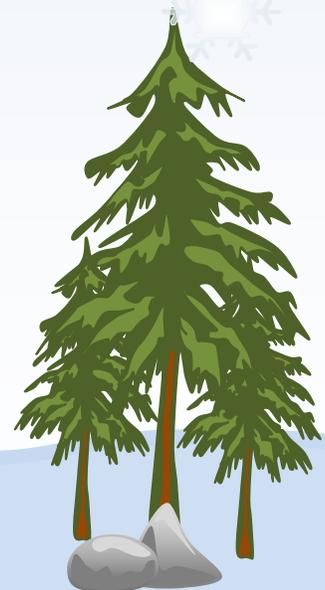
Another tradition we enjoy is exchanging presents on New Years. After the wonderful talent show clip you saw in the above video the kids finally went to bed at 3am. Ruslan and I stayed up and put presents under the tree and filled stockings and made it to bed around 5am. It took us a week to recover from that late night!! Nonetheless, it was worth every tired moment as we watched the kids walk into the family room as they saw presents under the tree and stockings with fun things in them. For five of our kids, it was the first time of ever even putting up a tree, let alone getting presents. They played the entire day with their prizes! We spent the remainder of our holidays just simply being with the kids playing, watching movies, eating and resting! Couldn't have asked for a more wonderful holiday, we are so grateful!!



Happy New Year!



Lunch with our Pastor and his family



Merry Christmas from Ukraine! We celebrate Christmas on January 7th here in Ukraine and enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Eve with Ruslan's mom and grandmother in the village, where they prepared a feast for us and we all crammed into her two room little house and were so thankful for the love and blessings of having our family and being able to celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

On January 7th, we had planned to go to Vinnytsa to celebrate Christmas with several other missionaries in the Vinnytsa area at the Operation Mobilization house, but we were surprised to wake in the morning to find Yulya covered with little spots all over her body, Chicken pox! So, we enjoyed a day at home, just relaxing, but loved the fun of having Marina (one of the older girls that lived with us in Vinnytsa) and her husband, Sasha, join us for Christmas dinner and some Christmas cookie decorating fun the next day! It was special having them with us for this time.



Just this past Sunday we celebrated Christmas at our church and also had kind of a "grand opening" of a room in the community center that will be used to help families in need. We are continually growing our relationship with a store in Vinnytsa that blesses us from time to time with food and miscellaneous items as well as other missions that send us boxes of clothing and goods. Now, we have a place to store all these items and once a week we will be able to have families come and be blessed in abundant ways by food, clothing, supplies, etc. We are working towards using this as a "drop off" location and trying to get our community involved and anyone else who would like to bless others.



Christmas Dinner at Ruslan's mom in the village - YUM!



Praise God for his provision! We have officially paid off the former owner of our home, special thanks to all those who helped us accomplish this, thank you for being a vessel of the Lord. May the Lord return the blessings a thousand times! We are forever grateful and in awe of the Lord!!

- We are in need of an older laptop, if someone might have one they are willing to sell or donate; Marina (older girl) is helping Ruslan with some translations and needs a computer so she can work at home instead of the internet cafe.
- We lack around \$7-8000 for a vehicle for Archie; please pray that the Lord provides the finances.
- Health of all the children, we now have chicken pox running its course in our home.
- If anyone or their churches want to be involved in our "Blessing Others" location, please let us know and we can give you the necessary information to ship and send at an inexpensive rate.

Donations can be made to:
Heart to Hand Ministries
733 E. Front Street
Danville, PA 17821

