

Winter Festivities

With the Tkachuk's

Happy New Year!

May this New Year be filled with new mercies, blessings and the presence of the Lord anew for each of you this 2012!

January



Where do we begin with these past months?! So, we decided to simply start off with our New Year's celebration! Everyone was so excited to have our Papa back home with us on the 30th of December, he even surprised all by arriving an hour earlier than expected! We woke on the 31st and headed to the village to celebrate Ruslan's grandmother's 8^{0th} birthday! The whole family came together and we enjoyed a day of celebrating the life of this amazing woman who lived through 2 famines and basically cared for her own family after her father was killed on the front lines and who stood in front of a German soldier at gun point and survived by the protection of the Lord over her – no bullets left in the gun!

will plow the fields since her back is hurting at 80 years old! We are blessed to have Grandma Nina in our lives and are thankful for the life she has lead and how much she has invested in our lives and now our children.

We arrived home after celebrating in the village and watched a movie with the kids until midnight and watched the display of beautiful fireworks from our balcony!

The kids woke the next morning to their gifts under the tree! They were each very excited about their gifts, but especially the girls as they all got princess wigs!

She raised 4 wonderful children and is still worried about how she





Happy Birthday Jesus!

In Ukraine we celebrate the birth of our Savior on January 7th and so the kids and us made a cake and we sang happy birthday to Jesus together and had a nice day just remembering what a gift the birth of our Savior is to all of us! We had dinner as a family and read the Bible together; it's one of our most favorite holidays together and we love listening to the Bible being read of the story of Jesus's birth.

Celebrating Jesus!

One of the things I stayed busy with while Ruslan was away is our children's Christmas program at church. It was a joy to watch our kids re-enact the story of Jesus birth in songs, poems and dance! I had fun making costumes and working with another friend from church as she worked diligently on sewing costumes! We had many practices and did our program on the Sunday after Christmas. They all did a fabulous job and we are thankful to have the freedom to be able to share Jesus with others!



Teams

At the end of January we had some fun with our doctor friends! They as always came with their hearts full of wanting to help others and share the love of Christ. They had lectures on various topics and were a blessing to so many doctors and families. They were with our family for a few days and as always they were so giving to us and loving to our entire family! Brian, Mark and Shannon, we are honored to be a part of ministering with you, and look forward to all that God has in store for us all!

February

When Ruslan was on his way home from taking Brian, Mark and Shannon to the airport we were hit with a snow storm – the long awaited winter had finally arrived! We were showered with over a meter of snow within a day or two which made it difficult for Ruslan to get home! But, we don't let the snow stop us from much; he brought home with him a team of 7 people, YWAM Vinnytsa. We met the leaders of this team, Andrew and Oksana Ford last year and became instant friends. They have a heart for the youth and it's wonderful to see all that they are doing here in our oblast. They have decided that they would like to do an extreme DTS and asked if they could use our property out in the village. We, of course, said "yes"! So, nothing like starting up an extreme DTS for them than with a little extreme arrival into Nemia! Ruslan arrived at the bottom of our hill at 7pm, but actually didn't walk through the front door until midnight!! We were so covered in snow and freezing temps that they closed schools for almost two weeks and it took at least three days before Ruslan could even attempt trying to get up the hill to our home. But, in the meanwhile we had a blast getting to know this team and having them with us for several days, and we look forward to helping them in any way we can!

We are amazed each day at the relationships the Lord is blessing us with and the many different ministries He is allowing us to be a part of. We are thankful for that and can't wait to see the many adventures that lie ahead of us!



*The Next
Few
Months...*

<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>
<p><i>Celebrating Women's Day on the 8th</i></p> <p><i>Preparations for the planting season</i></p>	<p><i>Bogdanchyk's birthday on the 17th</i></p> <p><i>Easter on the 15th</i></p> <p><i>Woody Wolfe and team arrive on the 28th</i></p>	<p><i>Ruslan will be working with two teams from Holland</i></p> <p><i>Archie and Isabella leave for the States on the 10th</i></p>	<p><i>Vika's Birthday on the 2nd</i></p> <p><i>Diana's birthday on the 16th</i></p> <p><i>Archie and Isabella return from the States on the 14th</i></p> <p><i>Isabella's birthday on the 18th</i></p>



*With love, blessings
and gratefulness in
our hearts,
The Tkachuk family*

Donations can be made to:
Heart to Hand Ministries
733 E. Front Street
Danville, PA 17821
Memo: Tkachuk Children's Home