

**“I will tell of the kindness of the Lord, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the Lord has done for us— yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses.”  
Isaiah 63:7**



*From the Tkachuk Family in Ukraine*



We greet you in the year 2009 with much love and many prayers that your new year has gotten off to a wonderful start!

As we look back at all the pictures we have taken just in the past two months we are blessed by all the work the Lord has given us here in Ukraine! We spent the month of December enjoying each other and the many blessings of family. Ruslan had been very busy with teams for several months and so we decided to devote the holidays to being at home and simply baking in the love around us.

Since we have been so blessed by the Lord we decided to

share this love with others over the holidays. One of the wonderful things we did as a family was help carry some New Years blessings to families struggling, especially during this unstable economic situation we are in today. Some friends of ours from an organization, Catalyst for Kids, had some money donated for families. Along with their donations and a little extra from our “helping others” jar, we were able to purchase many groceries for 4 families for the Christmas and New Year holidays. One family had 8 kids and they are living in a unfinished home (3rd picture from the left). Another family had 3 children

and lived in a one room house (2nd picture from the left). Third was a single mother of three, the youngest who has Cerebral Palsy (4th picture from the left). The last family was one who had 6 children. We were also able to help some others who had received some new years blessings from the red cross to carry these items to their homes.

What a wonderful gift this was for us as a family and something we are so thankful that our children are a part of. We all received such joy from given to others and look forward to our next opportunity to bless someone!



## *Some New Year's Fun!*

We started off our New Year's celebration with our little girls first play in pre-school! They both had to learn short poems. It was great fun to see them all dressed up like little princesses, we were definitely proud parents!

Then on New Year's Eve we had our good friends Max and Tanya and their little girl,

Sasha, come to our home. We cooked a storm and stayed up way too late, but enjoyed the fun and relaxation!



We also enjoyed a winter wonderland during the holidays and made some time for some sledding

and fun in the snow!



We want to say a special thank you to all our friends and family who helped make our Christmas and New Years one to remember, we love you all!



## Good Times in February!

One of the wonderful blessings the Lord has given us in this home is the ability to host visitors and teams. At the beginning of the month we had some visitors from South Carolina, Andy and Lori Fleming (pictured below). They came for their second trip to Ukraine and have quickly become a part of our family and hold special places in all our hearts.



They are hoping to come and spend a year here in Ukraine helping with kids that have

Cerebral Palsy, downs and other ailments as well as I'm sure whatever else we can find them! We found that they have so much in common with Ruslan and I and we had many hours of unforgettable laughter and fun together, we look forward to them coming and staying with us and all that God has in store for them here and us together!

During their time here, I, Archie, had the fun of being able to travel with them and Ruslan to Bila Tserkva, a city close to Kiev (the capital of Ukraine). This was a great opportunity as this a part of ministry that I have not been able to experience with Ruslan. First, we had the blessing of visiting a drug and alcohol rehab center, Fastiv, that is full

of love and testimony! It's hard to explain in words what we all experienced there, a body of believers that come together to worship, help each other, support and share Jesus! Above is a picture of the place they live and worship. We visited a Cerebral Palsy Center that a wonderful family that has a son who has CP helped begin. As well as attended their church service that they hold at this center and watch them minister to the many people who disabilities in their area. These wonderful people pick up the ones that can't walk or come on their own and bring them to and from church,



it's a beautiful example of the detailed care God gives us. This is one of the ministries God allows us to be a part of and we are so thankful!



Above is Sunday worship at the CP Center Church. Below is lunch with the family that began this center.



Even though we have moved away from Vinnitsa, we have still stayed in contact with our friends from OM, Operation Mobilization. Our kids are still involved in puppet ministry and we are still visiting orphanages and sharing Jesus using puppets with them. We have visited many orphanages, schools,



pre-schools and rehab centers sharing stories of Jesus. It's a great joy to hear the

sounds of laughter and fun as the kids watch these puppets in action. We were also asked by a village close to Vinnitsa to help them with the opening of a new pres-school. We did a puppet



show and had clowns (thanks Dana, the costumes are still being used!) and had much fun with the kids!

One of the fun adventures we took with friends was to a couple of nearby orphanages. In between the two orphanages we stopped and enjoyed the rare, warm and



beautiful day in February with a picnic! Another trip that we never miss out on is going to Ladyzhyn, a level four orphanage. When we visited this time, they had been nursing a young man named Igor, 17, back to health after being hit by a car while riding his bike, he was left there by his parents and paralyzed. Imagine the shock of being left in a place where kids/adults aren't able to speak, communicate, lay in bed all day, etc. The first visit Ruslan had with him he didn't even speak, but this time he spoke and even allowed him to pray for him. Some friends were able to get a computer donated to him. This picture is Igor with his laptop.



We couldn't let this newsletter go without putting this picture in! Andy and Lori, thanks for the wig fun!



We ask your prayers for these next couple of months as winter is hopefully on its way out and Spring will be arriving. We ask for your prayers as there are new laws being made daily and as the government is trying to do away with our type of a children's family. We also ask

for your prayers for the new children that will soon be added to our family. We look forward to all who God has for us. Lastly, we ask your continued prayers for our finances, that Ruslan would find work and that we are able to continue paying the former owner of our home.

*With grateful hearts and love,  
the Tkachuk Family*

