



Summer Fun in Ukraine!

June 2010

Even More the Merrier

Our newest additions Vika, Bogdan and Alona

This past May we added three new beautiful children to our family, Vika, Bogdan and Alona. We brought them home with us and they finished out the last two weeks of school here in Mohyliv! They were excited to see their rooms and where they would be living. It's taken a little adjusting as the oldest, Vika, 9 has had some issues of opening up and accepting love, especially from Ruslan. We were told there was some abuse from her biological father and later she told us. Just a little over a month later, she is smiling more and is allowing us to hug her and love on her. Praise God for the way He cares for His children. We know it's His love she is feeling. Bogdan is 1000% boy! He is full of energy and the combined energy of another Bogdan equals mass destruction at times! Seriously, he is a joy and is learning what it's like to be in a family environment, having his own things and caring for what he has. Alona is quiet, but has a sweet spirit about her. She too has had some abuse in her life, but we are praying for her and know that God will heal those broken places in her heart. She is a loving, helpful little girl. **Pictured below is Vika's 9th bday. We celebrated her day by going to Vinnitsa, McDonald's lunch, rides at the park and surprise cake at home! She had smiles all day!**



Lots to Do!

What we've been up to

The summer has gotten off to a fast start for us this year! With Sasha taking exams for entering the University in the fall, Yura and Katya taking exams for finishing the 9th grade and a couple of teams we had visiting us at the first of June, we can't believe it's already the end of the month! We had friends from Delaware and Tennessee visit with us. Our friends from Delaware visited orphanages and helped us build a sand pit! We had many hours of fun and laughter with them. Thanks to Jess and Meghan for being such great sports even in the midst of first trimester challenges of pregnancy! You guys are awesome!



Our family and friends from Delaware showing off our huge strawberries!

Our friends from Tennessee were a huge help not only physically, but were like medicine to us! They not only helped with canning, renovations, the kids, cleaning, errands, working to put up storefront signs, but were an incredible encouragement to us as a brother and sister. It's been a long time since we've laughed and at the same time had rest amongst the work. Ruslan and I were both blessed beyond words and will forever be grateful to them for taking the time to come here and be a part of our lives. We love you guys and look forward to the next time!

What's Ahead

The comings and goings of the summer

We can't imagine our summer getting better than it already has been thus far! We are so excited to see what God has planned for us! In July, we will be doing a youth camp with our church for a week and we are really excited about being able to be a part of this with them! After camp we will have our friends from Germany visiting with us for a few days. Then Ruslan and I are hoping to get away together for our wedding anniversary for about a week, we are looking forward to some "us" time given to us by a dear friend, to whom saying thank you to just isn't enough! At the end of July, we have a dear friend from Canada visiting us! We are excited about her time here with us and the adventures we will take with her during her two week stay! Then we have our favorite friend from Heart to Hand Ministries joining us, Woody Wolfe! The joys of him coming and being a blessing to others here are beyond what I could write in words to you all. He is a huge part of our family and we always look forward to him coming and being a part of blessing others with him!

In the midst of all these things we will be canning and preparing for the winter! Our garden is flourishing with tomatoes, cabbage, potatoes, peas, cucumbers, lettuce, spinach, squash, zucchini, grapes and herbs! We have already canned over a 150 jars of cherry and strawberry juice and cherry, strawberry and raspberry jams! As well as frozen many sour cherries and raspberries in order to make fresh juice in the winter months.

Finally, we will have the joy of our friends, Andy and Lori Fleming, moving here in August to live for a year! We are extremely excited to see what all God has in store for them here. They plan to work with children with disabilities in our area as well as some other nearby villages and cities. We can't wait to see the blessings that will be brought to so many through them!



Pictured to the right are Ruslan and Sasha on his last day of school, "The Last Bell". Sasha has finished taking his exams and next month will be turning in all his documents to enter University! He plans on entering the same University that Ruslan attended in Vinnitsa and majoring in English and German. We appreciate your prayers that all goes well with his documents and that he enters the university to begin classes this fall. We are so proud of him and look forward to all that God has in store for him as he embarks on this new phase in his life!



The joys of a little water on a hot day!

We are so thankful for all your love, support and prayers! We love you and look forward to sharing the remainder of our summer with you in the next couple of months!

**With blessings and much, much love,
The Tkachuk family**



Some of the fresh greens we've been enjoying!



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