

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from the Ukraine! We again would like to write to all of you back home to say thank you again for all of your support in prayers and finances. I am not the best in keeping up in letters but when I think about just how much God blesses us through you all, we are truly humbled and thank God for his mercies and grace. Thank you again for everything.



This summer is flying by so fast. My mom, Mary Hoogland came for a three-week visit in the beginning of June. God blessed us with a great time of fun and the kids got to get to know their grandma better. They now terribly miss her and Natan seems to think that maybe he will live in America (big decision for 7-yr-old!).

We had our vacation Bible school for younger kids in the end of June. We were blessed with about 32 children

coming. It went very well and opened up some new relationships with not only the kids, but their parents. One single mom, Natasha, said that she had wanted to come to church for some time but did not know 'how'. She said that it just did not seem polite to just 'come'. When she saw the invitation for VBS, they were excited and they were the first ones there at registration! We hope and pray that God will bless that they will continue to come to church and believe and receive Jesus. There will be starting a new kids club specifically for younger kids in the fall.



The Feed the Hungry program that we did throughout the year,

feeding homeless and poor and having a Bible study together, ended for the summer. The reason we ended is because summer is easier to get by. There is the river to bathe in, and work is easier to find working in the fields and gardens. Also, our summer is filled with camps and many people coming and going. We plan to start it back up in the fall when it gets colder.

This program has opened for us great opportunity to work. Many doors were opened and we see God's blessing. One family of five, Morika and Volodya with their daughter and two grandkids are regularly coming to church. They have stopped drinking and are



interested in having a Bible study in their home. Another man, Valentine, regularly comes to church. Another deaf couple, Tanya and Ivan, are coming often and showing changes in even their appearance. Dadya Vasya, a garbage man and alcoholic, repented and received Jesus. After coming to the Feed the Hungry meeting, he found a job and since then has been trying to quit drinking. He needs support in prayer. His girlfriend, who first invited him to Feed the Hungry, is named Marinna. Since starting to come to our meals together, she started to come to every Sunday service as well. She lived a difficult

life of being an alcoholic and living with her alcoholic father. Every morning at around 6:00 her dad kicked her out of their apartment and would not let her back until late in the evening. She often was hungry and no matter what the weather –freezing cold or rain – she was sitting on one of the city benches. She had already had four children—each taken by the government. She smelled because she had no bladder control and no opportunity for cleanliness. One day she asked if we could baptize her so that she would not drink anymore. We then explained to her about where strength not to sin comes from. We talked to her about repentance and believing in Jesus. We explained to her why Jesus died and rose from the dead and the way to salvation. Praise God! She has since been admitted to a Christian rehab center (a year treatment). She has given her life to Christ, and is expecting a son in August. She is reading God’s word and growing as a young Christian. Please pray for Marianna. Pray that God will provide for her a safe place for her and her son to live when she returns back home from the rehab center.

Our family is taking a vacation in a few days to go to the black sea. We are e looking forward to having a fun and relaxing time together as a family. We will be visiting the country Georgia. Please pray for God’s protection and blessing on us as we travel.

Here are few things we are asking for prayer for as well:

\*Our children’s health. They both have been struggling with boils for over two months because of low hemoglobin.

\*Our 10 day outreach camp to youth in August.

\*We are still looking and praying for an English ministry. There is a need for one or two people to come and teach English and reach out for Jesus Christ. We have requests all the time even from the schools if we can give English lessons.

\*New Life Church—that the Lord would protect her from division and bless with love and unity.

\*The Osisiki family—they have not been drinking for many months and are regularly coming to church. Please pray for Vitya the father that he would be born again.