

News From GHT



By Nita Hanson

God's Continued Blessing

When we set our mind to do all that God has spoken into our hearts, He is faithful to provide all that we can think of or imagine – and more besides!

When the Lord first sent me to Ukraine 16 years ago for a three-week short term mission trip, I could never have imagined or dreamed of all that would follow! All I knew was that I was to go on that trip. All the rest fell into place as He set out to accomplish His plans for this ministry of His creation.

And just as we are called to unity of faith, so we are joined in praying for, providing for and serving the people God has placed in this ministry. **Your faith in Him IS proclaimed** to thousands of men, women and children in Ukraine, many who had given up hope – many who were sure they were forever forgotten.

Through good times and hard times you have faithfully given of your time, talents, and treasure. As we take mobility aids, medical treatment and our love into the homes and lives of those too often left alone and afraid, we proclaim that there is One who never forgets them, never leaves them and always calms their fears. Because of your faith and faithfulness, Jesus is brought into their homes and lives. **This is the gift we bring** – not the mobility aids – not the medical assistance, but **the hope of a Savior who loves beyond our ability to understand.**



Because of your willingness to be a blessing, we have been able to:

Provide mobility aids to **more than 260 new families** this year – just in the Bila Tserkva Region! We now have more than 1,300 active families in our Region alone.



Give hundreds of mobility aids to our outlying cities such as Kanitop, Vinnetsa, Sevastopol, Rokitna, Stavische and more.

Train several new cities how to minister to the disabled.

Donate thousands of dollars of medical equipment and supplies to hospitals, village clinics and individuals.

Give Bibles, clothing, and medicines to those in need.



Have our first seminar to teach stroke rehabilitation methods to caregivers from villages too far away to send Dr. Tamara and Olya – something we hope to continue doing on a quarterly basis in the coming year.



Make new equipment in our Wheelchair Center to assist our stroke victims in their therapy.

All of this in addition to our ongoing ministry outreaches. Orphans are still being taught that they have a Savior; stroke rehabilitation continues to provide healing, hope and renewed mobility to the disabled; support groups bring encouragement to overwhelmed caregivers; and home visits bring the light of God's love into the darkness through a gentle touch and a listening ear.



With deep gratitude for your partnership in this work, I pray God's blessings over your homes and families.

Dima—Then and Now

You may remember that Dima was adopted from an orphanage in Ukraine by the McGuckins, who live in Oregon. Dima is now 14 yrs old, and in 9th grade; yes a freshman in high school! He likes to read and is a good student. He is very good about doing chores around the house. He loves to play video games. He just went on a trip to Florida with his mom to visit his grandma. He also got to visit with Nita.

He went to a summer camp this year where they race go-karts. This is the second year he has done that, and he really enjoys it. He likes church, and has many church friends. He is the tallest one in the family now at 5'11". He loves his brother and sister. He is becoming quite a young man.



Please keep Nita in your prayers as she goes in for surgery January 19 in Ocala, FL for repair of three discs in her back and an attempt to straighten her spine. Please pray that God would guide Dr. Oliver's hands.

By Sherry Shaeffer

The Cupboard is Bare

The end of October I was able to travel to Ukraine to visit some of the clinics in the outlying villages of Bela Tserkva. We had heard some rumors that much of the medical equipment and government money that was to go to the village clinics was not being passed on to them. It was staying in the larger hospitals. Nita decided we needed to see for ourselves just what the clinics needed and if they were getting what was needed to do their work and help the people that could not get to the hospitals.



I was able to visit six of the village clinics and Dr Tamara and Olya visited at least eight others. As I talked with the nurses that are in charge of the clinics, it was the same story over and over: “We have no supplies. Most of our exam tables and equipment is so old and some of it we have made ourselves.” One nurse opened her cupboard to show me her equipment and there were a few medicines and bandages. She said, “I had to buy these myself with my own money - we have no money to buy things anymore.” As I left each clinic every nurse said they didn’t want to ask for too much, but would be so grateful for any help that we could give them. As a nurse my heart went out to them as they tried to help their patients with so little to work with.

In answer to much prayer, we are beginning to work with ‘Hands of Hope’, an organization which sends shipments of medical supplies and equipment all over the world. A 40-foot container is ready to ship to Ukraine as soon as the paperwork is approved, and yet another container is being readied for shipment. God has answered our prayers for the equipment. Now we ask your prayers for everything to make it through customs, and guidance in getting things where they are needed most.



By Sherry Shaeffer

Finding Hope

Three years ago, Paul, while working his shift as a guard in a Ukrainian manufacturing plant, was set upon by thieves. Defending his employer's property, this 65-year-old man was severely beaten around the head and suffered several broken bones. He spent two weeks in the hospital recovering from his wounds, before he was allowed to return home to finish healing. Three days later Paul suffered a catastrophic stroke while home with his wife of 41 years, Ekaterina, and his son. Ekaterina called for an ambulance but none came, so she and her son bundled him up in a blanket and drove him to the hospital themselves.

The stroke had left Paul completely helpless. Other than stabilize his condition, the hospital would do nothing for him. Finally, he was discharged with the prognosis that he would not be able to care for himself as long as he lived. He left the hospital the way he came in: carried out in a blanket by his wife and son. His wife, however, believed in her husband's strength and was determined not to give up.

Ekaterina worked with Paul for months, first just to sit up and move his arms, and later to stand; but she had reached her limit. Paul was still unable to move around his own home, let alone venture outside. The daily routine and lack of progress was taking its toll on Ekaterina. She was losing hope, when she was put in touch with God's Hidden Treasures, who provided a wheelchair for Paul and a caregiver's group made available to anyone with Ekaterina's circumstances.





At the caregiver's meetings, she realized her situation was neither hopeless nor unique. Within the embrace of the group, she found good advice, good friends, and spiritual support. Her life was once again worth embracing. Even while enduring the endless days of caring for and rehabilitating her husband, she rediscovered her passion for planting and cultivating her own vegetable garden. She was able to grow enough food to raise money to help pay for some of Paul's medicine.

As the years passed, Paul was able to do more and more. With his wife's newfound strength provided by God and the caregiver's group, he moved gradually from the wheelchair to a walker, then from the walker to a cane. And, now free of even the cane he insists on helping Ekaterina around the house and garden and even goes to the store for her *unassisted*. On the weekend, he enjoys the company of his grandchildren without being confined to a wheelchair or walker.

Both Paul and Ekaterina cannot find the words to express their gratitude for the help and guidance given to them by God's Hidden Treasures.



God's Hidden Treasures
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Opportunities for Involvement

I would like to:

- Join the prayer team. Put me on the e-mail list to receive prayerr requests.
- Make a monthly contribution.
- Make a special donation.
- Invite Nita to speak in September 2012.
- Receive my News From G.H.T. by e-mail
- Sponsor a Family

Please mail to:
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Name _____
Contact info _____

God's Hidden Treasures is a ministry that serves the needs of the poor, the disabled and the orphaned of Ukraine and brings God's love through personal relationships in the name of Jesus Christ.