



"...serve one another in love." Galatians 5:13

November 2005 Newsletter

Hello family and friends,

This year MUCH has many things for which to be thankful. So many people have shared their bounty with our children here in Ukraine. And some have shared with us from their poverty. To all we give thanks. During this Thanksgiving holiday, please join us in giving thanks to God from whom all blessings originate.

Our Sweet Dreams II project for Marganets Orphanage is underway. I reported in the October newsletter that we received gifts for 6 complete bed sets. Each set includes a mattress, pillow, set of bed sheets and a blanket. Soon after that, the money arrived here. What a great surprise! Instead of 6 sets, we were able to send Anatoliy enough money to buy 20 sets. He e-mailed me to say that he has purchased the pillows, sheets and blankets and is now working on buying the mattresses. Everyone at the orphanage is very excited.

At this writing, MUCH has received additional gifts to purchase 25 more complete bed sets for a total of 45. There are 141 beds at the orphanage.

Looking for the Perfect Christmas Gift?

Give the gift that will keep on giving *all year long*. A gift of just \$45 will provide a complete bed set (mattress, pillow, sheets and a blanket) for a child at Marganets Orphanage. Your gift will make sure a child has a comfortable, warm bed to sleep in. Any size gift will help.

\$45 Complete Set (mattress, pillow, sheets and blanket)

\$20 Mattress

\$10 Blanket

\$10 Sheets

\$5 Pillow

A gift card will be sent to the recipient letting them know that their gift will be enjoyed by a special child all year long. Please note on your check **Sweet Dreams II**.

Karina is still in Saki receiving treatments at the spinal rehabilitation sanatorium. She has been having a difficult time with her attitude. A man I met two years ago, Tolik, who goes to Saki from time to time for treatments of his spinal cord injury, has taken a special interest in Karina. He has become somewhat of a mentor for her. Here in Illichevsk, the city officials, (one in particular), are working to find a long term solution for her care.

Little miracles continue to occur at our Free Clinic here in Illichevsk. The monthly progress reports show positive change in the abilities of the children. As I witness some of the massages in progress and read the reports, I am pleased that your financial support is creating big results. This treatment would not be available in the lives of these little children without your support. As I met with the vice mayor, I realized that he desires to do more than he can for these children. He is very pleased that MUCH has come to his city to help meet the needs of children with disabilities. I will continue to build a relationship with the vice mayor and other city officials.

The other day I was waiting for Ira, my translator, in front of the Emmaus Food Program facility, which we support. A girl of about 13 years old, who frequents the food program, was out walking. I knew that her younger sister and brothers had been sent to an orphanage. She began a conversation in Russian. Of course I didn't understand much of what she said. Then she spoke the words "happy birthday" referring to herself. I wished her a happy birthday and explained in my limited Russian that, if she would wait for Ira, we could have a conversation. She waited a couple of minutes then left.

Ira told me later that this girl's godfather had taken her to live with him. He is a positive role model. But, as a result of this child's miserable life experience, she has apparently turned to stealing and tricking people into giving her money. Thinking back, I did recognize a very different expression on her face, one I have seen on the faces of only a few children. Each had chosen a negative solution to his or her desperate life situation.

I continue to experience the realities of the struggle in this country as it develops into a society responsible for the freedoms that it has chosen. I have been told so many times that under the Soviet system they did not have many of the social problem that they now have. As we know from American history, freedom carries a very high price.

Blessings of love and healing,

Mark

Illichevsk Free Clinic Marganets Orphanage
Emmaus Children's Food Program

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, gifts may be mailed to:
1 Kinbuck Point, Greensboro, NC 27410
Make checks payable to Mission Ukraine Children's Hope or MUCH
MUCH is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organizations