



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

## **April 2007 Newsletter**

Hello family and friends,

I returned recently from a wonderful visit in Florida. I had nine opportunities to share my story. I am always surprised to see how God has prepared peoples' hearts to respond to my presentations about the children of MUCH. My favorite opportunity was with the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders at the First Presbyterian Christian School in Pompano Beach. They had so many excellent questions. We hope that they will become involved in some way with the children of MUCH.

April has been a time for visiting friends in Greensboro, NC and visiting doctors to check up on my health. At this point, all is well. I have a couple more visits. In the process, I have been receiving chiropractic treatments for my back and neck. My chiropractor told me that the college from which he graduated has a program abroad to help the underprivileged. I contacted them, and we will be looking into the first steps to add chiropractic care to the massage clinic program. Just as massage helped me very much, my chiropractic treatments have improved my physical as well as my neurological well being. Just imagine what it might be able to do for the children of MUCH.

During my visits this month, I had the pleasure of spending some time with Olga and her husband, Sasha. They are from Belarus, one of the former Soviet bloc countries, and are making their way in America. During one of our get-togethers they showed me a film of the political problems in their country. Having lived in Ukraine for the past 5 years, I am becoming more and more aware of the problems that are lingering in post-Soviet countries. Freedom is not only expensive, but to many in the post-Soviet countries, it is not understood. Sasha and Olga learned about freedom at the university in Belarus. But the people of the villages who have no communication with the rest of the world do not know of any other kind of life than what they have lived. The government will not allow television broadcasts other than what they want the people to see. In Belarus, the name of the style of government has changed, but the actions remain the same.

Ukraine is more advanced in providing the rights to freedom, but still has a long way to go. MUCH is helping the children to experience the rights the government has given them on paper. We are helping them to taste, understand, and experience freedom in their young lives. If, of the more than 200 children whom we help, only one will be in a position to influence Ukraine, then MUCH will have pushed freedom in Ukraine forward.

This month I want to tell you about Nastya P., age 14. I have known her for about 3 years. Her mother was pregnant with her when the Chernobyl nuclear accident happened. Both of her parents died at a later date in an auto accident. She came to Illichevsk to live with her grandmother. She has a growing tumor in her brain that has impaired the right side of her body.

Nastya is experiencing many difficulties as a teenager. Her disability makes it more difficult. She receives services at the massage clinic. Her last treatment reduced spasticity of her right upper and lower extremities. She no longer experienced pain in her back. Her weak muscles were strengthened. As well as massage treatments, we hope that Nastya will participate in the MUCH-sponsored "Day in the Park" for the disabled.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> I will return to Ukraine to continue overseeing the work of MUCH and listening for the words of future visions for our children. Please keep me in your prayers as I travel. Also, please pray for our children as they take hold of the challenges in their lives.

If you have received a CD of my PowerPoint presentations and have a problem viewing it with both pictures and narration, please follow these directions. Insert the CD. Go to "My Computer," open the CD drive, which reveals four folders. Choose a folder and open it, then open "pptview", then open the file on the menu that appears. The program will automatically begin. Please turn up your volume. Let me know if you are having difficulty with this.

Blessings of love and healing,

*Mark*

**Illichevsk Massage Therapy Clinic    Marganets Orphanage  
Emmaus Children's Food Program**

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