



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

November 2007 Newsletter

Hello family and friends,

I want to wish you each a most grateful Thanksgiving celebration. We, at MUCH, are so grateful to God for all of the provisions of supporters and other team members. May we all give thanks this season.

In the October newsletter I wrote: **Our Christmas fundraiser this year will focus on these three outreach ministries.**

First, we want to raise \$500 for clothes and some toys for the children at the transition house in Marganets. Imagine a child in first grade being told that he/she could no longer live with his/her family. Imagine this child being scooped up from his/her home and put into a facility with children unknown to him/her. It happens in America; you see it on TV; so it isn't a stretch for you to imagine, I'm sure. If you have been following my newsletter stories about Marganets, then you know the normal living conditions are not the best either. No heat above 40 F in the dead of winter. No hot water year around. It is a difficult life for adults, to say nothing of the children. For about three months these children live in this facility for 20 children. There is no money available for clothing or other basic needs. MUCH began to help last month by buying underclothes, socks, and some other very basic things that we take for granted; but the children are without. The Baptist church in Marganets has helped with what they could. The American team helped with what they could when they visited in August. But the everyday needs remain. MUCH would like to "adopt" this children's transition home. As children are placed in orphanages at the end of three months, new children arrive and the needs are fresh. This new group of children has the clothes on their backs. Five hundred dollars would be enough to buy some toys and meet the basic clothing need of 4 groups of 20 children in the year of 2008.



Transition home in Marganets



Camp 2006



Camp 2007

Second, we want to raise \$2000 for the camp program for our children of the massage clinic. Not only have we had a successful camp program for the second year in a row, but the camp is partnering with HandiVangelism. This organization specializes with camp programs for people with disabilities. Having a degree in Recreation Therapy, I see the great value that the camp provides. Along with massage, our children need to get out and use those developing muscles. The camp setting is ideal. (Also, I look forward to developing an internship program for Recreation Therapy students to come and work with our children in the camp.) We have a great opportunity to use this camp for only the cost of food and

transportation. In 2006 we sent 5 children to camp. In 2007 we sent 7 children to camp. Two thousand dollars would provide for about 14 campers and their care giver or family member. The healing work of the massage clinic is moving forward!

Finally, we would like to raise \$2000 to cover a year of purchasing clothing, shoes, and winter wear for the children of an orphanage in L'viv. Children from difficult homes in Ukraine have very difficult lives. When they are placed in an orphanage, their fate is almost certain. Many of the orphaned children of Ukraine turn to prostitution, drugs, alcohol, and all types of crime. *(For the past five years MUCH has learned about this reality with our experience in Marganets. Our biggest life altering success is in changing self images of the children. We still have a lot of work to do.)* In L'viv a young woman with a heart for children has a vision to help the children. She has already begun, but is very limited in her personal funds. She is trying to rally her church to join her sister-in-law, her mother and her to make this vision a reality. MUCH would like to partner with her team to change the lives of the children in one of the orphanages in L'viv. This is how we began in Marganets. A local man had a heart for children and brought me to his city.

Please take a few moments to consider the changes that God has brought about through MUCH in the past five years. More than 200 children have experienced the love of God in a number of different ways through the work of MUCH. ***Won't you help us continue; and reach out to another couple hundred children in 2008?***

If you want to make a contribution for the Christmas fundraiser, please make a note in the memo of your check or the online opportunity on our web site www.muchhope.org.

Blessings of love and healing,

Mark

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

**If you would like to support this ministry financially,
You may contribute online from our website,
www.muchhope.org**

OR

**Your gift 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) Non-profit Organization