

December 2016

*Our mission:*

*Help people learn to value life from conception to death and receive God's love, forgiveness and gift of eternal life.*

## June 1<sup>st</sup> – Protect the Children Day



We set up a display of fetal models & handed out fliers for the Women's Center & balloons for children on a walking boulevard not far from the center. We talked to people about the need to protect the unborn and about the services of our center.

One woman came to our center for a pregnancy test after receiving one of those fliers. When her test was positive, she was sure that abortion was her only option. However, after visiting with a counselor and receiving a free sonogram, she decided to continue with her pregnancy. Praise the Lord for this answer to prayer!

We are grateful for those who faithfully support the ministry of Choose Life in Ukraine financially and in prayer. We continue to see evidence of God's blessing and work and are excited to share some of that with you.

### Women's Center

In May we held our second volunteer training for work in the pregnancy care center ministry. For our first training, center directors from the U.S. came to teach. This time we could draw on our 2 years of experience in Ukraine to lead the training ourselves. Turnout was not as large as we wanted, but we gained valuable experience and hope to do another training next year. As we get busier at the Women's Center, we are feeling the need for more volunteers. Pray that the Lord will burden more people to get involved.



We now have five unsaved clients studying the Story of Hope with a counselor. One of them I mentioned in our May update, who was nearing the end of her study. Due to a change in her work and family problems, she was not able to come for several months. Praise the Lord she is now coming regularly again. She is at the point in the study where the counselor will be asking her specific questions about what she understood and believes. Pray for her salvation!



Another client should finish this study by the end of December. She is eagerly drinking in the truth and sharing it with her children. She has also started attending a nearby church with them. Pray that, as we come to the end of the study, she will fully understand and accept God’s gift of salvation.

We have had increasing numbers of women from the community interested in our prenatal classes. We had twelve in our last group. Many of them continue to come to our monthly Mom’s Club after delivery. Our goal with both outreaches is to teach and encourage young moms and to build relationships that would allow us to share Christ with them. Recently a mom who had attended the prenatal class and then began attending the Mom’s Club arrived early to club

and opened up to the leader about her marriage problems. As a result, she agreed to begin meeting one on one with a counselor. Pray that the Lord will bless this relationship and will continue to give us more opportunities like these.

### Post-Abortion Ministry

Ira Lupanova is doing an excellent job as the new director of this ministry. Choose Life requires all volunteers who have had abortions to go through “Forgiven and Set Free”. One volunteer had refused to do this for a couple of years and was obviously still in much pain more than 20 years after her abortions. This fall she finally agreed to sit in on a FSF small group. She was resistant to telling her story to the group, but after listening to the others and delving into God’s Word, she began to share! Every week she became more transparent and the group leader saw a growing lightness in her spirit and joy in her countenance. Now she is thankful for the freedom God has given her from the burden of abortion. We know that many more women in Odessa are sitting in church pews, hiding their abortions, and continuing to reap the consequences of that emotional trauma. Pray that they will come forward to join our FSF small groups.

### Specific Prayer Needs

**Post-Abortion Ministry:** There are currently 8 women in the Forgiven & Set Free Bible study. Pray for God’s working in their lives and for wisdom for each one of the leaders. Pray for participants in the next cycle of studies in the spring.

**Women’s Center:** Pray for the salvation of clients studying the Story of Hope. Pray for spiritual growth and faithfulness in our volunteers. Pray for God to bring us new volunteers.

**Ministry to youth:** We shared about abstinence with 2 groups of teens and their parents at a camp for foster care families this summer. Pray for wisdom as we continue to develop this ministry.

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**Do you want to know more about “Choose Life”?** Check out our website: [www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org](http://www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org)

Sign up to receive this newsletter by e-mail by writing Holly at [esperanza@abwe.cc](mailto:esperanza@abwe.cc)

**To support the ministry of “Choose Life”** Send gifts to ABWE account # 0757353 by mail or online at [www.abwe.org](http://www.abwe.org)

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