

News From Holly January 2012

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior” Luke 1:46-47



I have enjoyed the special ministry opportunities the holidays bring. They begin here with a big celebration for New Years followed by Christmas on Jan 7th. I had the joy of helping my church prepare food & decorate for our New Years celebration & then enjoyed the great time of fellowship. We put together a Christmas play for our Christmas Eve Service & then did it again for a kids outreach on Christmas Day the 7th. I was chosen to play the part of Mary, but was thankful that while she may be a main character, she did not have many lines since I had to memorize them in Russian! We went Christmas Caroling two times (in the rain!) in our neighborhood & invited people to church. *We had several visitors that came to these special events. Pray that they will continue to come & that we will continue to find ways to reach out to our downtown neighborhood.*

On Jan 9th I completed two years of ministry here in Ukraine! This means that it is time to renew my visa, so I am currently on my way to the states for 3 weeks. While I am there I will be with my sister Rachel & her husband Bobby for a week. Bobby just completed his second round of chemo for esophageal cancer. I am thankful that God is allowing me this time with them as the last few months have not been easy. Please continue to pray for them! I will then be attending training in CA with the Biblical Counseling Foundation for two weeks. We hope to use this material to train counselors in our pregnancy care center so I am thankful for this opportunity to receive training in order to use the material more effectively. My Dad will also be joining me for the first week of the training so I am excited about that! *Please pray that I will be able to obtain a new visa before I am schedule to return to Ukraine on Feb 4th.* One of the documents that I need in order to apply has been delayed. Pray that it will be completed & make it to the states in time for me to complete the application process.

Whether you made any “resolutions” or not, I pray that in this new year you will be drawn closer to our great God! I have decided to read through the Bible chronologically this year & have picked out several themes to watch for. Pray that my eyes will be open to what the Lord wants to teach me. I would enjoy hearing about your Bible study plans or what the Lord has been teaching you if you have the time to drop me a line!

Thanks once again for your faithfulness in praying for me & for the ministry here!

Holly Friesen

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