

## Update from Holly February 2015

**“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” I Thess. 5:16-18**

I hope you will rejoice and give thanks with me as you read this update; and will continue to lift up Ukraine and the ministries here in your prayers! I enjoyed a wonderful time of rest and refreshment with my family in the states over the holidays. I am so thankful that the Lord made it possible for me to have that time. I did have a few opportunities to share about the ministry in Ukraine while I was home. I especially enjoyed the chance to be in my home church and to share in a girl's dorm meeting and interact with the students at Cornerstone Bible Institute where my parents serve.



I continue to share my home with Lilya, the young lady who had to leave her home in eastern Ukraine. Her mother Inna has now joined us indefinitely. She originally planned to come for a few days to see Lilya and take care of some business, but while she was here the shelling in her home town became very intense. She lives daily with concern for her husband and mother-in-law who have not left. Pray that God will use her time here with Lilya and me to draw her to Himself. God has provided work for Lilya which is a huge blessing. Her mom helps make sure we are all well fed!

The situation in eastern Ukraine has worsened over the last several weeks with intense shelling in a number of towns. More people are fleeing to other parts of Ukraine and the situation for those who cannot leave is becoming more desperate. There are places without heat, electricity, or water and people are spending most of their time in the protection of basements. There are faithful servants of God who have chosen to stay in these areas in order to minister to those in need. Some of my team-mates were able to meet with some of these pastors the end of December and hear their reports of how God is using their ministries of compassion to draw people to Himself. Generous gifts to the Ukraine Crisis Fund have allowed us to assist pastors in providing food for the hungry, clothing, medications, etc. within the war zone and among the refugees. For more stories and information check out the God at Work in Ukraine facebook page. Please pray for God's protection and wisdom for those ministering to the needy during this time of crisis. Pray also for wisdom for our team and national partners as decisions are made about how best to use the funds. Odessa is still peaceful, but war has touched our city in other ways. Young men are being drafted into the army and the economy continues to worsen. Pray that fears about the future will cause people to turn to the Lord and that the church will shine brightly.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the Women's Center. The lady I mentioned in my last update did end up losing her baby. However, she agreed to continue to meet with us and do a Bible study. Pray that she will follow through with her commitment to study with us and that she would be open to the truth! We are praying for another client who was very set on having an abortion when she came to us. The last time we talked to her she was still pregnant, but also still leaning towards having an abortion. Pray that we will have wisdom as we continue to follow up with her and pray that she will choose life for her baby and see her need for salvation as well.

Thank you for rejoicing and giving thanks with me and for continuing to pray for Ukraine!

Holly Friesen

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**Donation Info:** Gifts can be sent to ABWE, PO Box 8585, Harrisburg PA 17105-8585 or online [www.abwe.org](http://www.abwe.org)

- Ukraine Crisis Fund, account #0717401
- Pro-Life in Ukraine, account # 0757353
- Holly's ministry account # 0139523