

Update from Holly February 2017

“The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.”
Psalm 19:7



It was a joy to have my parents here in February and to be able to share Ukraine with them. My Dad taught the discipleship/counseling class (Self Confrontation) that he teaches at Cornerstone Bible Institute to students at the Odessa seminary. I enjoyed the chance to sit in on the class and to hear my Dad teaching. I was reminded again of the power and sufficiency of God's Word to help us face life's difficulties and to grow in our walk with the Lord. In addition to the seminary students, some of our volunteers from the Women's Center were able to attend the classes, as well as a couple of the pastors that we work with in the medical ministry. There was good feedback from the students regarding the course, and the seminary would like my Dad to return to teach the second half. I am excited for many reasons about this opportunity for my parents to be involved again in ministry here in Odessa. This class was a final live testing of our translation of the material, which I have also been using to teach our volunteers at the Women's Center. Lord willing the material will soon be completely edited & ready for printing. This has been a huge

translation project and I am thankful that God has opened up the door for the use of this material for a wider audience.

Another Women's Center client Masha* (*names changed to protect privacy) has completed the Story of Hope and says that she believes the truths presented. Her counselor is now taking her through the course for new believers, The Way to Joy. We are hoping to get her connected to a church near her home, as she now seems more open to visiting a church. We have another client Natasha* who is nearing the end of her study of the Story of Hope. Pray for her salvation!

We are planning a training seminar for new volunteers for the pro-life ministry March 31-April 1. We are working on collecting applications & conducting interviews with those who are interested. Pray that God would send us a good group of new volunteers as we are really feeling the need for more help. Pray that God will guide as we prepare to teach as well.

You may have seen Ukraine in the news again recently as there was an escalation in the fighting in the east. In addition to the loss of life among soldiers and civilians, this has produced another wave of refugees as many homes were destroyed or fighting became too intense for people to remain. Praise God for our faithful brothers & sisters who continue to minister in these dangerous areas and for those who receive and serve those who have had to flee. Pray that as God's love is shown to those in need, hearts would be open to the gospel. If you would like to support evangelistic relief efforts, gifts can be sent to the Ukraine Crisis Fund. This fund has also made it possible for our team to help organize a training seminar March 14-16 in eastern Ukraine for practical, Biblical teaching on how to help people deal with post traumatic stress. Pray for God's blessing on this seminar and that it will be a great help to our partners who are ministering to those displaced by the war. I will be attending the seminar and afterwards, Dr. Miriam and I will stay in the east for another week to hold clinics for refugees in several of our partner churches. Pray for wisdom as we minister to those who have faced much trauma. Pray that hearts would be open to the gospel.

Thank you for partnering with us in prayer!
Praising God for His faithfulness,
Holly Friesen

Contact Info: Mailing address: Holly Friesen a/ya 117 Odessa, Ukraine 65069

e-mail: esperanza@abwe.cc or hollyfriesen79@gmail.com

Internet phone: 316-243-0602 (dial like U.S. number but rings in Ukraine) [website: www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org](http://www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org)

Donation Info: Gifts can be sent to ABWE, PO Box 8585, Harrisburg PA 17105-8585 or online www.abwe.org

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