

## Update from Holly November 2014

**“For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.” Psalm 84:11**

Regardless of what terrible things we may see on the news, I am thankful for the confidence that our God is still good, He is still in control, and He is my sun and shield who provides me with all that I need! You may not be hearing much about Ukraine in the news anymore, but that does not mean that the situation here has improved. In fact, this past week there has been more intense fighting and troop buildup in the east. Please continue to pray for God to work in the hearts of leaders on



both sides in order to bring an end to the bloodshed. We have received some encouraging news from the conflict zone where believers continue to minister to those in need. One of these churches recently reported that 6 people accepted Christ as their Savior in one Sunday. Pray for God to give protection and wisdom to our brothers and sisters ministering under difficult circumstances. I have enjoyed having Lilya live with me since August when she was unable to return to her home in eastern Ukraine. Praise the Lord she has been able to find some part time work. Pray that God will continue to provide for her needs and pray for the salvation of her parents who are still living in the conflict zone.

We have been seeing an increase in the number of patients coming to our village clinics and to the monthly clinic in Odessa. This is most likely due to the ever increasing price of medications and to the economic crisis that is also facing Ukraine. This past year the value of the Ukrainian grivna has dropped from around 8 to over 15 grivna to the dollar. While salaries and pensions stay the same as they were before this inflation, prices continue to rise. Pray that as this crisis brings more people to our clinics, God will use us to point them to the hope they can find in a relationship with Him. Pray that newcomers will be interested in also visiting the church services at the churches where we hold our clinics.

We have a number of Women's Center clients who have now delivered their babies. We had our first "new mom's group" this past week. We hope to meet with them as a group monthly to cover topics of interest for them and to give them a chance for fellowship with other moms. We invited a mixture of believers and unbelievers to this group and our prayer is that relationships formed between these moms will also be used to give the clients we are working with more of an interest in spiritual things. Pray that we will have wisdom in developing this group as a useful tool for outreach. We are working on a couple of different avenues of getting information about our center into the hands of young people and others in difficult situations. Pray that God will use this to bring more women in need to our center.

Our regional conference in Budapest last month was a great time of refreshment and encouragement. We reflected on what God has done in our region in the 25 years since the Berlin Wall fell. Praise God for His faithfulness! November 26-29 our Ukraine team will be gathering for planning meetings, and to celebrate Thanksgiving together. Would you pray that God would give us unity and wisdom as we consider ministry goals for the coming year during this critical time in Ukraine? Thank you for continuing to pray for Ukraine and for our ministries here.

May your heart overflow with gratitude to our great God this Thanksgiving.

Holly Friesen

### UKRAINE MAILING ADDRESS

Holly Friesen

a/ya 117

Odessa, Ukraine 65069

Internet phone: 316-243-0602 (dial like U.S. number but rings in Ukraine)

e-mail: [esperanza@abwe.cc](mailto:esperanza@abwe.cc)

website: [www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org](http://www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org)