

## Update from Holly October 2020

Therefore, by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. Hebrews 13:15



We have much to be thankful for. Regardless of what is going in your life or in our world right now, I hope that your heart continues to be filled with gratitude for the great mercy and love that our God has showered on us. A few weeks ago, we had the joy of celebrating the baptism of Liza, the young lady I have been discipling. Her joy and desire to share her faith with others is contagious. Her college has gone to online schooling due to tightening quarantine measures, so she has gone back to live with her mom in the small town that she is from. Her mom is not a believer and she is not aware of a church near her. Pray that in spite of these circumstances she will continue to grow in her faith and that we will still be able to continue our discipleship meetings online. Liza has been sharing what she is learning with an 11 year girl who regularly comes to our church but has a very rough home life, as well as with a lady who visits our church and says she has accepted Christ but is struggling with alcoholism. Both expressed an interest in studying the Bible with us as well. I plan to get a couple other ladies from church to help me. They are also fairly new believers, and my desire is that as they help me reach out to this young girl and struggling lady, they also would be strengthened in

their faith and could learn how to disciple others. Pray that we will have wisdom to know how best to approach the Bible study since we have a wide age range and several schedules to coordinate.

The numbers of confirmed COVID cases have been rapidly increasing in Ukraine and in the Odessa area over the past month. We are hearing reports of hospitals running out of space and people having to wait in ambulances for hours trying to get admitted. We are also hearing many reports of unconfirmed but likely cases among our friends and acquaintances. Because of this, the government has started tightening restrictions again. We have more limits on public transportation, most schools will be transitioning to online learning, and we have tighter restrictions on the number of people that can participate in a gathering. Pray for churches as they seek to continue to minister to people in a time of increasing anxiety as well as increasing limits on how people can gather.

For now, we are still able to keep the Women's Center open. We are encouraging online or phone counseling when possible and extra precautions for face to face meetings at the center. This past week we had a new client come in. She is a young mom with an infant son. She was looking for help after having to leave her abusive partner. Her only income is her small government subsidy for single moms, and she is also trying to pay off some debts. Not every client who comes to us is a pregnant woman considering abortion, but most often the women who come to us are facing very difficult situations. Our prayer is that they would not only find emotional support and physical help with some of their needs, but that they would be open to the hope that can be found in Christ. Thank you for praying for our clients and counselors!

We have also been able to continue our village medical clinics. As the situation worsens in Ukraine, we are seeing more fear & anxiety. Pray that this would cause hearts to be open to the hope that can be found in a relationship with God. Thank you for continuing to uphold this ministry in your prayers.

With gratitude,  
Holly Friesen

**Contact Info: \*\*\* Ukraine address: Holly Friesen a/ya 39, Odessa, Ukraine 65025\*\*\***

U.S. address: PO Box 52, Moundridge, KS 67107

e-mail: [esperanza@abwe.cc](mailto:esperanza@abwe.cc) or [hollyfriesen79@gmail.com](mailto:hollyfriesen79@gmail.com)

Internet phone number that rings in Ukraine: 316-243-0602 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](http://www.abwe.org)

designate to one of these accounts: - Holly's ministry account # 0139523

- Pro-Life in Ukraine, account # 0757353