



BIBLES FOR RUSSIA

August 2007

Dear Partner,

A Bibles For Russia team has just returned from a very successful and productive 3½-week short-term mission in Ukraine. Thank you for your partnership that made mission #73 possible.

In Kherson:

* We gave groceries and other staples to 60 extremely poor families as well as sharing the gospel with them. “Poor” in Ukraine’s poorest city, may mean no indoor plumbing, no electricity, no stove or refrigerator. For one babushka (grandmother) raising her grandson, it meant a room 10 x 20 feet long. For others it meant sharing a kitchen with other families. One team member bought a new stove and paid the electric bill for a year in advance.

* The team ministered in one of the churches we had previously started.

* We ministered and gave gifts to 80 orphans and provided small wardrobes for the storage of their clothes which gave them some privacy.

* Doctors Marchman and Phillips set up clinics and provided physical and eye exams for street children. Olga, our translator, learned that she needed glasses. She was very pleased with her new glasses we provided.

* We visited 3 hospitals that care for babies and small children. In 2 hospitals we provided hot water heaters. Mothers who stay with their children can now take showers.

* Thanks to some of our donors, we were also able to provide pampers, surgical gloves, antibiotics and other medicines and equipment.

* The team bought a tent and 2 generators for the street children’s summer camp program which consists of going into the forest and finding a safe place to pitch tents.

* The Lord and 3 sponsors made it possible for us to “plant” 3 new churches. Pastor Andrey and his assistants, Galina and Natasha, preached and ministered to overflowing crowds in towns where there were no Bible-believing churches.

* July 13 seven of the team returned home. Angie and I stayed to minister to 2 other communities.

In Vatutino:

* We ministered with 2 pastors, Grigory and Jacob Shvets, who pastor 7 village churches. Our presence encouraged them and their churches. Because of migration to the cities, caused by lack of jobs, each of these churches is losing members. Please pray that evangelistic efforts will again produce growth in the churches.

* Pastor Grigory is 76 and in failing health. We helped to plant a new church for those in another village where no one has transportation other than walking.

* Pastor Shvets is one of our heroes. We've known him and his family for 10 years and have mentioned him in previous reports. He spends many hours daily in God's Word and in prayer. Please pray for this special saint of God.

In Lutsk:

* We ministered in 4 churches that Bibles For Russia had sponsored in June. One was a Gypsy church that meets outdoors.

* One new church was planted in a village of only 300 people with 1 school, clinic and store. The church has 4 adults and 20 children who come from families of unbelievers. Please pray for Brother Peter and his family as they reach out to that community.

* We visited in the homes of believers, usually for a meal and times of fellowship in the Lord. They need encouragement and send warm greetings and big thank yous to those who sent us to them.

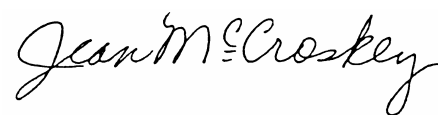
* We sponsored 2 summer camps and ministered in another one for non-Christian children. We also ministered in a drug rehab center as well as taking them food.

* We attended a conference with 330 Ukrainian missionaries who minister in Ukraine and Russia. Support from our partners helped make that meeting possible for many of the participants. Also, we were able to speak and encourage those attending. Many invitations were extended for us to return later this year or 2008.

Please pray for all to whom we ministered. Pray about the possibility of going on a mission with us in November 2007. Also, please pray about sending us as your representatives. We leave for Russia September 9.

Thank you and God bless you.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean McCroskey".

Jean McCroskey