



## Program for Humanitarian Aid is "Being Family"

### 2017 Summer Bible Camp Trip Report!

Wow! This year's camp was the best one ever! 96 campers, 10 days, Bible Lessons, fun, games, swimming, crafts, fellowship, and camp food. All of the children who attend Domik Summer Bible Camp are a part of our ongoing transition program efforts. Summer Bible Camp is really like one big family vacation for the PHA Family! In our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of camp, we were really able to see the impact that years of ministry is having on our kids. Their smiles are bigger, their spirits are stronger and many of them have put on Christ through baptism. It is a blessing to have so many Americans and Ukrainians give of their time, energy and loving spirits to serve alongside us. Thank you to everyone for giving, praying, planning and going! Without you camp would not be possible!

We are already looking ahead to Domik Summer Camp 2018! We would love for you to join us in prayer, in sponsorship, or as a team member!

-Chris and Christy Hill

*"Camp was one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. It gives me great hope for the children of Ukraine to see the kids so involved in Bible study, memorizing verses and reading the Bible. Their joy, even in less than good circumstances, was uplifting to me.*

*It was also wonderful to meet and get to know the church workers and family in Ukraine. They truly seem to understand God's picture of the New Testament church. As they open their homes and hearts to children, I see God's love spread throughout Ukraine. God bless them all.*

*Thanks for the opportunity to go to Ukraine as part of the PHA team!"*  
-Charles G. Hill



### Family Time: by Andrey Belokonniy

About a year and a half ago Dima called me closer to midnight and I could hear that he was crying. I was trying to find out what had happened, I didn't believe that 18-year-old orphan guy that lived all his life in the orphanage will be so sad that he would call me at night. Dima lived in the dormitory from the trade school he had entered after he graduated the orphanage. During our talk he was crying and saying that he really lacks family. Everything I could have told him at that moment was that he grew up too fast and now he's in the age when he has to think about creating his own family, and unfortunately I understand how hard it is for him to never have a real family. I was telling him that church is our family but I understood that I was not calming him with these words and I was even upset myself. And not so long ago at 11.30 pm after we came back from the camp I got a message from Alexey. He was asking me to help to explain to Ruslan that was recently baptized at the seminar why do we take communion at church. I offered to discuss it before the church meeting that was the next day. When we met first thing I asked Ruslan was – What kind of the questions need to be discussed at midnight? It turned out that Dima, Alexey, Ruslan and Vlad stayed late together to read the Bible and to be sure that the next day they will be taking the Supper not like kids or guests but like adults that became the members of the Church.



Ruslan and Vlad were baptized in June, 2017 (during the seminar), Alexey in May, 2017 and Dima in March, 2017. These guys grew up without families in the different orphanages. I could have never ever thought that these young men at

night and even during the day would read the Bible and will think about the importance of the participation in the Church ministry.

My God amazed me again, what I thought was weak and foolish He had chosen and loved.

“For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength. Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.” (1 Corinthians 1:25-27)

-Andrey Belokoniy

### **Story of a Child: by Tanya Ilmeyer**



God has a plan, always. We try to find out the way for every child we meet starting with the way to get acquainted and till the way to help choosing their own way in life.

Sometimes we think our way is the best one as we see the kid willing to be a mechanic and try to send them to the trade school where they could take mechanics, or we see the girl that didn't choose anything yet and try to convince her that she'd love to be at the nursing school, or we see the one that failed and try to correct the further way together. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.

To make the story short, I met Alyona at Bible camp when we both were 12 years old. After some time when we were still in Donetsk, graduating school, my parents were asked by the Blue River Church of Christ to look after the girls so that they will live in the apartment instead of the dormitories when they graduate. You know the further story –

all the girls except for Ksusha (who was brought to the apartment by Alyona) left, saying ‘it's a golden cage’.

Alyona lived through many stories after: worked at several jobs, left the educational institution, moved from Donetsk (because of the conflict), entered another institution, got pregnant, had to move to her hometown, made repairs in the parent's apartment, gave a birth to a precious girl. And here we met again. And here I see her as a loving, caring mother and a good Christian. During one of the dinners we were discussing our boys' behavior telling Lyosha that if he would be acting the same way he would have to live the Family house soon. And Alyona made a hilarious sarcastic remark, saying: ‘Once I left...’

But, fortunately, God had a plan. His love is everlasting and strong no matter who and where we are and glory to Him for this. He is the one who takes care of the orphans, widows, sick, poor, everybody. And we just need to be in the right time, telling right words to be His instruments.

-Tanya Ilmeyer

### **Changes to the PHA Board of Directors:**

PHA is excited to announce the addition of two new board members, Jan Wengler and Sid Walker. They have both been to Ukraine and have seen the needs there as well as PHA's ministry first hand. They bring unique wisdom and experience to our organization. We are also sad to announce the retirement of PHA's founder, John Sims. John is well known for his humanitarian aid work, especially hearing aids. We are grateful for his vision and his legacy. PHA's ministry continues to grow and we are blessed to have new leadership as a part of the PHA Family!

## **2018 Mission Trip Opportunities:**

Looking for a Spring or Summer Mission Trip? Join us for our Spring Break Teacher's Trip in March or our Summer Bible Camp Trip in June! For more information, email [pha@programforhumanitarianaid.org](mailto:pha@programforhumanitarianaid.org). See stories, videos and more from past trips on PHA's website, [programforhumanitarianaid.org](http://programforhumanitarianaid.org), under the mission trips tab.

## **From the Domik Kitchen: by Marina Belokonnaya**

Summer is a very good time of the year. There are lots of fruits that we can eat. We have a cake recipe in our family that I cook often with strawberries and raspberries. It is fast in cooking and good with tea.

Summer cake

Ingredients to make the cake itself:

3 egg yolks

1 cup sugar (whisk good)

2 teaspoons of soda

250 gr mayonnaise

4 tbsp sour cream

1.5 cup flour



Pour the dough on the parchment paper and bake 395 degrees for about 25 mins, checking with a toothpick. Take it out the oven and put raspberries or strawberries allover. Whisk the 3 whites that were left and  $\frac{3}{4}$  sugar cup. And put it on the berries sending the cake to the oven for 20 mins, 180°C. The cake is ready. Enjoy!

-Marina



**Program for Humanitarian Aid is  
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**PROGRAM FOR HUMANITARIAN AID (PHA)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I WANT TO JOIN THE PHA FAMILY:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayerfully**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Financially through a one-time donation**

\$50  \$100  \$500  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would like to be contacted with more information about PHA**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Financially through monthly recurring donations**

\$50  \$100  \$500  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **I know someone who would like to hear about this ministry**

*Donations can also be made through the PHA website: [www.programforhumanitarianaid.org](http://www.programforhumanitarianaid.org)*