



Program for Humanitarian Aid is "Being Family"

March Trip Report

This March we were blessed to be invited into four schools where we shared experiences and strategies on a variety of topics ranging from inclusion strategies to motivation to teaching patriotism. It was great seeing friends made from previous trips as well as making new ones! A special thank you to all the educators in Texas who made this experience possible!

We also hosted a group of gentlemen who came to see PHA's ministry firsthand. It was a treat for the PHA Family in Ukraine to spend time with them.

After visiting with all of the PHA Family in Poltava and Zaporizhia we left the snow in Ukraine and headed back to Texas. Summer is right around the corner and we are busy preparing for this year's Summer Bible Camp. Please be in prayer for this year's team, campers and staff!

-Chris and Christy Hill



Family Time: by Andrey Belokonnii



Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (Ps 90:12)
Probably it was 2000. My only daughter Tanya at that moment started school. My friend, the preacher, older brother in Christ, the man I love, was the first one to ask me: - "do you tell your Tanya you love her?" Why would I? Doesn't she know this? - I answered with a question. In the beginning there was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And God is love. How would she know if you don't tell her? Stop! I grew up in a big family where everybody loved me and nobody was telling me this! We live together, I'm her dad, I love her, what's the reason to say that? Just try my friend encouraged. Tell it every time you can and you'll see the effect in the future. On the way home I thought that he probably had problems with love in his family and that he was trying to put his life situation on to everybody. If he didn't feel love himself, it doesn't mean there is no love 'by default'. It seems to me that I was telling her that I love her on her birthday and I'm not a parrot to repeat. Though I decided to tell that when I'll come home. That day I didn't find strength to tell my daughter about my love. The next several days I was looking for a moment to tell that. I was recalling my preacher friend telling that it's not hard to yell and swear but it's hard to confess love. He was right.

The moment of my first confession looked more like a crime in front of people watching. I was telling my own daughter I love her and feeling that my body was teleporting. It seemed I was breaking into molecules before telling the phrase 'I love you' and only after these words my body molecules (including brain) started to line up in the right way. 'I love you' - these words became a real teleport to my new life and new relations with my family. Now I and my daughters often (sometimes it seems there is no reason for that) confess love to each other. Something we couldn't understand, something we couldn't reach but time is flowing and life's passing away. We have to confess love to people that we love often. I clearly remember my very first day at school, I was immensely happy, all the relatives were happy, I finally felt myself growing up. My grandmother Tanya was the only one to say: 'My dear grandson, new life had started for you today. Now you won't sit still until you retire. You'll wake up in the morning and run, run, run'. It was hard for me to understand that blessing that seemed like a curse to me. At that moment life on Mars seemed more probable for me than some of her words being realistic, especially when she was telling that life is flowing. She was telling that I will graduate soon, get a profession, marry and have kids. She was so sure about my future. When my child brain realized that there is not only the past (that we could dwell upon through the books and movies) but also the future I counted

what age I'll be in 2000 and realized again that my grandma didn't understand how far it was.

"The life of mortals is like grass,
they flourish like a flower of the field;
16 the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.

17 But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children—18 with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts." (Ps 103:15-18)

-Andrey Belokoniy

Growth to the PHA Board of Directors :

PHA is excited to announce the addition of a new board member, Tom Carey. PHA's ministry continues to grow and we are blessed to have new leadership as a part of the PHA Family!

"I have always had a soft spot for children and mostly children who needed help. As a Dallas cop this love grew and while working contract work for the State Department in Lebanon I got the chance to work with orphans. My first trip to Ukraine was with EEM and my love grew even more. Now I am honored to be a part of PHA work with others who love orphans." - Tom Carey



Poltava Thoughts: by Fedor Chernichkin

Many, many stories, and fortunes I meet in my life! Somebody stays indifferent to Jesus Christ, somebody even tries to threaten and starts to hate Christ and everything that is connected to Him. But there is a little residual that sticks to them from God and loves his Son Jesus Christ! And looking at such people you think that these are the ones that will love God with all strength, mind and heart but often it's vice versa and that's another approval that only God is a heart seeker!



Right now, Artyom stays with us for the weekends! He is interested in God's Word, Church, Jesus. He decided to visit Domik (PHA's day center) on his own, spend more time with us and started staying for the weekends. He is reading God's Word and has many questions about Christ! I know Artyom for 2 years and communicating with him I didn't even think that he'll be interested in all that. I waited for questions about Christ from other kids, but everything turns out to be different!

Artyom has a mother but unfortunately, he feels like an orphan! His mother married a man that leads a bad way of life (drinks alcohol excessively), he often beats her and her kids. When Artyom was little he suffered from these fights but when he grew up he decided to leave the family as he is afraid to break the law defending himself, his brother, sister or mom! His mother had chosen his stepfather instead of him!

There is a need to pray about such kids so that their hearts would be soft for repentance, so that only God would be their hope and support in life! Our family is thankful to PHA for the opportunity to help the youth graduating the orphanage to receive God's support from you!

- Fedor Chernichkin

Story of a Child: by Vanya and Tanya Ilmeyevi

This winter holidays we decided to take our teenagers from the Family House on a trip. We thought that was a good idea as there were several profits: we spent more time together, went sightseeing, taught several life skills needed for an adventurer, had fun and last but not the least we've given Andrey and Marina a little break. (It seems they didn't like it as both of them caught a cold when we were away). We've chosen to go to Lviv which is far west from Zaporizhzhya but we were eager to have a long train ride. The adventure took us 6 days. By the way we even visited our friends in Ivano-Frankivsk which is 2 hours away from Lviv.



We lived in the hostel and tried to show them that it's always possible to find out something new and special even without lots of money. We think it worked out and here are some thoughts from the kids:

"This winter we've visited Lviv and it's very different, feels like you're in a different epoch. In one week we were able to check all the interesting places and had time to wander in the city" Yegor

"I'm pleased with the trip even though I didn't want to go in the beginning. I enjoyed the Town Hall, it is very high. Also we spent good time at the church in Ivano-Frankivsk and went sightseeing after Sunday worship" Lyosha

"The trip wasn't boring as we went as a big group. Everyday we've checked into several museums, markets, hills. I liked the Vysokiy Zamok hill, the road was rough but it was worth it. I liked St.

Andrew's Church. When we were going up to the Town Hall I've counted 417 staircase steps, the view was so fascinating" Nastya

"I liked Rynok Square, the houses there are very old and it amazed me how they survived through the years. I liked all the interesting cafes and coffee shops. For the first time I've seen how they roast coffee. Tanya and Vanya, thank you for the trip to Lviv" Vlad

It's far from easy to keep 7 teenagers safe and fed, you know. But all of us enjoyed the adventure and we feel it's not the last one.

-Vanya and Tanya Ilmeyevi

From the Domik Kitchen: by Marina Belokonnaya

Velvet Carrot Cake: We decided to try this cake as the combination is very interesting: carrots, nuts, orange.



Ingredients

4 eggs
220 gr oil (sunflower)
350 gr flour
400 gr carrot
350 gr sugar
2 tsp baking powder
Cinnamon
Orange zest
200 gr walnut
20 gr butter
½ tsp salt

Cream:

Cream cheese 500 gr

Butter 200 gr

Sugar powder 200 gr

Fry walnuts on a pan add salt and melted butter, put in a freezer and let's work with a dough. Whisk eggs with sugar till these are mixed and grown, add butter, flour and a pinch of cinnamon. Grate carrots and orange zest, mix in the dough. Take the nuts out of the freezer, chop with a knife and add to the dough. Divide dough in 3 parts, bake in the oven 180 C for 25-30 mins. Check when ready with a wooden toothpick. Fully cool the shortcakes(biscuits). Wrap every shortcake in a plastic wrap and put them in the fridge for several hours. If you lack time put in the freezer for at least 15 mins. For cream mix butter with sugar powder for several minutes, add cream cheese mix for couple minutes more. Put the cream on the shortcakes and send into fridge for a few hours. Bon Appetit!

-Marina



**Program for Humanitarian Aid is
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_____ **Financially through a one-time donation**

\$50 \$100 \$500 Other: _____

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

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Donations can also be made through the PHA website: www.programforhumanitarianaid.org