



LAMB International

LEADERSHIP ACTIVATING MINISTRY

July 1, 2010

RUBY FROM UKRAINE

and

LYNN FROM KYRGYZSTAN

UKRAINE – all about Ephesians 4:12

So much happening here and all of it is very exciting. I (Ruby) will put my activities out first and then report Lynn's.

Father's House: They continue to have children adopted from here and it is awesome to live with these families here while they are waiting out the lengthy process that is required of them here in Ukraine. (When in Ukraine, FH is kind to give me lodging! So, I stay at the orphanage where they have prospective adoptive families stay too.....and just about anyone else that needs a place to stay for a short time!)

Family 1 – from California was here for a visit. They adopted a 15 year old boy a year ago from Father's House. They were here for him to visit and reconnect with the family that he lived with here in the Family Type Homes they operate. He is doing very well and they rave about how well FH did in raising him for seven years before he was adopted by this family. I was here a year ago when they were taking him home after the adoption. What a joy to see them again, and what a mature young man he is becoming. He will soon be getting his drivers' license.

Family 2 – from Atlanta, Georgia has been here for five weeks. They have two more to go, before they can take their FOUR adopted children home (5-13 years old). Can you imagine? However, they are now a family and it is delightful being here with them and watching them learn how to cook for four new members of their family! What a challenge. Mom said she spends most of her time shopping for food and cooking. So good she is young. She is Ukrainian and speaks and her husband both speak Ukrainian and Russian. They have lived in Atlanta for over 12 years...adopting from their motherland! Very precious.

Father's House projects are amazing. They are getting ready to open several special programs: one for single mothers and children, one for seniors, and one for rehabilitation. They have summer camp programs, family type homes, a transition home for youth, a greenhouse, and more. If you have a church that would like to come to Ukraine and find a project to support – this is a VERY worthy cause. Check out their web site: <http://www.otchiy-dim.org/en/>

Every Child: Another very worthy cause we work with and help. This organization is committed to helping kids go to homes instead of to an orphanage. And they are now

invested in helping those orphans that are now in orphanages and need to transition to independent living. My work with them this week has been training their trainers and leaders from around the city of Kiev. These are their different partners from government services who work with children. In addition, we will be working together with Institute for Human Services (IHS) and Every Child to put into place some strategies which will help these transitioning youth.

Alliance: A new organization, but not so new idea. This organization has a vision that everyone can agree to: **UKRAINE WITHOUT ORPHANS!** We are honored to be working with them and looking forward to how we can partner to help the different churches, ngo's and government organizations they partner with. How might we help? Well, training of course! This is our Ephesians 4:12 ministry in action again.

Travel to Krivoy Rog: On Friday night I will board the train (alone) and head to Krivoy Rog and hope I get off at the correct stop. I will be visiting our dear friends and pastors Gregory and Galina. And – I am taking a much wanted little netbook to Emma Wright from the famous Wright family. Emma and two other young girls are working for the summer at the orphanages in Krivoy Rog. They journeyed here together from Kyrgyzstan to attempt to get Canadian visas for her two friends so they could spend the summer with her and her family in Canada. The purpose of the girls coming was to go on a good will mission for the Wrights to raise awareness and funds for Kyrgyzstan. However, they DID NOT get visas, in fact were denied twice! So, instead of being devastated – they went to work in Krivoy Rog – loving on the orphans there. I will see the girls, take them to eat and just enjoy their stories.

Meetings galore: God has helped us understand that we must plan, but He will direct our steps. So I will have lots of meetings and wait to see the result as the result comes forth...and head for home the first of next week. But then again where is home? Canada? Ukraine? Kyrgyzstan?

KYRGYZSTAN

I cannot begin tell Lynn's story of his time and activities in Kyrgyzstan, so I will share a short story and then just copy and paste his blogs into this journal. He arrived in this violence-torn country on Monday to a presence of the military and police that shocked him. The country had a vote on Sunday and the positive return of results has brought some new hope to many. However, tanks, road barricades and the number of police are constant reminders of the need to take back the land. Kyrgyzstan was heading for democracy – fighting hard to get there. Then a revolution and violence – a short still and then all revenge broke out and the fight turned to ethnic hatred. The Southern part of Kyrgyzstan was riveted with killings resulting in new orphans.

Today, there is a renewed still. Please pray for the peace to return. Families are beginning to return to their homes – some have been burned. Others are finding their family members no longer there.

Lynn is in the north central part of the country – in a city called Tokmok. This is where we are located and have our work focused. He has been busy and continues to do all he can to bring hope and dignity to the many projects we serve there. In his words

FROM OUR BLOG www.lambinternational.blogspot.com :

A GOOD REPORT: I've been on the go making the rounds today. One stop was at the baby hospital. Many of you will remember the story we posted on Melana Grace. You will be pleased to know she is doing well and in addition so are two other new born babies. I asked about her (Melana's) health and the doctor indicated she was very healthy and added the reason why she is doing well is because of the formula she is receiving. As we were leaving I was chatting with the head doctor and she was very grateful for the help that is being provided. She also asked if we could provide some diapers as well. Having disposable diapers saves the staff (overworked and underpaid) a great deal of time, especially on rainy days. The only way of drying cloth diapers is the old fashioned clothesline. It may be old fashioned, but on sunny days it is effective and economical. If you would like to help with diapers, just give the Canada Helps button a push and we will have your donation quickly.



The latest picture (this am) that I took of Melana.

As we were leaving I asked Natasha, "What about the other two babies? Is anyone providing for them?" I wasn't really surprised by her answer. "You are," she said. I guess I had been wondering how one small baby could eat so much formula. Now I understand - it's three small babies, not one. Thank you for the donations that keep the formula arriving and tomorrow we will add some diapers to the shopping list.

On another note, this week two caravans of medical and humanitarian aid are leaving Tokmok and heading for Osh. Many of you have read of the tribulations in that area. However, local churches and citizens have banded together and are reaching out with help. There is a much greater police presence on the roads and in and around this city now. People are seeing this as a good thing as order is being maintained, allowing peaceful citizens to resume their lives.

Stay tuned for further reports as I visit several of our ongoing projects this week.

BEFORE HE LANDED HE REPORTED THIS:

THIS STORY NEED TELLING (YELLING) Yesterday, on my 12 hour layover at the Moscow airport, I made some new acquaintances. I couldn't pronounce the first name of the young man I chatted with, but his second name is Aaron. He is from Somalia. He and about fifteen other Somalis have been "hostage" in the Moscow airport for just over **four** months. They came to Russia seeking asylum from direct threats from militant Islam.

Aaron told me they come to your house the first time to get you to join them in their violence. You are expected to kill. Aaron still doesn't understand why brothers of the same religion would kill each other. The second time they come the pressure is more intense and many unwillingly become part of violence. The third time they come, Aaron explains, they don't ask again, they simply cut your throat. That is why he and his peaceful friends fled the country seeking asylum.

Aaron tells me that for the first three weeks a company he only knows as SMF (Canada) provided food for them. Then the food stopped. Apparently Russia has refused them. United Nations talks with them about once every three weeks. No one is listening. No one is helping.

They beg for their daily bread in a place where a small cup of coffee costs seven dollars (U.S.) and no refills. I asked Aaron for their names. He couldn't remember everyone, but he listed the following: Huvun, Aweys, Mownd, Mahamed, Ibrahim, Ismahan, Hamdi, Ubah, Yusuf, Ahnad, Mahamed. Real people, real pain and desperate need.



Lynn standing beside Aaron just outside a VIP lounge (rather ironic).

For anyone reading this story I ask two things. One: if you know of any connection with the United Nations or other helping organization, please call. They are located on the second level of the Moscow airport in the transit section. Two: If you know of anyone passing through the transit zone, ask them to look them up. Bring some food and encouragement. At the moment they are in need of aspirin and vitamins as well as food.

I will be travelling back through next Sunday. If you have a word of encouragement, a contact or a stipend of hope, contact me via e-mail and I will share it with them.



This is a picture of Aaron and his friends' living/sleeping quarters.

(Send a note to the United Nations and tell them you know about this and ask them to please do something! Remember, Elizabeth got out this way!)