

Julie's Missionary Almanac

May 2009

Rivne, Ukraine

It has been so beautiful and sunny in Ukraine these days we don't know what to do with ourselves! I for one, would like to bottle up the sunshine to release on all the other grey, dreary days of the year!

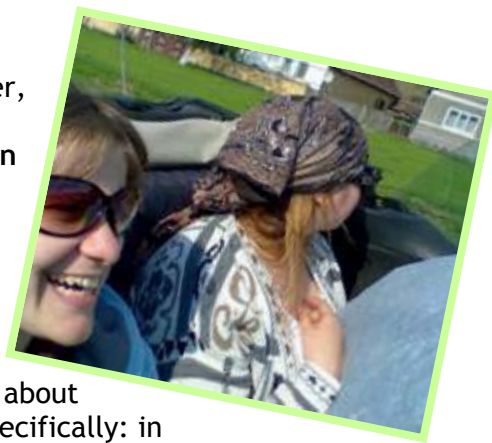
Since I've not written you in awhile, I'll try to give you a quick overview of the last several weeks.



This first picture lets you in on one of my recent activities: tagging along to other people's English tutoring. Helen here (to the right) is teaching this young girl and getting ready to hand her lesson over to me. I've done this a few times in the last month or so in order to get to know the kids and the parents of Helen's students (and also one of Sveta's). At the end of May or beginning of June, we plan to gather these kids

together in our new office and do a simplified "English Club" week. Pray that the plans will come together and that it will be an effective outreach!

The weekend following Easter, Sveta and I headed to Romania for the "Carpathian Basin" retreat. Josef Sykora (my friend Lynette's husband) taught at this 3 day conference, attended by folks from Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and us from Ukraine! The topic was about using Psalms for worship - specifically: in confession, lament, and praise. We learned a lot from this time, and I am thankful for the inspiration—it's given me much to chew on!



It was also a fun time to connect with the Dunns, who serve in Romania, as they graciously hosted us when we arrived and the extra day we stayed in country. We had a fun ride in Paula's convertible thru the Romanian countryside, and a nice meal by the river in Arad!



It's printed!

- Our short guide to the Bible has just been printed in Ukrainian.
- Please pray that these books will be used to draw many into God's Word and into new life in Him.
- They are going into the hands of neighbors, students, friends, orphans, the lady Brenda buys produce from, etc.
- Pray also that things will go well with the printing of the Russian translation!

Світло Стежки Моєї



Короткий путівник по Біблії

A Light for my Path
a short guide to the Bible

(the previous excerpt is 'borrowed' from Greg and Brenda's newsletter!)

Our small house church that meets on Sunday evenings is continuing to learn and grow together. We are encouraged to see that even over the holiday weekends (and there are many: Easter was April 19th, then came May 1st/Labor Day weekend, next weekend will be Victory Day/May 9th), people are coming and beginning to identify themselves more and more with us and with each other. Pray that they will be touched by Jesus Christ and that each will come to know him more personally. Pray also for a new group Greg will be starting this Thursday for in-depth Bible study on different 'sporniy' (controversial or literally, 'arguable') topics.

Thursday, we got a chance to visit **Klevan**, a village that our mission used to visit more frequently, and a place Greg and Brenda know well. I think there are about 3 **orphanages** here that we have visited in the past, and this particular orphanage is blessed to have an assistant director lady that is very caring and diligent in her work. We went together with a few from our church and delivered some underwear and toiletries that were needed. Good conversations, some seed planting (literal and figurative), and a little singing ensued. The only drawback was when Brenda went to the van to take a picture of all this, she turned her ankle in a bad hole in the asphalt and broke her foot!



To add insult to injury (again, both literally and figuratively ☺), Greg and Brenda had gotten tickets to see Mozart's Requiem that night at the organ hall with me. Though really looking forward to it, they had to run around to hospitals and then stay home instead, while I caught the concert with my voice teacher. The picture to the left is from the organ hall.



Please keep Brenda in your prayers as she recovers! The first cast they managed to get done doesn't look great, and they're hoping to get it re-done as soon as possible. Doctors and hospitals don't necessarily work here on holidays, can you imagine that? ☺



Monday we had our monthly meeting with other missionary women from the city—and moved the meeting to Greg and Brenda's so we could all be together. It was an encouraging time!



Watch for an email to come soon with information about my upcoming visit to the States as well as fundraising details and opportunities.

**Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support!
May God help us all to keep our eyes on Him,**

Julie

(shown here getting an archery lesson from Greg)