

LITTLE LAMBS MINISTRY

Reaching out to those who need the most but have the least - the orphans in the former Soviet Union

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"...for in you the fatherless find compassion" Hosea 14:3

WINTER 2009

For LLM, the year 2009 was a wonderful year with many blessings. Hundreds responded to God's call to visit and minister to orphans in distress, and as a result many lives were changed. Many new friendships were formed and new relationships built. A new container was sent out to Moldova but the biggest blessing of all was to see God touch hearts. God touched all of us through the eyes of children who crave for nothing more than to be loved, accepted and treated well. Their eyes reflect lives of sadness, rejection, and pain. Knowing that only God can heal that pain, hundreds of Little Lambs volunteers unconditionally love these children year after year.



The biggest gift for me this summer was to be able to tell them that they are not alone and that Jesus will never leave them. Lena, camp volunteer

All of the children want to be loved and have a friend, but have a very hard time to trust anybody. We encourage our local team members to write, call and visit the orphans whenever possible. That is why we started the winter camp program a few years ago because so many children are anxiously waiting for them and for us to come.

"You want us to be friends with you? Ok, so we become friends and you will write for a while, maybe call a few times. That could last 6 months and then what? And that happens every time. We get attached, we fall in love, we hope and ...you leave and forget us. This is painful. Often I don't want to make new friends, because friendships don't last and it hurts again and again." Alla, Dnepro orphanage

This January, our Ukrainian brothers and sisters are planning eight winter camps. They will go to be the hands and feet of Jesus, hugging and loving the children and telling them how much God loves them. During last



years winter camp one of the orphanage workers shared with our team: *"During the winter, the children are expecting a special miracle. Everyone is talking that Christmas is a family holiday and everyone is encouraged to spend time with family. Our children spend the holidays usually alone. By coming here and loving the children you are giving them a miracle"*. The winter camps are tough physically because it is so cold in the orphanages and there is often no hot water, but it is a special time for us as volunteers. When we see the happy faces of the kids every morning, we know that it is all worth it and this is the place God wants us to be. God gave us so much and we need to share His love and our resources with the one's who need it most. Their needs are very real and so evident especially during the winter camps. It is such a blessing to provide something warm for their bodies and souls. The jackets, quilts, hats and gloves we ship regularly in containers to Ukraine make wonderful gifts for them. The cold European winter forces the children to look for some place warm and what a joy it is when they find the warmth and peace for their broken and hurting hearts in Jesus Christ and not in vodka, cigarettes and sex. We have an amazing opportunity to help the children to heal this winter. Since no Americans will be going over this winter we have the opportunity to support the team from here. We can support and encourage the teams by praying for them, for their safety and that many will encounter God's love. We can also support the teams financially as they are needing funds to run the camps.

I would like to kindly ask all camp volunteers of the past to consider to give \$25 to enable our Ukrainian brothers and sisters to go to orphanages this Christmas. You have seen and touched the children and you know how much they love it when our teams come. They are waiting. So please consider how you can help. Thank you.



Little Lambs Mission Statement

"Little Lambs is committed to provide the opportunity for orphans and abandoned children in the former Soviet Union to accept Christ, to grow in their faith, and to become self-sufficient, contributing members of society."

Little Lambs Board Of Directors

Mr. David Lautz, Chairman; Mrs. Sue Iverson, Treasurer; Mr. Clifford Johnson; Mr. Keith VanderVeen; Mr. Scott Thompson; Rev. Waldemar Kurz; Mrs. Renate Kurz, President

Little Lambs Ministry is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit Christian corporation reaching out to orphans in Russia, Ukraine, and Moldova.

BLESSINGS IN 2009

Summer Camps

In Moldova our team helped pastors put on VBS programs. This turned out to be a wonderful way to have insight into the lives and hearts of the people in small churches and see their passion for reaching the lost. We went home knowing that there would remain an ongoing ministry to all the precious children we worked with. - Barb Reitsma, Elmhurst Illinois



"My trip to Russia with Little Lambs was life changing. I saw God work in new and amazing ways not only with the children there but also in my own life. It was really neat to see the body of Christ and His work transcend cultures and languages."

- Todd Irvin, Wheaton College



Helping the Graduates

My name is Andrei Rozvodovsky. Since 2003 I have worked in Little Lambs' Camps. This summer I moved to a small town to start a new church. I took three boys (Leonid, Boris, Yura) from an orphanage in Berdichev, who accepted Christ in the camp, to help them grow in their faith, and help them to find their way in life. We are renting a small old house and together we take care of the house. It keeps the boys out of trouble and with God's help, they will grow spiritually. I hope that many young Christians will help the orphans who graduate, that have no place to go and no one to help and guide them. I pray that many orphans will find Christian families who can help them in their studies, and teach them to entrust their lives in God's hands.



My Name is Sveta Leonchik and I have been involved with Little Lambs Ministry since 1999. I worked the first 3 summers in camps and I loved meeting the little ones who so desperately needed a mother. I always wanted to be a mother and struggled for years with my singleness. But God had His plan for me and in 2002, I got the job in Little Lambs Kiev office. I was still very involved with the camps every summer and enjoyed mothering and loving the kids. In 2007, I went to help the Little Lambs Home in Rovno, but stayed there as they needed my help. Because of her age, mother Olya, could not be a guardian to the new kids that we took in to the home last fall. So I became the guardian to the 6 children. I love taking care of them and being the mother to them they never had. I thought my chances of getting married were just lost completely with those 6 children, but last winter God brought Nicolay (Kolya) to visit our home in Rovno and in May 2009 we were married. Now I have a husband and 6 children! God is awesome!

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It was such a joy to see the wedding dresses arrive safely in Kiev and then in Rovno. The living room was filled with boxes packed with wedding, bridesmaid, and formal dresses. The Ukrainian girls eagerly began to open every box, excited to see what was inside, try them on and begin discussing their new business. These dresses were collected in America and shipped in the container we are able to ship biannually to Ukraine. Yula, an orphanage graduate, has taken leadership with this and has begun to organize a rental service.



The rental store has been open for one month and we already rented out a few dresses. Thank you to all of you who donated dresses or helped to collect them. Your gift was received with joy and you have made it possible for orphanage graduates to be engaged in a business. Please pray for Yula and the business as every beginning is difficult, but even more difficult in Ukraine.



NEW WEBSITE

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE, IT IS AWESOME!

WWW.LITTLELAMBS.COM

Our thanks to the Little Lambs cyber team

This year we sent our first ever shipment to Moldova! It was such a blessing to send humanitarian aid to this small country, and even though the container met some troubles along the way, it made it to where it needed to be. It arrived at the end of the summer and we distributed it to the children we worked with this summer. We also helped homeless and handicapped people. Here is the letter, that one of the pastors sent us:

I am sincerely thankful for the charitable help we have received for the needy in our city, in Komrat. When we received the boxes, we invited primarily the children who attended the Little Lambs Camp last summer. We have told the children that you have sent them these gifts in the form of clothing, shoes, towels, blankets, soccer balls and jars of peanut butter. From the parents we have received many kind words about you, saying that you are so generous and that you are not only calling yourselves Christians but that you are in deed children of God. Thanks to your help our church became more known in our city; many children and some of their parents have begun to attend our Sunday services. Pastor Joseph Karaseni



THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO DONATED ITEMS OR VOLUNTEERED IN OUR WAREHOUSE. THESE SHIPMENTS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

CONTAINER SHIPMENT

SUMMER CAMP 2010

Looking for a way to serve God and love others next summer?



Little Lambs is looking for volunteers to go to Ukraine, Russia, and Moldova as a part of our summer camp ministry program. American Christians will work alongside national Christians to bring the love and hope of Jesus Christ to the hurting and abandoned children of the former Soviet Union.

This is a great opportunity for your college or church to be the hands and feet of Christ to children who are hungry for love. We encourage both individuals and teams to serve with us. (Note: If you are interested in serving with us, but do not have a team, Little Lambs will place you in one.)

Two or three weeks in June, July and August

Please contact the Carol Stream office for more information and to request promotional material; and volunteer applications.

Littlelambsusa@bcglobal.net

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON FEBRUARY 15, 2010

Thank you for partnering with us in this ministry! Your part makes it possible for us to reach out to thousands of orphans.



**Little Lambs
Ministry is
proud to
announce its
membership of
ECFA —
the Evangelical
Council For
Accountability.**

GOD'S PROVISION

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not done in vain." - 1 Corinthians 15:58

This past year has been a year of hard work and obedience to the Lord. Young men like Andrei are taking in boys to help them find their way in life. Single women like Sveta become guardians to kids and try to raise them as their own in order to protect them from orphanage life. Young girls like Yula are starting businesses to help other orphanage graduates to learn to do business. God has been moving hearts in huge ways over in Ukraine and he has been changing lives through people who are faithful to his calling and ministry. He does not promise that life will be easy when we follow him, but he is faithful to those who listen and he provides everything we need for life. Thank you to all of you who have helped Little Lambs in any way this past year; whether through your generous donations, humanitarian aid, volunteering or prayer. Together with our national brothers and sisters we can make a difference. Please ask God how you can help the orphans this winter.



Easy ways of giving to LLM and the orphans:

- PayPal - give online - www.Littlelambs.com
- Credit Card Giving - please fill out the pledge card with your credit card information and return it to Little Lambs office
- Send a check - please use the return envelop

