

LITTLE LAMBS MINISTRY

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

P.O. Box 87463 * Carol Stream, IL 60188 * PH (630) 260-1947 * Email: Littlelambsusa@sbcglobal.net * www.littlelambs.com SUMMER 2010
"...for in you the fatherless find compassion" Hosea 14:3

Dear Friends, this was once again an amazing summer. God showed us His faithfulness and love, transformed hearts, and touched so many broken lives. As we planned for the camps and the deadlines drew near, we only had two teams going for the summer. But God was faithful and provided us with 7 teams this summer, all of which went to Ukraine and worked hand in hand with Ukrainian teams. In Ukraine, we worked with three new orphanages this summer. One orphanage was very open and very friendly, the other two were cold and hostile, but what a difference God's Love made. In the Ulyanovka orphanages in the Summy region, over 30 children accepted Christ by the end of the camp. In Rogation, Lvov region, the orphanage, village, and even the local Christians were so impressed with the Camp program and the team that the local Christian station came out for an interview to the orphanage. In Zaporozhje, when our team arrived the orphanage had only 25 children, all other children were sent home with their guardians. Three days later there were 45 children, the children had come back and wanted to be in the camp.

By second week of the camp, there were 65 children! The orphanage begged us to come back next summer because for the first time in their lives the children had so much fun, said the director's assistant. God's love transformed and softened many hearts this summer in Ukraine.



Moldova: We did not have a team for Moldova, but we sent funds to the nationals in the two villages we worked with last summer to run a camp for the village children. In Vanya's village the Mayor came out the last day of the camp and thanked the Christians for their offer to help the village children. Wow, what recognition and an opportunity to share Christ in this village! Through the children's camps God softened and opened the minds and hearts of many people, and Vanya's church is growing. We hope to send a small team of people to help them again next summer!



JUNE CAMPS: Ulyanivka, Sumy Region, Ukraine

"Throughout these two weeks I became close to many kids. The main girl who was always around me was 13 year-old Natasha. Her mom had died and her dad did not want to take care of her. Four days into our time at camp Natasha asked one of the Ukrainian leaders to pray with her. She accepted Jesus into her heart that same day and received a Ukrainian Bible!" - "There were also three kids that had problems for many months being able to sleep. They would constantly pace back and forth across their room at night and see black cats. The night we heard this we prayed individually with them before they went to bed and we prayed for these kids in our team meeting later that evening. The next morning they ran to us and excitedly told us they slept great, and they continued to do so. This is just one of the many ways our team saw God and His power." - Hope Gaffner, *Hudsonville, MI*



"Going into the trip I never thought I would change as much as I did. Seeing these kids everyday with so much love really showed me what I need to have. There was a lonely girl who was about to graduate named Lene. I didn't talk to her much the first week, but then one night I asked her to sit by me while we were talking to them before they went to bed. From that point on she always wanted to be next to me. She wrote me a note saying I was her best friend and that she loved me so much. She then gave me a little stuffed animal and wash-rag that she had. I almost started crying, because even though she had so little she was still willing to give it away for others. This little girl really showed me what love is for others." - Joanna Castro, *Mundelein, IL*



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 Lutz, 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.

STORIES FROM CAMP

JUNE CAMPS:

Nova Praha, Kirovohrad, Ukraine

"Spending time with the Ukrainian orphans this summer was a rich time for me. The children were so hungry for love and attention, and it was



a blessing to be able to represent God's people and His message of love to them. Little Lambs even set me up with the opportunity to freely speak to an entire room full of children and share my testimony and God's message of salvation. I've never felt so honored in my life. And, although a knee injury has plagued me for years, by the grace of God, I played soccer and ran and slid and played with those kids while I was there. God loves His children and He is alive and working for their hearts." - Michael DeJong, *Roeland Park, KS*

JULY CAMPS:

Bohodukhiv, Sumy Region, Ukraine

"Being asked to participate with God in his dream for these beauties was more challenging and more rewarding that I could have possibly imagined. From the moment I knew I was going, I knew I wanted to work with the teenagers. I could see in my heart these kids, hardened by the world, hardened by disappointment, abuse, neglect, self sufficiency, loneliness, and I could see that they were really just scared kids who wanted to be loved. God whispered to me not to be afraid, despite the exterior toughness or the walls, they longed to be held. Throughout the two weeks we were there I witnessed this with my own eyes. I saw a group of teenagers standing back, suspicious and unsure, run into the presence of their father like children. That presence looked like a lot of different things. It looked like my arms. It looked like painting someone's nails. It looked like laying on a blanket. It looked like ordinarily every day things, but God fathers his children creatively and His presence is real. I hold every one of their faces in my heart, praying that that their hearts daily unfold before the one who made them with a purpose, a hope and a future."

- Kate Bryan, *Milwaukee, WI*



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JULY CAMPS:

Pravda, Sumy Region, Ukraine

"Prayer was the only way we were going to reach these children and began to pray longer together and for specific needs of the children. Slowly God began opening doors for us. Some children began to ask questions, some calmed down with aggressive behaviors and would actually listen when we were having lessons. God allowed us to form bonds with the children one on one. About half way through camp a lot of the children left because it was their scheduled time to visit the black sea. I was heartbroken that they were leaving so soon. It was a big challenge for me because all



but 5 of the children in my group were leaving for the black sea. The very same children that cursed in our faces when we arrived hugged us and cried with us when they got on the bus to leave. One boy

named Serge repented and came to God during a church service while we were there. I truly miss them, they were lively, active children who never stayed still for long so it was never a dull moment with them. We got an entire new group of kids who were much calmer and much nicer to us from the start. I feel like God was teaching us a big lesson. 'Just because He allows us to make progress doesn't mean we can get comfortable. There is always more work to be done and there will always be broken hearts to mend. We needed to stay focused and not look at a finish line but at the next goal.' I have learned so much from this camp about the love God has for us. These children are not bad, they are misled, deceived, and hurting. Much like we were when Jesus found us. Jesus said, 'come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest' Matthew 11:28. I am praying for these children and the Little Lambs ministry. - Sharon Peters, *Kennett Square, PA*



AUGUST CAMPS: Zaporozhje, Region, Ukraine

I feel privileged to have worked with both teams and especially the kids. Bedtime to me was one of my favorites. We would go around hugging the kids, telling them we loved them and that we would see them in the morning. The kids just lit up with huge smiles on their faces. It made me wonder how many times they have had someone tell them they loved them or had someone give them a hug, and knowing that it would end when we left was one of the hardest things to deal with. My theme verse for the 2 weeks was 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I would have given up on the first day if I was doing it on my own, but God gave me this perseverance to make it. - Jackie Saagman, *Holland, MI*



I will always remember tucking the children in at night, prying their arms off of my neck because they don't want to let go of a hug, and hearing them tell me that they love me. Although the orphans of Ukraine have nothing, with the help of Little Lambs, they are given the opportunity to have the one thing that really matters, a relationship with their Heavenly Father. - Jennifer Olson, *Schaumburg, IL*

WINTER CAMP - UKRAINE 2011

Five years ago we added our Winter Camp program and it has been amazing! The cold conditions outside make the children more willing and likely to listen to a story or just sit and talk. Especially at Christmas time when the children have no one to celebrate with, they feel very alone and abandoned. We have an opportunity to be there to share God's amazing Love for them: that He will never leave or forsake them. The Winter Camps have opened so many opportunities to touch the lives of the lost and hurting children, and

we would like you to be part of it! (Christmas in Ukraine is celebrated on January 7.)

If you are interested in sharing Christ's birth with the orphans in Ukraine and help Little Lambs to distribute relief items and Christmas gifts please contact the Little Lambs office for an application and more information: littlelambsusa@sbcglobal.net or visit our website: www.littlelambs.com



Dates: Approx. Jan. 1-Jan. 10

Cost: \$2,000 (from Chicago, IL)

Application Deadline: October 1, 2010 with \$250 deposit

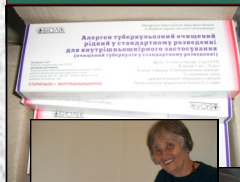
Balance Due: October 29, 2010

Requirements: 18-65 years old, valid passport, be willing to work with a team leader, and be willing to serve at any orphanage assigned by Little Lambs Ministry.

Project Updates

With your generous donations we were able to raise over \$2000 this spring at our annual garage sale. The money we raised went to purchase gifts for each of the orphanages we worked with this summer:

Lvov: School supplies
Ulyanovka: Washer
Nova Praha: Computer
Bohodukhov: Medicine
Pravda: Sink, Printer, Wallpaper
Udayzy: Tankless water heater
Zaporozhje: Computer monitors



Thank you, dear friends for your faithful support. Especially in the difficult economic times your love for the orphans is very much appreciated and needed. Giving got a little easier: PayPal, Credit Card giving, or just send a check. Thank you very much.

Please check out our website: www.Littlelambs.com



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Please call 630-260-1947 or Email us: Littlelambsusa@sbcglobal.net and ask to be removed from the mailing list.

Thank you for helping the orphans.

CONTAINER UPDATE

The Relief Program and container shipments are a very important part of

Little Lambs Ministry:

- Orphanage directors and staff are much more receptive to our camps with the offering of relief items for the children and it is also a visible proclamation of God's love to them.
- Giving clothes, shoes and care packages speaks volumes to children who do not receive presents or everyday necessities.

We are planning for our next container shipment to take place in October 2010. *As we consider the current financial state of our country, we realize that government funding for our relief program may be cut at any point. We do not know how much longer we will be able to ship containers of material relief to Ukraine. We ask for your continued support of donations. A major need we have right now is for shoes.* If you or someone you know works at a company that could donate a large quantity of shoes let us know at the office! It would be a huge blessing to be able to send those items. Thank You!

