

Bridge of Prayer

Mission Without Borders Australia

November-December 2010

"Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory." 1 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

DAY 1. MWB AUSTRALIA. Give thanks for the continued growth of our ministry. Praise the Lord we have had the chance to meet supporters during our 50th anniversary year. Pray for guidance as we continue to expand the ministry to the glory of God and for serving the poor of Eastern Europe.

DAY 2. MWB. Supporters. What a blessing our ministry enjoys thanks to the continuing, sacrificial giving and prayers of our supporters! As the year draws to a close and we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Saviour of the world, may each supporter experience the joy of knowing Jesus and being used of Him to bless the poor we serve.

DAY 3. 'Gift in Kind' with 'Operation Cover-Up'. Give thanks for the wonderful generosity of individuals and companies this year! We have achieved so much together and it is a physical expression of care to the poor we serve. May all be blessed for their generosity and may this ministry and its impact grow further in 2011.

DAY 4. 'Gift in Kind' with 'Operation Cover-Up'. Sydney. Give thanks for the growing number of volunteers joining us in Sydney. We would love to ship the knitted items and company stock soon after they arrive, but the process necessary for customs is considerable. Pray the Lord provides a group of volunteers each day for next year.

DAY 5. 'Gift in Kind' with 'Operation Cover-Up'. Melbourne. Give thanks for Jenny Grainger and the wonderful group of volunteers that regularly gather to sort and pack the GIK. Their wonderfully stream-lined process ensures they ship their 'Gift in Kind' swiftly and this is a great blessing for all involved.

DAY 6. Family-to-Family (F2F). Give thanks for the wonderful Coordinators who dearly love the families. They love them with Christ's love, celebrate their successes and are there to encourage the families every step of the way!

DAY 7. ALBANIA. F2F. The Isa family. Praise God that the needs mentioned on the last Bridge of Prayer have been met, however, the family still do not have any sponsors to support their regular needs. **They need 4 sponsors.**

DAY 8. F2F. Praise the Lord all the needs from the last Bridge of Prayer were met! The Isa, Meci, Tocka, Gazhani, Gramada, and Fesyuk families will all receive their urgent needs. Please pray that the need for regular ongoing sponsorship of families is also met as this vital support is desperately needed for the families.

DAY 9. BOSNIA. F2F. Tulji family. Both parents are unemployed and in a de-facto relationship. They have 3 children and share a house with Muhamed's parents. Muhamed suffers from depression and is on regular medication. Esada recently lost her job and now the family have no income. **They are in need of 4 sponsors.**

DAY 10. SYDNEY. Give thanks for our Open Days on November 12 & 13. Please pray for safe travel for those keen to come, a great time of fellowship and may their visits inspire a greater involvement in our ministry.

DAY 11. BULGARIA. (F2F) Kordevi. With the new F2F ministry in Bulgaria growing, the Kordevi family have recently been enrolled into the program and receive much needed help from the food and hygiene items they receive. The parents and two children live together with the grandfather and his epileptic son. The parents have no qualifications but are enrolled in the local employment agency and find occasional work. The family suffer many physical and psychological health problems. **4 sponsors are needed to help encourage them in their lives.**

DAY 12. BULGARIA. Firewood. Winter is approaching in our field countries and it is vital each home has firewood to keep their humble homes warm during the long, harsh winter. However, many of the families are unemployed or too ill to work and are unable to purchase the necessary 8-10 m³ of firewood needed to last the long winter. Around \$650 is required to purchase this firewood in Bulgaria. Pray a solution is found and they can keep warm this winter.

DAY 13. JUBILEE BIBLE PROJECT. Give thanks for the generosity of Australia supporters that have purchased more than 16,000 Bibles for our field countries. Please pray as Bibles are distributed as part of Christmas programs.

DAY 14. GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS. Unfortunately we are hearing daily reports of the affects of the Crisis. Many have returned from aboard having lost their jobs, can no longer support their families and are simply destitute. Pray for adequate resources to meet their needs and for stability for each of the field countries as they weather the storm.

DAY 15. CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS. Give thanks for the great working partnerships we enjoy in all field countries. Pray for good coordination as urgently needed supplies are distributed during the harsh winter and for God to be glorified as the Gospel is preached at every opportunity. May many respond to the Message they hear.

DAY 16. CHILDREN'S HOMES IN MOLDOVA, ROMANIA AND UKRAINE. As Christmas approaches, it can be a very tough time for children in Children's Homes. They question why they do not get to enjoy a happy, healthy family

at Christmas, with the grief often overwhelming. Give thanks for the much anticipated Christmas plays we will perform and for the joy of Christmas gifts and treats. May the children understand the 'Reason for the Season'.

DAY 17. CHILDREN'S HOMES. Please pray for the staff who will attend the Christmas plays. May they respond to the Gospel Message and be committed to continuing the Christian ministry to the children throughout the year.

DAY 18. MOLDOVA. CRI in Community. Victor (9) comes from a poor family with both parents and 2 brothers. His parents find occasional work and earn a very small income. Victor is outgoing, helpful, in grade 2, likes maths and would like to be a "Secret Agent" when he grows up! **A sponsor is needed to provide his ongoing needs.**

DAY 19. MOLDOVA. CRI in Community. Elena (11) comes from a large family of 7 children. Her father has died and her mother cannot meet the needs of the family. Elena has hearing problems, speech difficulties and wears a hearing aid. **She is a shy, quiet and obedient child who is in need of a sponsor to show her love and care.**

DAY 20. MOLDOVA. F2F. The Capatina family has 4 children and are very poor. Their house is old and despite their efforts, is in bad need of repair. The children's education is important to the parents and they are involved in teaching them good skills and values. They are hard-working, desperate to break the cycle of poverty and become self-sufficient. **They need the help of 4 sponsors to help break this cycle.**

DAY 21. CHRISTIAN MINISTRY FOLLOW-UP FROM SUMMER CAMP. Give thanks for the children who responded to the Gospel message at Summer Camp. Pray they follow this up with participation in our Bible Correspondence Courses and ongoing Christian ministry. May they also be warmly welcomed into local Christian churches.

DAY 22. F2F. CHRISTIAN MINISTRY. Poverty is a powerful tool that paralyses many families into social exclusion and shame. Pray they respond to the care and encouragement of our staff and local church partners and are warmly welcomed into church fellowships. Grafting them into strong local churches is our aim.

DAY 23. ROMANIA. F2F. The Baran family are like many families in Romania. They do not have running water and source water from a well down the street. This family of 6 live in one room of a very old house which they share with other family members. Both parents are jobless, with the father occasionally finding agricultural work. **They have an urgent need of a non-automatic washing machine (\$310) as their washing is currently done by hand with cold water and also need 3 sponsors.**

DAY 24. OPERATION CHRISTMAS LOVE. Please pray for a smooth process as the 30,000 boxes are packed in November and safety for the deliveries; often in very cold, icy conditions.

DAY 25. OPERATION CHRISTMAS LOVE. We know Operation Christmas Love comes just in time for the poor we serve. It also serves as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas as well as a precious message that people care. Please pray the recipients respond to the Gospel message and see Jesus in all we do.

DAY 26. UKRAINE. CRI. Ukraine. Vladyslav's father is deceased and his mother is ill. He has one brother. Vladyslav lives in the Children's Home as his mother cannot provide for his basic needs. Vladyslav is 9, in grade 1, and would like to be a fireman when he grows up. **He needs a sponsor to meet his needs and encourage him.**

DAY 27. UKRAINE. CRI. Ukraine. Yana (15) comes from a disorganised family. Her mother is an alcoholic and her father is unknown. She is in grade 9 and would like to continue her studies when she finishes school and become a Teacher. She is gifted in the English language and likes to listen to music and do sports. **She needs a sponsor to help her through these difficult teenage years and encourage her in her studies.**

DAY 28. UKRAINE. F2F. The Zaplatnikov family is a poor, Christian family with unemployed parents and 6 children. One of the children, Sophiya suffers from heart disease. They live near a Children's Home and until recently were able to draw water from the Home. This is no longer allowed. **The family now needs to have their own well (\$925) and also to make repairs to their old 4 room home- they need wood, paint and roofing materials. Pray their living conditions improve as they trust God to provide for these very urgent needs.**

DAY 29. UKRAINE. F2F. The Kovbar family is a single parent, Christian family with 5 children (the father died in 2002). A highlight this last year was the baptism of two of the children. Lyubov works at the railway station but struggles on her meagre income to provide for the family. **They live in a 3 room house, but it is in need of repairs. They also need a sofa bed for the children to sleep on (cost \$575).**

DAY 30. UKRAINE. F2F. The Prozapas family live in a small, half-finished house with an outside toilet and no bathroom. The father works in road construction but does not earn sufficient income to meet their needs. **The family hope to someday have building materials (\$565) to repair their home and also to have a washing machine (\$675) to improve their living conditions.**

DAY 31. MWB. International. As we experience our busiest time of the year - with Christmas and the harsh European winter setting in, pray for strength and wisdom to help those most in need and generous worldwide contributions to our ministry, despite the tough year many have faced with the Global Financial Crisis.

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This prayer letter is available online at www.mwb.org.au