



Dear Partners,

It's been a great summer in general and much has happened since our last newsletter. On the home front, Sue and I are now EMPTY-NESTERS. Since last Sept. 2010, our older son Matt married Daria Tomiuk, our first beautiful daughter-in-law. Then a week later, we lost our dog, Sammy (15 years old) to old age and sickness. He was a blessing to our family and friends. Now, in August, our younger son Michael married Erica DeCotiis, our second beautiful daughter-in-law. We haven't noticed the silence because we're just too busy.

From May 25-June 8, Sue, myself and 6 young adults went to Ukraine. This trip changed their lives as they participated in our programs in Dnepropetrovsk and Korosten. We visited a baby orphanage twice and our team held the babies and played with them. After their visit the team came back to our home in tears on account of what they saw and learned. We also visited a poor village orphanage. On our way there, the director asked us to buy summer sandals for the orphans. Sue, Pastor Volva's wife and the orphans walked over to the local bazaar and bought shoes for everyone. It was the first time they had something new on their feet.

We visited our latest men's rehab center, where we observed a few men working the fields, growing vegetables for market. They shared their testimonies and dreams. We want to help them fulfill their goals. We dropped in on a women's rehab center - an awful setting. This past winter, 12 women slept in a room meant for 5. We plan to find them a better location and then renovate it. One young girl recognized Sue and me from her days in an orphanage. She was so happy to see us again in a different setting. This also happened with 3 young men from another rehab. Our visits to the orphanages are paying off because many young orphans are let go at 18. They are homeless and we feed them. Our workers in Ukraine tell them that there's a better life and that we try to offer them a second chance. Many are responding and we are pleased with that.

Our feeding program now provides for more than 100 homeless people, guaranteeing them one meal a day. I wish I could tell you that the numbers are decreasing but they're not. However we're glad that we're able to support them.

Surgeries are continuing in partnership with Ed Dickson, our Canadian agent in Ukraine. We met some of the children we've helped. What a joy it is to know that we, including you, have changed these young lives. Their smiling faces and cheerful personalities have encouraged us to persevere this amazing ministry. We saw children who could not walk last year walking, boys who could not bend their arms now feeding themselves with a spoon. What a miracle!! In Korosten, our team hit it off fabulously with the youth group. Many close friendships were made. **Bearers of Love** has provided musical instruments and technical equipment so that these young people at **Freedom Jam** can perform for the town and orphanages. This city of 65,000 people has absolutely nothing for the children and the youth. There's no cinema, bowling alley, skating rinks, malls, etc. We're providing this youth group to not only perform in the town square but also to entertain at birthday parties and family events for pay. They're helping themselves earn a small salary. They truly appreciate our visit because very few foreigners go there. We visited another poor orphanage outside of Korosten and money has been sent for winter shoes, mattresses and chairs. That, in a nutshell, was our visit to Ukraine.

Sue and I have scheduled another trip back to Ukraine in Oct. (3-18) to sit down with the leaders of the feeding program and drug rehabs. We also want to visit the handicap orphanage and see many of the post operative children again. Our intentions are to make sure all is going well, to start up some new activities, to evaluate all we've done and where we are going. We'll interview people and get their stories and perhaps share their testimonies. Keep us in thought and prayer as we travel to Ukraine and our time there. If you wish to donate, please send cheques to **Bearers of Love International, 8 Lido, DDO, Quebec H9B2T1**. You can also donate online at our website www.bearersoflove.org through Canada Helps. All tax receipts will be sent to you at the beginning of 2012. Thank you for being part of this amazing adventure. God Bless.

Mike and Sue