



The Yurchenkos

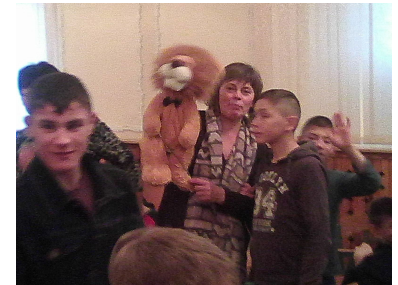
4th Quarter Report, 2016

October

Our puppet theater continues to minister to children. We recently visited a church and an orphanage in the city of Berdichev. This orphanage is different. In it live children with various physical impairments and intellectual disabilities. It wasn't easy to put on a puppet presentation; capturing the attention of some of the children took a lot of effort. But praise the Lord, the service went well, and most of the children were very attentive. After the



presentation, the children participated in competitions and answered questions about the Bible and sang Christian songs. The church and orphanage received us well. Most of the children were very open to receiving the Word of God.



We had already been in this home for invalid children one time. Many of the kids recognized us and rejoiced that we had returned to visit again. The staff there received us quite cordially. They were glad and asked us to come back more often because these kids don't accept just anybody and don't lend their attention. But the puppet theater really pleases them. They watch various scenes that they are able to comprehend.

At the end of each performance, we always invite both children and adults to pray, and in the prayer we ask Jesus to forgive sins and to come into the children's hearts. Children and some adults repeat the prayer. We don't know to what degree they understand, but we believe that prayer and the Word of God can bring forth good fruit in their lives. I recall an incident where we met adults who said they recall how believers came years ago and told them about Jesus, and thanks to that, they became Christians. We hope these children will be saved. We will be praying for them.

Please pray for our puppet theater and this ministry. Pray about an upcoming presentation, as we have many scheduled for different places. Christmas is coming, and various churches and children's homes invite us. Pray for these outreaches.

I thank the Lord for you, dear brothers and sisters, for your prayers, for your sacrificial spirits and your love toward us. Thanks to you, God's work is being done in Ukraine. May the Lord bless you!

November



Our puppet theater was invited to Vishnevy for an International Day for Disabled Persons. The city administration gathered all the local children with various handicaps. Our theater was invited to appear at this charitable event. As a rule, such events don't receive much money; they say there is no money in the budget. Therefore, the organizers look for whatever means they find, using their own means to put on a holiday for the children. Thus, we ended up at this charity evening for children. These were special kids,

which require special means to approach them and to get their attention. We did our best to serve them. We put on a play about true friendship, and we did a puppet show about how every child can become a friend of Jesus Christ, our very best Friend. All the kids were with their parents. This was very good, since the parents, too, were able to hear about Jesus Christ. We were a bit concerned about how the parents would receive our show since our presentations tell the kids about Jesus Christ, and this is religious, and not all parents give permission for their kids to view shows with religious content. But all went well; the parents and organizers were happy with our part in the program.



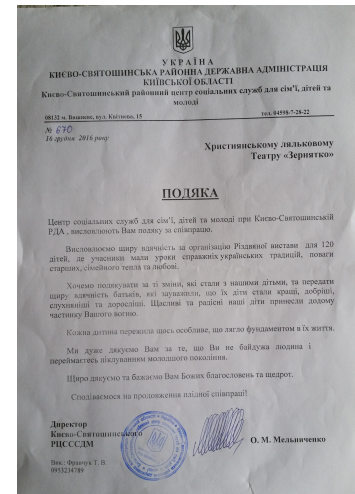
They were thankful to us for our participation. We traded contact information for future collaboration. They don't mind that our presentation is of a Christian nature. Praise God for that!

I want to thank all of you, dear friends and coworkers in God's harvest fields, for your part in this ministry to children, and for your material help. Thanks to you, God's ministry is being done in Ukraine.

May God bless you! Pray for us, for the ministry to children through our puppet theater.

December

In the past month, our puppet theater has put on 10 performances. We visited 10 separate locations with presentations for children. These were in various churches, schools, administrative buildings, and social projects. We preached and performed. Over 2000 children and adults listened. We met new people. Some of them have become our friends. The administration of the Kyiv-Svyatoshinky region of Kyiv have expressed to us their gratitude and even stated it formally with an official letter [shown right]. Our children (those who act with the puppets) have especially felt that they are accomplishing something good even though they themselves are not yet members of the church. Yet, with each day our team draws nearer to one another, and we know that we are united by one common goal dedicated to ministry to children.



We are very grateful to God for such a wonderful opportunity to serve Him. I wrote earlier that there is a brother and a sister from an underprivileged home. Sasha has been a very difficult boy. He is naturally very noisy and disobedient. In school, the teachers constantly complain about him. But in recent times he has changed so much that people have noticed these changes. They say they don't recognize Sasha; that he has greatly changed for the better. The schoolteachers affirm the same thing. We rejoice over the transformation in Sasha. When we invited him to assist with the puppet theater, it was because we saw how this boy was simply falling away. Seeing his conduct and his character, everyone was anxious about his future. Sasha didn't respond to our invitation immediately. For a long while he resisted. The first time, it was difficult to work with him; that required plenty of patience and trials. Now we see that this labor was not in vain, and even though we still have much work to do with Sasha, we are encouraged by the positive changes in him, and we believe that he will be saved. Please pray for Sasha and for his sister Katya. They are teens, and this time of life is very difficult, especially for young ones who never received long-awaited attention and nurturing from their parents.

Please pray for us, that the Lord will give wisdom and that we can have even more positive influence on these young people. We have become friends and spiritual mentors for them, virtually replacing their parents in their upbringing since their parents are alcoholics and are not being parents to their kids. Pray for these parents.

We thank the Lord for such a satisfying month, when we can serve Him and serve children. Thank you, dear friends, for your prayers and material support. Thanks you, our puppet theater can minister, work, and testify of Jesus Christ. May the Lord bless you!

Sincerely yours,
Vitaly Yurchenko