



The Buykos

2nd Quarter Report, 2019

April



Our family visited the orphanage in Velikopolovetskoe. We arrived with gifts from the BIEM mission—a washing machine (a large washing machine for up to 10 kilograms of laundry) and also a dryer! This was the answer to their needs.

The last time we'd gone there, the director told us how their washing machine had broken, thus creating a huge problem with clean clothes and bedding for the children. So this washing machine was a big blessing for the orphanage. Praise the Lord for your willingness to help!

We immediately plugged it in and set it up. All the workers were absolutely delighted. Once more, thank you tremendously for the opportunity to serve these children in the orphanage!

Along with the washing machine we brought laundry detergent (3 packages of 6 liters apiece), and that was very timely. When we filled the machine with the first load of laundry to check how well the machine works, we used some of that detergent, since theirs had run out.

We had a chance to hold a Bible lesson. For the lesson, they gave me the second and third grade classes. I told them a story of two children who broke their mother's favorite beads and made a mess and then said that their dog did it. The





mother got more upset over the fact that they lied to her than about the beads. I explained that all lying is sin. To help them always remember not to lie, we did a craft (leftover from camp). Thank you for all of the interesting crafts that you bring to us in Ukraine for camp. They are always interesting and unusual! In this case, they served us not only in Bilogorodka, but also in the orphanage.

In the photo is Alina (age 9, third grade). When I handed each child a baggie with the craft, they happily started to open them. I explained what to do with the beads, and the kids started doing them. Only Alina turned her packet over in her hands without doing anything. I offered to help... The teacher said she can't distinguish the difference between shapes, let alone string them onto a string. Alina was so happy when her necklace was all finished and around her neck. Praise the Lord, who loves each person on earth!



May

On one Sunday we had a very full musical program. I invited from school friends who play on various wind instruments. At first, they replied that they were not opposed to playing, but they wondered about "standing for such a long time." They were surprised when they learned that, in our church, we don't stand for the entire service, and that we don't have candles burning either.

There were two trumpet players who generally never attend church and declare that they don't believe in God. Yet, they listened attentively, sang all the songs along with us, and said that we have terrific acoustics in our church. They stated they wouldn't be opposed to coming back some time. They enjoyed the atmosphere and the fact that everyone, from children to the elderly, all get along and understand one another.

Another boy plays the clarinet. He is a believer, but he goes to an Orthodox church, even if rarely. Nevertheless, he really enjoyed it, and



he wants to come back again. There was a song that we sang during congregational singing. He played the song as accompaniment, and afterward he said that it's a rare thing, but he would prefer to sing the song than to play the music, because the words and melody are so cool.

All three of them said that they really like our music, atmosphere, the fellowship between people, and the way everyone treats one another like relatives. They also enjoyed fellowshipping with our American friends, David and Sam. They were amazed at how easily we in our church make the acquaintance of new people and strike up conversations.

During our service we had a quintet of instruments, plus a trumpet solo played by Sam Slobodian.

Praise God, that he gives people rich musical ministries and talents, with which they can glorify Him!

-Angelica Buyko

June



About 2 months ago, I got the idea of putting on another concert with our ensemble, similar to the concert that we held last winter. Only during winter it was Christmas time, and we sang Christmas carols. For this time, I suggested the theme "Folk Music of the World" since the repertoire that we already knew worked well with this title.

We sang many spirituals, which told of heroes of the Bible. These included such famous songs as "Witness," "Go Down Moses," and others. We had folk music, much of it Ukrainian; the spiritual music included

the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father."

The auditorium was full of people. The ensemble members who were in our church building for the first time (those who were either ill or couldn't come at Christmas) were amazed at the atmosphere and said that everything was really cool.

A week later, I was pleasantly surprised when one of my fellow ensemble members said that he would like to come for a church service sometime. His mother is a Baptist; his father is an unbeliever. But this guy works in an Orthodox church (he sings for pay). He said that he doesn't care for what they have at the Orthodox church; it's just a job for him. He doesn't wish to attend the Orthodox church, but he would come to ours.

I said to him, "But do you realize that in our churches the choir members receive no pay? We do everything for God."

He replied, "Of course, I know. That's why I'd like to come. You do everything for God and for people instead of doing it just for money."

Praise God for everything!



-Angelica Buyko