

An Open Door



Making Disciples in Ukraine ...While the Door is Still Open

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I JUST WANTED TO SAY...

- Praise God for great language practice this summer.
- Praise God for going before me and walking alongside me wherever I go.
- Thank you for praying for me.
- Thank you for the sacrifice that you make as monthly supporters.
- Please pray for God's wisdom, guidance and direction as I formulate my ministry plan for next year.
- Please pray for Salvation Church in Rivne and my relationship with this new church plant in which I will be ministering.
- Please pray for continued language learning as I embark on my second semester of formal study.
- Please pray for Team Ukraine: Natasha Parker and Tania Martin

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Taking the Plunge	1
Вчора, Сьогодні, Завтра!	1
The Sweetest Thing about this Summer	2
About Hope	2
A Few Random Pictures	2

Taking the Plunge



How many of you know it is always a good idea to have a plan? I had a great plan this summer for practicing language. My plan was to establish a language route where I would visit with vendors around the city to tell stories and converse with them. How many of you also know it is always better to yield your plans to God because His might be different than ours? God's plan for my summer was so much better than mine and exceeded my expectations for language practice since one of the quickest

ways to learn language is "social language" (to be placed in situations where you are surrounded by people who only speak the language you are learning in a natural setting). God placed me in genuine relationships where practicing language was more natural. I learned many new words in the context of real life. There were three weeks this summer, at two different times, where I was surrounded by mostly monolingual speakers of Ukrainian and so if I wanted to communicate I had to use their language which is fast becoming mine. I love God's plans for me!

The Beginning of Summer —



The first week in July I spent a week listening to and speaking

Ukrainian from 6:00am—12:00am at a youth festival. I was very nervous about speaking and spoke very slowly and could not understand people when they spoke quickly. By the end of the day I was completely exhausted. But at week's end my language had markedly improved.

The End of Summer —



In the middle of August I spent 12 days at the Black Sea with approximately 50 people. This time I was much less nervous and much more comfortable. At this camp, by the grace of God, I was able to communicate much better in Ukrainian and able to understand when people spoke quickly. Praise God for progress!

Вчора, Сьогодні, Завтра!

Вчора (Vchora)—Yesterday:

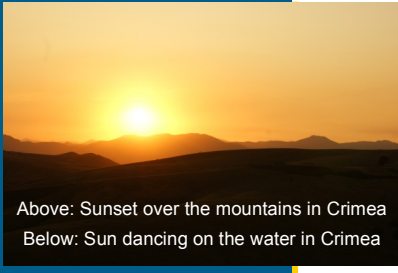
- June 28th—Attended my first Baptism in Ukraine.
- July 5-11th—Youth Festival in the forest in the village of Olexanderia
- July 16-18th—Interperter's Camp in Cherkassy, Ukraine
- July 23-30th—Ministry in Dubrovitsya and surrounding villages
- August 10-22nd—Camp in Buhaz, Crimea, Ukraine on the Black Sea

- August 24th—Celebrated Ukrainian Independence Day in a small village with Salvation Church and their family and friends.
- August 25th—Attended the Salvation Church Planning Retreat.
- August 26th-30th—Assisted Salvation Church (Ukraine) and Evergreen Community Church (Charlottesville, VA) with AWANA Children's Camp in the day and English Classes at night.

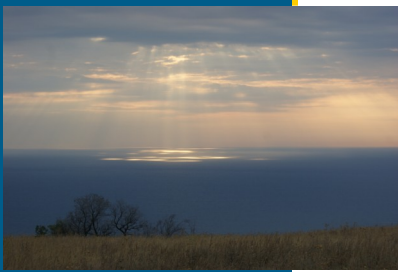
Сьогодні (Sohodne)—Today:

- September 7th—Begin my second term of language study.
- Завтра (Zavtra)—Tomorrow:**
I hope to take a short vacation when I am not thinking, reading writing and processing Ukrainian.
- Find an apartment or house to rent in Rivne.
- Following language study I move to Rivne more permanently.

The Sweetest Thing about this Summer



Above: Sunset over the mountains in Crimea
Below: Sun dancing on the water in Crimea



No, it was not the spectacular sunrises or sunsets. The sweetest thing about this summer were my times with Jesus on a hill in Rivne, in the woods in Olexandria, on the steps in the village of Silets and on the side of a cliff by the sea in Buhaz. The picture in the center was taken as I waited for the sun to rise over the sea. Watching God's creation all around me (especially as I prepared each morning to fellow-



ship with Him) reminded me that my Creator is incredible and my Redeemer lives. I thank God for our sweet fellowship together. It was refreshing for

my soul and my spirit. It has given me energy that I have not had in a long time. Thank you to all of you who have been praying me to have sweet times with the Lord. I know that my daily strength comes from my time with the Lord. I pray that now that I am once again in the big city, I can find a special place where I can have more wonderful and intimate fellowship with my Savior and Lord.

Please pray whether God is leading you to partner with me in prayer and finances?

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A Few Random Pictures

About Hope



While at the camp by the Black Sea, we had four small groups doing daily Bible studies. We were studying the names of God. On our trip were many non-believers and in my group there was one in particular who I want to tell you about, let's call her Hope. One day after our Bible Study, I sensed that something was wrong with Hope. So I asked her how she was doing and she gave the standard answer, that she was good. I look in her eyes and asked her if yes was really okay. She began to cry. I then asked if she wanted to pray. She said yes. I prayed for her first in English and then she prayed in Ukrainian. As she was praying I understood her to be asking God for forgiveness and thought that perhaps she was repenting and giving her life to Christ. Since I wasn't sure I talked to Tanya, the only person at the camp who understood both English and Ukrainian, so that she could talk with Hope. After Tanya talked with her she

told me that Hope wants to repent but she is scared. She is afraid that she would be doing it for the wrong reasons. She understands everything. Please pray for Hope and all the other non-believers who were present at camp and learned about God as Almighty, Holy, Shepherd, Peace, Redeemer, Savior, and Lord, that God would work in their hearts and they would accept Christ.

Joint American-Ukrainian Team in Dubrovitsya



Yummy! We are enjoying borscht!



Three churches held a joint baptism in a lake, my first in Ukraine