

# MCDOUGLE FAMILY

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*Count on it—there's more joy in heaven over one sinner's rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.*

## Happenings in Kharkov, Ukraine

### REJOICING IN HEAVEN

Not long after our team arrived in Kharkov, we were introduced to a young man named Andrei. We quickly lost contact with Andrei and did not hear from him again until late summer.

Out of the blue, Andrei called me to say that he had a lot of questions about the Bible and would like to meet to discuss those. So we set up a time and began to discuss some of those things. With this began a renewed relationship with everyone on the team. Andrei was able to spend good time with others on the team and even discuss some of his questions with them too.

After several times of meeting, Andrei said that he would like to be baptized. This came as a surprise to me, so Lucy and I sat down with him to talk about the importance and meaning of baptism. When it became clear that Andrei understood what he was doing, we saw no need to postpone his immersion into Jesus.



*Andrei's Baptism*



*After the Baptism*



*Family Photo*

*This is a wonderful time,  
and we had to celebrate.  
This brother of yours was  
dead, and he's alive! He  
was lost, and he's found!*

On Sunday, December 6, Andrei became a new creation and clothed himself with Christ. We rejoice with the Angels in heaven over another person who has returned home to their Heavenly Father.

Now that the holidays are over, David and I have begun studying through the Gospel of Luke with Andrei. Andrei still has many questions about the Bible and is very interested in deep study of God's word. It is difficult at times trying to discuss his deep questions with all of us trying to communicate in languages not our own.

Since before Andrei's conversion to Jesus, he has been deeply interested in working with orphans. Currently he is trying to get things set up so that all of us can go and serve at a local orphanage. Andrei's desire is to really make a difference in the lives of those children, so please pray that God will provide the opportunity for us to serve in this way.

## CREATION SEMINAR

Towards the end of December, Lucy and Olivia's parents came to visit us for the holidays. Since they already had these plans, we asked Lucy's dad, Kirt Martin, to conduct a seminar about creation versus evolution. Kirt is a university professor and teaches a class on this topic, in addition to conducting seminars for congregations around West Texas and New Mexico. We thought this event would be a great

way to meet new people and to also get our name out in the community.

The seminar itself was great! Kirt did a wonderful job and the interpreter from Donetsk, Alyona Voichekhovskaya, also did an amazing job.

While the information provided was great, we did not get the results we were anticipating. Only a few people showed up each night to hear the lecture. There are many reasons why this is a possibility, but at least a part of the problem was that the coldest days of the year just happened to be the same days of the seminar.

We were certainly disappointed, but it was also a learning experience for us all. We thank God for those that came (all Christians but one) and pray that the information provided strengthened their faith and love for God's creation.

I would encourage any of you who live in close proximity to Lubbock to think about inviting Kirt Martin to provide this three day seminar for your congregation as well as for your community.



Creation Seminar



Don't forget to check out our blogs and look for us on Facebook and Twitter for more regular updates!

## ENGLISH GROUP STUDY

Last Saturday Lucy and I began a new group study in our apartment. This group is for non-native English speakers who are seeking to improve their English conversation skills. Our text that we use is the Gospel of Mark. This group is intended for beginners, so a lot of the talking is done in Russian. We only had one person come to our first group, but are praying that others will come in the future.

The Hindmans and Nelsons are also beginning their own group for intermediate and advanced English speakers this weekend. Please pray that the Lord will draw those who are seeking Him to attend these groups and that the word of God will bear fruit in their lives as they read and understand.

## A NEW FRIEND

A few weeks back during one of our guys' meetings at the coffee shop, a Chinese guy came over to ask if he could use the electrical outlet behind my chair. I asked his name and where he was from and a relationship instantly formed. His name is Yang Ping Jian, or simply Kevin. He is a student in Kharkov from China.

He pulled up a chair to our table and talked with the three of us for a couple of hours. Soon David and I had plans to go with him the next morning to go "swimming" in the freezing water.

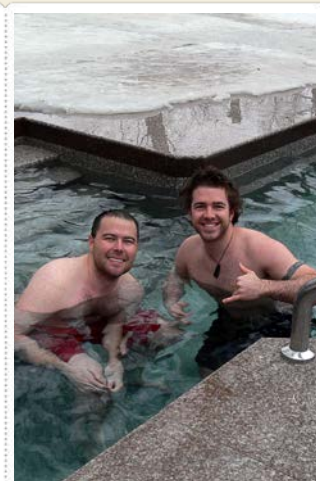
After freezing half to death, we had Kevin over to our apartment (along with David and Olivia) to have something hot to drink. Since that day we

have spent a lot of time with Kevin and have been enjoying the relationship that is building. Kevin even brought some Chinese tea and his tea kettle from China to share with us and the Nelsons some special tea. He said that it is not very cheap and is only shared with friends.

Kevin is a great guy. He is very interested in helping and serving people and is even interested in going with us to the orphanage whenever that is arranged. I have asked him several times if he would like to study the Bible with me and he said that he would. I have ordered a Chinese Bible for him and look forward to beginning that study when he returns from China (he is there until April). Please be praying for him while he is in China and pray that God will open his heart to receive the Gospel message.



*Spending Time with Kevin*



*Swimming*