

# McDougle Family News

December 2008



## *Maximus Craig - On The Way*

~almost 7 months along  
~about 3 pounds!  
~due February 9<sup>th</sup>



## *Prayers*

- ✓ Thanksgiving for finding a permanent apartment!
- ✓ Thanksgiving for all our prayer warriors and supporters!
- ✓ Thanksgiving for finding a pre-natal doctor for Lucy and Max
- ✓ For the lost we've met so far
- ✓ For our language studies that will start again!

## *Leaving, Learning and Loving*

In the past 6 weeks, we have left Moscow and the people we love to join our team in Kharkov, Ukraine. We have spent several weeks learning about our new city, how to get around, what groceries to buy, where the best place to shop are located, and more. We've also been learning about the medical system here (which has been interesting) since Lucy and Max need regular check-ups as we prepare for Max's entry into the world in February. At the same time, we've been loving it all: being with our team, house church, the new experiences that are funny as well as hard. In addition, we've been loving the people here. We try to lift up in prayer to the Father those who don't know Jesus. For the next few months, we will continue learning culture and language so that we can introduce these people to the salvation we have! Thank you for your prayers and support as we end up this year and start a new year in 2009!

## HOUSE CHURCH

Since arriving in Kharkov our team has been meeting weekly as a church in one of our apartments. We sing, pray, take communion, and have a lesson...all in English. For the rest of our team, this may not be a big deal, but for our family it is a nice change. While in Moscow, we met with an established church. The advantage was the fellowship we enjoyed with Russian brothers and sisters who were a dear part of our lives there. However, it was pretty difficult to understand things in the church service because it was all done in Russian. Of course our goal here in Kharkov is for the group to change and eventually do everything in Russian, but we first all need to learn Russian for that to take place. For now, though, we thought we'd give you a small idea of how we spend our Sunday mornings!



## Our first Sunday church at Dave and Liv's home

- We meet at 11am.
- The men (Rob, David and Mike) rotate singing, communion and preaching.
- The ladies rotate out teaching a "Kids' Bible class" during the sermon.
- We eat after church time together, and whoever's house it is at, that is who is in charge of the meal.
- Everything is in English, except for a few songs we are practicing in Russian!

## MENTORS- THE JARBOE VISIT

We have been extra blessed because just a month after we all arrived here in Ukraine, we were able to have our first visitors! Jay and Sherry Jarboe came for 3 days to encourage us and see our new home. They have been our mentors and friends for many years on our “mission” journey, and it was wonderful to see them! We were able to spend time showing them what little we know about our new city, as well as time in prayer and devotion with them. Each couple was also able to visit with them, and the Jarboes shared many stories from their mission experience in Mexico City, how they settled in, and how their team worked. It was such a blessing for us. In addition, they spent time playing and reading to our kids and being their temporary “grandparents” for a few days.

Thank you Jay and Sherry for your love and the time you spent with us!



**Jay, Dougle and Canaan Sherry, Liv and Denyce in the background!**

## APARTMENTS FOR ALL

We are excited to report that each of the 3 families on our team have found permanent apartments to rent and have all signed contracts on them! This was something that was at the top of our priority list of things to do when we arrived, since we have all been staying in

temporary housing! But, God is good and has provided 3 great apartments for us, within 10 minutes walking from each other, in the center of Kharkov. Thank you for all your prayers on our behalf for finding apartments!



**Canaan playing on the playground**

## SETTLING IN

- It is completely dark here by 4pm!
- Our radiators came on in the middle of November, so we all have heat in our apartments!
- It is a warm winter here in Kharkov and has only gotten below freezing a few days since we’ve been here.
- We had a great thanksgiving, complete with turkey breast and pies: everything except sweet potatoes and!
- We already have our Christmas tree up!
- We love hearing about each of you who takes the time to write. Thank you!

## DOCTORS!

Since arriving in Kharkov, one of our priorities has been to find a good doctor for Lucy and our soon to be second boy, Maximus

Craig. Max is due on February 9<sup>th</sup>, so we needed to find a doctor fast. What we have found is that the medical world works differently here in Ukraine than in Texas!! First of all, you must have two separate doctors: one for pre-natal care and one for the actual delivery. These doctors work at different hospitals and in different parts of the city. Secondly, you must be a registered pregnant person in order to visit delivery doctors and hospitals. Thirdly, the clinics here are just very different. There are no waiting rooms, no secretaries, no real appointment times, etc. We were even asked to bring our own syringe for drawing blood for tests, as well as bring our own urine sample from home. Even Dougle had to get a lung test and be approved! We have been blessed with a great interpreter, Ira, who has helped set up “appointments” and helped walk us through these differences. But for all our new experiences, we are learning and happy with what we’ve found so far!



**Canaan's 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday!  
We celebrated 2 years of his life on October 30<sup>th</sup>!**

## OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Though we have an apartment secured, we won't have a permanent address until we move in on January 1<sup>st</sup>. We'll give you the address as soon as we move!