

Levi & Nastya Brinkerhoff

Serving in Svitlovodsk, Ukraine

Holidays Update



Greetings to everyone!

We would like to do a small update on how the holidays, namely Christmas and the New Year, went and what we did as a family and as a church!



In Ukraine, Christmas is celebrated on January 7th, but we also celebrated on the 25th. So we got two Christmases!

On the 25th, we went after church to celebrate for a few days with our good friends with whom we served in Kharkov – the Pomeroy's, the Medlongs, the Dykans, the Fisins and many others. It was a great time of remembering the birth of our Savior and celebrating with close friends, some of whom we had not seen for a few years. We stayed in Kharkov for a few days, so we got to do a lot of fun things. Nastya was able to go to a ladies' gathering and see many of her old friends. We also were able to do a guys' gathering. We were very blessed to see how the Lord is working in CC Kharkov and furthering His Gospel in and through them!



New year is the most widely celebrated holiday in Ukraine. Sadly, it is even more important than Christmas in this culture. For new year this year we decided to celebrate at home as a family instead of doing something with the youth group, which we had done the past two years. This year, Nastya's mom came to celebrate with us. It was a good time of eating LOTS of tasty food, watching fireworks and movies, and staying up WAY too late on Saturday before church! It was a special blessing to spend the first day of the new year with our church family. After the Sunday service, we had a special pitch-in (mainly desserts) to enjoy the holiday together.

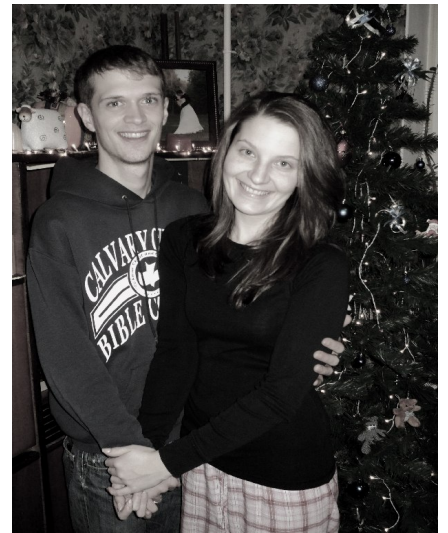
For Ukrainian Christmas, we gathered as a church for a Christmas Eve service on the 6th. We did many Ukrainian/Russian Christmas songs and Pastor Ben taught the Christmas story. After the service, we had a Christmas-themed talent show. Several people shared Poems and songs, reminding each other of the birth of our Redeemer. We then had a pitch-in dinner with all different kinds of food. It truly was a blessed time!

Financial Support:

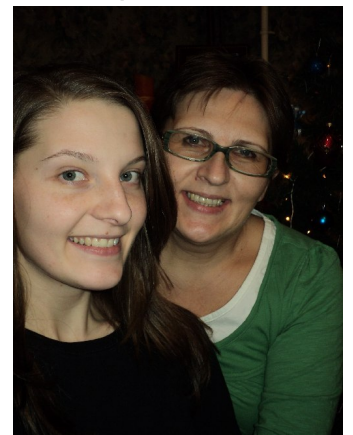
If you would like to financially support us, please make checks payable to: Calvary Chapel Fellowship of Greencastle P.O. Box 15 Greencastle, IN. 46135 Please **do not** put our names in the memo line, as then any contribution will not be tax-deductible. For deductible contributions, please write "Ukraine/Svitlovodsk"



We would also like to remind everyone that we are planning a trip to the states in late spring – early summer. The Lord has provided part of the needed finances to get visas, buy plane tickets and many of the other things we need to do before we can come. Please continue to pray concerning this trip, and if you would like to help financially, please put in the memo line "Ukraine/ Svitlovodsk/States".



(Below - Nastya with her mom)



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