

WILLIAM WOOD MISSIONS TO RUSSIA



December 2015

(This newsletter & others can be downloaded at our website: wwmtor.org. Also, be sure and friend us on Facebook—William Wood Missions To Russia!)

William's Health Update

Steve and Dianna Law returned from a quick visit to Russia early in November. Many prayers were answered as Steve was able to “unlock” the \$15,000 in mission funds that the bank was holding due to William's illness. That was vital to the continuance of the mission under the capable hands of Andre and Simeon while William slowly recovers. The news about William wasn't as encouraging. Steve and Dianna reported that William still isn't able to feed himself or move himself. He does move his fingers and hands involuntarily. Also, when someone speaks to him, he is able to move his eyes towards the speaker but is unable to speak at all. Sadly, when Steve and Dianna Law spoke to him, William became teary-eyed. His nurse told the couple that's the only way William can express his emotions. Speaking of the nursing care, it is excellent! It's mainly a family that takes care of him, 24 hours—7 days a week. They are Christians and are very attentive to him. They spend a good part of the day massaging and moving William so that his muscles don't completely atrophy. One of the family members knows a bit of English and is able to speak to William that way. Steve reported that the outside of the apartment building looks horrible, but Williams' apartment is very nice and the family makes sure it stays neat and clean all the time. Right now, we should consider ourselves blessed that William is in a very comfortable place while being taken care of by an excellent nurse and her family.



To the left, William is sitting up in his wheelchair. Above, Steve and Dianna have their picture taken with William and his nurse and her son. Please, please continue to pray for a miraculous recovery for William!

Ministry News—The Gospel Goes On!

Simeon and Andre were invited to the village of Yackoge (Ust-Kulom district) to participate in a Xmas drama, organized by the local Baptist church. Pastor Nicolay asked them to be part of the program to share the Gospel message with the locals. The local authorities provided the local culture hall (community building) for the event. Simeon played the part of one of the Magi and Andre was Joseph. The idea and script of the drama belong to Simeon and the local Yackoge Christians. About 40 local kids came to watch the drama. Some of them came with their parents. Praise the Lord the event went very well. All the kids got Christmas gifts. Hopefully, the kids and the adults will be attending Pastor Nicolay's church soon. It was a joy for Andre and Simeon to take part in the outreach. See pic#1 – Simeon (one of the Magis) shares with the Yackoge kids; pic#2 – Andre (as Joseph) and Mary; pic#3 – the actors with the kids.



PICTURE 1

PICTURE 2



PICTURE 3



Although these pictures were taken last year, we hope all of you see that the mission continues even through William's sickness. Andre and Simeon are very willing and very able to continue the mission work wherever the Lord calls them to go. Please continue to pray for them as they work at spreading the Gospel wherever and whenever they can!

Nicolay's Story

By Andre Kudinov

Since winter 2015 we have had a great joy in the Don church – a local former severe alcoholic, Nicolay by name, has been sober and attending the Don church. Nicolay has had a tough life. When he was in the Russian army back in the 90's he had to fight against Muslim rebels in the break-away Russian republic of Chechnya. He was wounded in action. When he came back to Don he started drinking heavily and married a girl who drank too. They had a son Vasily. After a few years of severe drinking Nicolay's wife died of alcoholism. The local authorities decided to take Nicolay's son away to a children's shelter. Nicolay came to his wit's end. He did not want to lose everything in his life. So, one day in the winter of 2015 he came over to Simeon's (the church house) seeking counseling and help. Simeon told him about the Way of the Lord and repentance. Soon, with God's help, Nicolay quit drinking and started attending the Don church. He fixed his home up and when Justin Allaman and Andrew Smith came last summer they helped work on Nicolay's roof. After the evident changes in his life, the authorities decided to give him his son again! Wow. Praise the Lord! Now Nicolay has a job with the local Road Maintenance Department. Recently he bought a used Russian vehicle, and he and his son Vasily have been coming to church to listen to the Word. We give God glory for this miracle in Nicolay's life. (Nicolay is kind of shy, so I decided not to take his picture). God bless! Andre

Andre Teaching Hebrew to Christians at Syktyvkar Baptist Church



Learning different languages has always been an interest to Andre. It has also been a gift as he has become fluent in several languages. Here he is putting that gift to good use as he has begun teaching Hebrew to all interested Christians at the Syktyvkar Baptist Church. This also allows him to stay in frequent contact with William who is staying in Syktyvkar while he recovers. You all may remember that Syktyvkar is about 4 hours from Ust-Kulom and Don on roads that aren't very good at all.