

WILLIAM WOOD MISSIONS TO RUSSIA

September 2015

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WWMTR SUPPORTERS TO RUSSIA!

MEET JUSTIN ALLAMAN & ANDREW SMITH

Justin Allaman, 24, from Rozetta Baptist Church in Henderson County and Andrew Smith, 20, of East White Oak Church in Bloomington, IL recently made a trip to the Komi Republic. The purpose was to encourage and assist our brothers and sisters overseas as well as bring back a report to the stateside supporters. Arriving on July 31, they spent two weeks partnering with Andre and Simeon and visited William, helped with work projects, made house visits, and much more.

HEALTH UPDATE

Immediately after arriving in Syktyvkar, Andre took Justin and Andrew to William's apartment in Syktyvkar. Since being moved to this apartment, William has had a team of nurses giving him quality care in a clean and positive environment. With wireless internet in the apartment, Bill is able to listen to Christian radio via the internet, and his nurses frequently play sermons or Christian videos for him.

Bill continues to make small, incremental improvements over time. Health tests have come back "pretty good lately," reports Andre. "His pulse, blood tests have been good... He has even been gaining a few pounds."

Unable to move on his own, Bill's nurses regularly move his limbs for him and have a wheelchair they put him in from time to time. He is currently unable to speak, but responds to stimuli such as his hands being squeezed, music, or someone speaking to him. He is currently fed through his nose.



William being comforted by Andre's son, Aaron (left) & the daughter of two of his nurses (right).

ADVENTURES IN GREVA

After spending a couple days in Syktyvkar at William's, Andre and Simeon took Justin and Andrew to Greva to stay at William's house for a week. The house has sat neglected since William was found unconscious. As soon as the four men arrived at the house, local children began cleaning the house and coloring pictures for William! Their deep love for William was clearly felt.



Andrew Smith & Andre at William's.



Playing "Russian Volleyball" with the children.



The children coloring pictures for William.



The kids loved playing with Andrew!

While in Greva, the men pitched in with various work projects to help the community. This included weed eating the playgrounds at the local elementary and middle schools. One of the playgrounds had been built by William but was now neglected because there was no one to keep the weeds around it trimmed. Simeon, Andre, Justin, and Andrew spent time splitting firewood as well as helping Pastor Elijah Misushev from Source of Life Charismatic Church with building a fence for his father-in-law, among other ministry opportunities.



Simeon...the splitting machine!



First it's split, then it's stacked!

While in the area, the men also made house visits to worship and fellowship with local believers. Below they are pictured with two Baptist sisters: Vera and Nina. Living in a remote area, the women were very appreciative to have someone to visit!



An example of the fine Russian hospitality...and red borscht!

PROJECTS IN DON

After leaving Greva, the men stopped by Syktyvkar again briefly before heading on to the Don and Ust-Kulom area. There, they jumped right in helping a man named Nicolay with replacing the roof on his house. Nicolay's wife had passed away due to alcohol related causes and for a time Nicolay's son Vasily was removed from his care. Nicolay has now been regularly attending the Don church for several months!

With Simeon, Andre, Justin, and Andrew fixing Nicolay's roof, his son can now return to him. The men also replaced a swing set and teeter totter at the Don park.



Justin, Andre, and Andrew fixing Nicolay's roof.



Simeon working on the playground.

THANK YOU!

“If I could only tell the supporters back home one thing, what would you have me tell them, Andre?” I (Justin), asked him.

“Tell them ‘thank you,’” came his answer. “Tell them thank you for the prayers, the continued support of the Don church, and for keeping this ministry going.”

Out of all my experiences, what struck me the most was how the ministry continues to endure even with William incapacitated. The gospel is still going forth in Don under the leadership of Andre & Simeon. People are being helped with physical needs and being encouraged spiritually. Please continue to pray for this ministry and give financially should the Lord move you. THANK YOU!



Simeon, his wife Anya, and children: Violetta, Nikita, & Dimitry.



Andre, his wife Lena and sons: Aaron & Daniel.