

February 2023

IN TOUCH WITH THE TEEDS

NEWS FROM TIM & SHARRON

HOPE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS | EUROPE



Dear Friends,

Greetings from the field! Our last few months have been filled with ministry! We have worked with our church to provide relief to Ukraine, spent time with girls from the Transition Home, finished up some work projects on our home, and started language classes.

We really enjoy having the girls in our home as often as possible! God gave us a wonderful time celebrating Christmas. We had an “American Christmas” in our home and then enjoyed a Slovakian Christmas with them at the Transition Home.



Christmas with the girls

In November Tim made a trip to Ukraine with some relief supplies. He spent time at a pastor’s home and was able to help give out supplies to 250+ people. About 100 more families were put on a waiting list for the next distribution. He was also able to be there for a meeting with several groups that presented their needs, including the military, humanitarian aid organizations, and a small Christian school. The needs are

so great, but we are so thankful God is allowing us to help make a difference. Tim made contact with a pastor who wants discipleship materials, and we are working on making some available for him. The people of Ukraine are more open to the gospel than ever before!



Getting ready to go



In Ukraine with the supplies

CURRENT PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Language learning—We have started a class and are making progress. It feels like slow progress, but it is progress!
2. Cultural adjustments—We have learned so much about the cultures we are working with, but there is still so much to absorb. One of our biggest challenges is studying about the food and what they like to eat here. Even though we ask a lot of questions, we still do not know what their favorite foods are.
3. Our community—Our village has a very large gypsy population. We try to communicate and connect with them. Very few of them speak English, so communication is difficult. We are working on getting to know some other missionaries who will help us learn more about the gypsy culture, and we are searching for a translator who will help us with communication and ministry.

We did a chicken project that not only helped raise funds for the girls but also filled our freezers with good meat. In September we purchased 225 Ross 308 chicks. Tim and the girls had prepared the feed over the summer. (They ground and mixed all the grains.) These birds are bred to be meat chickens. After their growing season, they were butchered. About half of them were sold to people in the community, and the other half were butchered and packaged for our freezers.

The girls were a big help with the butchering part. Thankfully I (Sharron) did not have to butcher and pluck them. I helped with cutting them up and packaging them for the freezer.



Butchering chickens!

We want to say a special thank you to the North Morland Christian Baptist Church for their sponsorship in our chicken project! They really got excited about this project and supported it not only financially but also with their prayers.

We also want to say a special thank you to the Lebanon Gospel Center and to Hobe Sound Bible Church for their generous giving at Christmas. Because of them, we were able to purchase some really nice bedding, as well as some comfort gifts for the girls. They enjoyed a wonderful, meaningful Christmas!

We are so grateful for our supporters! There have been a few of “those days” where I have needed to look at the names of those who signed up to pray for us. It truly is an encouragement to know our friends are faithfully lifting us up in prayer!

In His Service,

Tim and Sharron

HARPER'S CORNER

How am I doing? I'm COLD! I am so thankful that my “outside time” is limited.

Life has been a real adventure lately. I have had the opportunity to travel by car, train, bus, and even under the ground in some kind of tube! So far my favorite way to travel is by train. I have met so many friendly people along the way.

I love it when the girls from the Transition Home come visit. Sometimes they bring me special treats, and they ALWAYS play with me! The girls think it is funny that I need a sweater in the house and a coat for going outside. I'm not sure why it's funny...they need sweaters and coats, too!

What is my favorite thing about being a Missionary Kid? Making new friends! I love getting to meet new people and see new places. Most of the people we meet talk to me first and THEN my humans. I like to think of myself as a connector!

Love,
Harper



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