

The Connecting Link

Spring 2010



224 Bomberger Rd
Akron PA 17501

Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality.

II Corinthians 8:13,14

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Annual Banquet

May 1, 2010

You are invited to the annual Cross Links banquet on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, PA. A program will follow the 6 P.M. dinner. There will be short stories shared by several recent travelers with Cross Links. A silent auction is being held again this year featuring items from Eastern Europe.

Please make reservations with Judy Zimmerman at 717-738-0184 or email at zimfamily@dejazzd.com. Reservations are due by April 26.

There is also opportunity to sponsor tables for the banquet. If you are interested, please contact Judy Zimmerman.

Home Care Meets Many Needs

Home Care Association has been providing at-home healthcare services in Moldova since 1999, and Cross Links has partnered with them for many years. The purpose of Home Care is to improve the physical, moral, and spiritual quality of life for ill and disabled elderly. Home Care is the only licensed and accredited organization engaged in this work in Moldova. The association's 20 employees and more than 30 volunteers visit the elderly suffering from chronic diseases, illnesses, and disabilities.



Tamara, director of Home Care

Home Care serves approximately 400 people with medical needs each year. Many of these people are lonely with no one else to provide adequate care. Some are terminally ill. Regular visits by Home Care staff help relieve loneliness and meet medical needs. In addition to providing for physical needs, staff



A Home Care staff person assisting a client

ministers to spiritual needs. Director Tamara says, "Especially we believe that by offering care to people we help them to realize how important it is to live, to live eternally – with

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Home Care cont.

Jesus in their hearts!" A client has testified, "Few are those who open our door to help us. God has heard our prayers and sent people with a big heart from Home Care. They are a light and a great help in our house. Thank you."

Services and medical supplies are offered free of charge if the patient is unable to pay. Ongoing needs exist for funds to purchase bandages, medications, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs.



This building currently houses the Home Care offices

Home Care has been notified that the office currently provided for them by the Moldovan government will no longer be available rent-free. In the near future, monthly rent will be set at \$1,000 and will create a huge financial burden for the association. Home Care would like to raise \$30,000 to \$60,000 to purchase an office from which it can continue its ministry. Cross Links would like to join in the effort to help Home Care raise funds for an office building. If you would like to contribute toward this project, please make your check payable to Cross Links, indicate that it is for "Home Care" and mail it to the Cross Links office.

Support for Pastors



Clara Fox with a pastor supported through Cross Links

Cross Links greatly appreciates the way many people faithfully provide financial support for pastors, churches, and organizations in Eastern Europe.

Personnel Changes

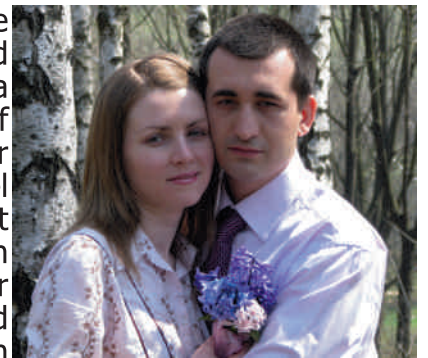
Cross Links depends on people within the regions where it works to represent its ministry. Many who have traveled with Cross Links may remember Igor, Cross Links' representative in Moldova. Igor's responsibilities with Cross Links have terminated in October 2009 after twelve years of service. In his place, two people have been appointed to fill specific roles.

Yura Syrtmach will serve as our main contact person and provide communication with the persons and organizations that Cross Links supports. He has provided translation and transportation services several times throughout the past years. He currently works part-time for Chisinau Bible Church where he and his wife Olga attend.



Yura and his wife Olga

Ira Civga will provide accounting and reporting services. Ira is the daughter of Nadea Yadsenko. Her late father, Michael Yadsenko, was the first employee of CLI in Moldova. Irina and her husband Vitaliy attend Grace church in Chisinau. Several years ago, Ira lived in Indiana for several months. She currently is attending university in Chisinau.



Ira and her husband Vitaliy

There may be a tendency to assume that financial support alone is sufficient to meet the needs. Many who have traveled to Moldova realize the power and impact of encouraging words as they've interacted with pastors and other workers. Cross Links would like to find people who will support and encourage workers through correspondence. Please consider whether God might want to use you in this ministry for those who labor in challenging circumstances in Eastern Europe. If you are interested, please contact Cross Links at nzimmerma@cross-links.org or phone at 717-575-3328. Cross Links staff will facilitate translation and communication.

Reflections on Ministry



Team members interact with local people. Many stories reflect God's providential care in bringing people together in ways that only He could orchestrate. God knows who needs encouragement and opens the ways for needs to be met.



A small tillage machine provided for the Christian Recovery Center will make soil preparation much easier this spring. Residents receiving rehabilitation from substance abuse will prepare the soil to receive vegetable seeds. This work meets a need in their lives for food and also illustrates how God prepares souls for growth in Him.



School children are delighted with the school kits they received. These kits were packed and shipped in 2009. Distribution of the kits provides opportunity for local churches in Eastern Europe to connect with their community.



A Cross Links team joins in the birthday celebration for a pastor supported by Cross Links.



"To think clearly without hurry or confusion; To love everybody sincerely; To act in everything with the highest motives; To trust God unhesitatingly".

Helen Keller

Living Water

Water is an essential element for life. There are many mission organizations that provide a way for families, even whole villages, to obtain good quality water. The quality of water is very important. Contaminants in water can potentially harm our bodies, causing illnesses that can even be life threatening. Pure clean water is essential to healthy life. When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well He offered her living water. She did not understand Jesus' offer and the impact that this living water could have on her life. Jesus offers us life-giving water that refreshes our spirit. This water is also given to us at no cost and there is an endless supply. As we interact with those around us let us show those who are thirsty the source of living water. Many people will live in great need all their lives, but even in situations of great physical need, God gives rich abundant life.

Blessings as we serve together,

Nelson Zimmerman



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