



Harvest Time

Smethurst Ministries Inc. 40 Rudyard Road, Woodingdean, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 6UB, UK
Tel/Fax 01273 706119 E-mail: dave.77@smethurstministries.com

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Latvia & Ukraine Orphans Christmas Gift Projects

Our local teams in Latvia and Ukraine are preparing for the **Christmas Gift Project** this year to provide gifts for hundreds of orphans and street children. They will take Christmas gifts to sick orphans and the children of many poor families in their regions. The children will receive fruit, candy and educational gifts. The Slavic Christmas is on January 7, so the orphans don't mind their gifts and party meal in January. Thus, we can spread this great project over two months. Older children will receive gifts of fruit and personal toiletries. They are normally very happy to enjoy the fellowship with our teams.



The disabled orphans have such beautiful smiles on their faces as they wait for their gifts. Our teams enjoy fellowship, share the love of Jesus with the children and pray God's blessings on them for the New Year. The Slavic new year in Ukraine is on January 14, so we'll spread out the orphanage visits through to mid-January.



Disabled Orphans need warm blankets

It is very cold at present with snow conditions, but the local team in northern Ukraine will take gifts to the village orphanages in the north near the Chernobyl radiation zone. We have just had a local manager's van repaired in time for the Christmas ministry to the orphans. All the travelling they do in this old van – I am amazed.



In spite of the heavy snows and icy cold weather, our local team workers try to ensure that the orphans and the poor children are visited and cheered in their situations of need. We have a consignment of quality quilts that we are shipping from Perth in January made by precious ladies in Western Australia. These will keep the children warm for many years.

Christmas is a wonderful season for sharing the gospel with unchurched people. Many of the poor



locals come to the orphanages for a meal and Christmas outreach service, where the orphans put on gospel plays created by our local teams. The harvest of needy souls for Jesus is great at this season. At least at Christmas people are thinking more about the Christ-child who was born in Bethlehem to grow up and become the Saviour of the world. We take wise advantage of this season and



help lonely people to receive Christ and find their place in the eternal family of God.

Our Homeless Kids Centre in Odessa

The House of Hope in Odessa accommodates the Homeless Kids and Orphans.



These precious youngsters doing their work-related courses, start their tough days with Bible reading and prayer. They don't have any frills in life to distract them. Once they have completed their work courses, they'll have to face the demands of the work force in the tense region of Odessa. With the Word of God and some work training they'll have a reasonably good start. Please pray for them.

May we ask you to stand with us in prayer, and help if you are able, for the urgent needs that the Orphans whom we support in Eastern Europe have right now.

We're on the web:

www.smethurstministries.com

Please take a look at our website.

We hope it's a blessing.



We have many teenage orphans needing to finish work-related courses to enable them to prepare to enter the workforce when they turn 18 early in the new year. Some have completed their courses and are looking for work, and many still have 6 months to go until May 2019 for their longer courses to be completed.

This enables them to get better jobs and apprenticeships to start earning an income. If they don't have these opportunities available to them, there is a strong possibility that they might live on the streets. The results of this are horrendous for these precious lives.

We are desperately short of funds right now, after meeting so many orphans' needs at the start of this icy winter, so we would appreciate your help for these promising teenagers. This would be a wonderful Christmas gift for these special young people.

These courses cost £1,000 per month until May 2019.

These are their needs as they start an icy winter

Food supplies, medicines, warm clothing & blankets, heating, fuel for the bus to transport them to school each day and renovations to the buildings to accommodate the orphans who have left their orphanage with no place to live. The boys are doing the renovations under supervision of a builder. This is saving a huge amount of money and the boys are learning a trade for the future. There will be a great need of skilled building labour for the rebuilding of Eastern Ukraine in the future.



Their need to finish this vital project is £4,000

Please stand with us in prayer for these vital needs and help, if you are able. Thank you for your effective prayers and your faithful partnership in the Gospel.



And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is well pleased." Luke 2:13-14



We pray that you'll have a very peaceful and safe Christmas, and that 2019 will be a wonderful year with victories and answers to prayer, from our Father's gracious hand. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers, generous giving and wonderful partnership in the gospel. Your support has helped hundreds and hundreds of needy children to come to the Lord, to be kept alive and healthy, and be prepared for a future destiny in their little lives.

*We love and appreciate you.
Dave & Margurita*



PLEASE STAND WITH US IN THIS MINISTRY

It would be a joy and privilege to have you help us in this ministry. Any contribution is of immense help, no matter how small. You may choose to send us a cheque through the mail.

If you would like to make a donation using either PayPal, or through our Webpage, please use one of the links on our website (type it into your search engine)

<https://www.smethurstministries.org/1-donate/>
www.smethurstministries.com

You may wish to use your credit card to make a one-time or regular donation. Please mail this to us at

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