



TOGETHER WE ARE REACHING THE WORLD FOR JESUS!

MICAIAH MINISTRIES

February 2009



Three Parties And A New Years Eve Guest



Dedushka Maroz (Grandfather Winter) came to meet Todd just hours after his arrival to Russia.



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Dedushka Maroz and Snegoruchka came to the Christmas Party for youth in crisis.

invited to the event as well. There was food at the tables like sweets, fruits, and sandwiches and there was a performance that involved the kids in it. After that began dances. Our guys enjoyed everything there. Vitya and Ilya took part in different games and competitions. But

– Natasha. Also we had Andrey and Nastya from Gatchina for a little bit. We had a lot of fun. We were worshiping God, praying, having fellowship. The guys got presents. I bought warm sport pants (only for the boys living at the house), and all the youth received socks, briefs, chocolates, fruit and deodorants.

I also gave presents to Zhenya and Sasha. I gave books “Movement or a Crowd” and chocolates to the adults. All were happy and very



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Thanks to the generosity of our partners we were able to sponsor three Christmas parties for street kids and kids in crisis. The following are reports from our staff, those we help and Todd.

This month there were lots of different events. Sasha from administration made a Christmas party for the kids he is working with. They congratulated them and gave them presents. There were around 30 kids. We all also were

they were shy to dance.

On Christmas at the house we had lots of tasty food. The guys cooked delicious salads. From our church



Christmas party for youth in crisis – A Christmas like never before!



Ministry and worship Christmas night.

we had Misha, Dima and Tatyana. Also we had street kids: Dima, Katya, Sasha and Maxim. After night service from New Generation church came pastor Sergey with his wife, Alexey (Vitya works with him) and his wife, and one woman

thankful to you. In front of all the guests Dima gave the testimony how God healed his back. On Sunday service at the church we had Dima, Zhenya, Misha (the young man with the crutch) Denis, Vera and Luda. Dima also gave his testimony at the church. It was his desire. He asked to give him an opportunity to share it.

On Saturday two young ladies from one church from the city



Ilya in front of the tree waiting for presents.

came to the house. They also congratulated us with Christmas. They gave all the guys some presents. They asked for more info about the guys. They want to tell about the guys and the ministry at their church so that more people could know and help.

Thank you and all your ministry partners for everything you do especially for your prayers. Sometimes I feel as if God is carrying us. We love you all! Olga and kids!



Olga and Dima - We surprised Olga with a Christmas Jacket and hat.

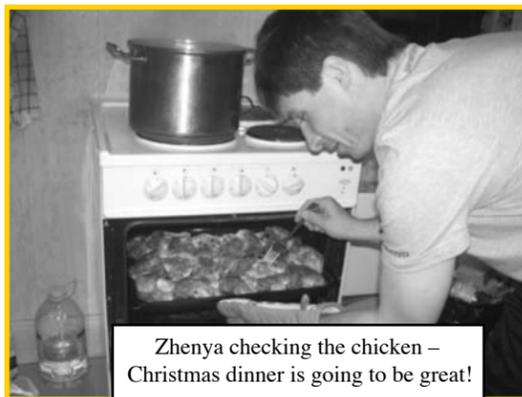
Alexander is the associate pastor in Drujnaia Gorka and works for the local government in Gatchina. The local government pays him to work with kids in crisis, but Micaiah Ministries provides the funds for food and parties as well as clothing supplies. Alexander is very bold to speak about Jesus Christ when he talks to the youth about their futures. Here is what he had to say about the party we funded for them.

At the end of December by request of the kids attending "Leisure Room" and the kids who worked in Summer Work Teams, was organized a celebration dedicated to coming New Year holiday. There was festival food, New Years performance and disco.

At the beginning of the celebration the kids got New Year's gifts. Also they heard warm words wishing them the best things in a new 2009-year. After the festivity the kids played and competed in precision and speed. The most active participants of the whole event were our friends from Nikolskoye.

In a warm and friendly atmosphere the kids talked, danced and compared notes on the event. At the end of the night we heard lots of thanks from the kids for the celebration and for the presents. They also said that they'd like such celebrations to become a tradition since now they rarely see each other as they go to different schools or live in different towns. And the only way for all of them to meet and talk is to have such awesome celebrations like that.

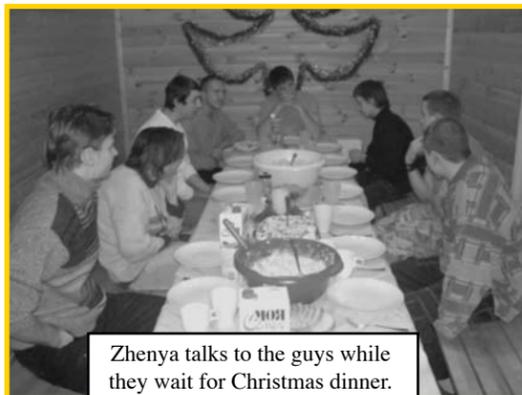
As presents they had a festival tray, a moneybox, a beautiful candle and a postcard for each kid.



Zhenya checking the chicken - Christmas dinner is going to be great!

From Todd-

I just thought you would be interested in this since it was around Christmas time that I arrived. Christmas is not a big day to most Russians. It is celebrated on January 7 because of the Orthodox calendar. They remember it by going to church, lighting candles, and walking around with icons. Most Russians still



Zhenya talks to the guys while they wait for Christmas dinner.

really don't know what Christmas is all about. To Zhenya (One of our Staff) before he was saved, it just represented a day on the calendar when everybody was getting drunk.

But New Years is entirely different. Zhenya said there were two big days each year in his life growing up, his Birthday and New Years celebration. He would have to go to bed early on New Years Eve and get some sleep so that at midnight he could open presents. He would get up and it would just be 8:00PM and he could hardly stand waiting another 4 hours, and

**ITINERARY
2009**

February 1
Faith Bible Chapel
Page, AZ
Pastor Manny Parks
928.645.3012

February 4
Assembly of God
Richfield, UT
Pastor Willard Coleman
435.896.6464

February 8
North Park Foursquare
Church
Roy, UT
Pastor Craig Wyjack
901.731.4295

February 11
Family Worship Center
Layton, UT
Pastor Doug Brown
801.444.2442

February 15
Christian Worship Center
Ogden, UT
Pastor Dean Sisk
801.394.5835

February 22
Penryn Faith Center
Penryn, CA
Pastor Bob Owens
916.624.8842

March 1 & 3
Church of The Redeemed
Vallejo, CA
Pastor Alvin Armstrong
707.643.0820

March 8
Iglesia la Roca
Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Pastor Manuel Torrez
909.944.7497

March 18
Shabach Family Worship
Center
Phoenix, AZ
Pastor Zeke Rodriguez
602.447.8166

March 22
Maricopa Assembly of God
Maricopa, AZ
Pastor Shelly Hogan
520.568.4867

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would try to go back to sleep. And then the big moment would arrive. His grandfather would put the presents by the door and then hurry and shut the door and say "Oh you just missed him. There goes Dedushka Maroz (Grandfather Winter). Sometimes there would be somebody in a costume, and Zhenya always new it was a family member, except one year when it was one of the neighbors, and he was trying to figure out who it was.

Dedushka Maroz does not work alone; his granddaughter Snegoruchka (Snow girl) works with him. At parties she comes before him and gets the children excited yelling for Dedushka Maroz to come. She will say, "Maybe he can't hear you." Then they will ask for the New Years tree to shine brighter so he will see it and come. And they sing a song about how the beautiful pine tree was in the forest and is now in their home. The kids dress up in costumes like a cat, dog or a princess, (no theme). It is like a carnival.

The Pine tree represents freshness, (the fresh smell of pine). It is also very traditional to have tangerines. We had a family visiting at the house, and the father said that even during the siege when there was no food they still managed to bring in some tangerines across the frozen lake route. He said there was a man that came to his school in Saint Petersburg during that time of the siege who brought each child a tangerine. He said that the tangerines had bullet holes in them because the Germans were shooting at the trucks that were transporting them.

Snovam Godam (Happy New Year) is a time of eating, visiting family and going to friend's homes. The Russians will take off the first 11 days of January to celebrate if they can afford it. Somebody dressed as Dedushka Maroz came to Restoration House on New Years Eve and passed out gifts. (It was Alexey, the man Vitya works on cars with.) I told Olga she was Snegoruchka.

Thank you for all of your support to this ministry. You truly are making a difference in the lives of the hurting young people. At each party young people have heard of Christ Jesus, the only one who can give them real hope and a future of success.

**Together, we ARE making a difference...
Together, we ARE reaching the world for Jesus!**

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