



JUNE 2021

THE PEREKOTIYS

ODESSA, UKRAINE

SERVING VULNERABLE CHILDREN + UNREACHED PEOPLES THAT THEY WOULD PRAISE + PROCLAIM JESUS CHRIST IN UKRAINE + AROUND THE WORLD!

This is Lyosha. He is 21 and attends the JOY Center for Children with Autism, a ministry of Heritage Ukraine, our local ministry partners.

Earlier this spring Lyosha's mom asked Yura if he could attend Boys Club. Yura said it would be a great idea, but Lyosha would need someone to help him with the projects. A father of a different child from the JOY Center decided to attend with Lyosha.

So they began coming to Boys Club every Saturday where Lyosha was able to work on projects and enjoy time as a part of the group. The boys recognized right away that Lyosha was different. Yura talked with the boys, especially the older ones, about how their new club member had special needs and asked that they treated him with respect.



One weekend Lyosha even went with them on a hike! He had an awesome time at the campfire, and then went back home instead of spending the night. The father attending with him has been able to hear stories from the Bible and the truth of the gospel each Saturday. He is there to help Lyosha, but we pray that God is also moving in his heart.

This week Lyosha attended the JOY Camp for Children with Autism, and was so glad to see Yura in charge of the crafts. Lyosha's mom came up to Yura and told him that something happened the week before that shocked her. They were walking home from the store when Lyosha spotted two guys from Boys Club. They came up to Lyosha, said "hi", and gave high-fives before going on their way.



Seeing his friends from Boys Club was the highlight of Lyosha's day!

Inclusion of individuals with special needs is slowly growing in Ukraine. We pray that making Boys Club an inclusive place is helpful, not only for kids like Lyosha, but also for kids who otherwise are not interacting with people who might be different from themselves.

Would you pray for more volunteers to help with the JOY Center for Children with Autism?

Would you pray for the families like Lyosha's who have very little local resources or support to care for their special children?



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FAMILY UPDATE:

Summer is here! The big 3 finished their Ukrainian school year strong, and Lev graduated from Kindergarten! Chambers and Lev are very excited to attend school together in the fall.

We are homeschooling in English throughout the summer. We would appreciate prayers for diligence, perseverance and focus to complete this year of Language Arts!

God has been so gracious to sustain our marriage and our family's love for one another while we live cross-culturally and face challenges in many facets of life and ministry. We praise Him for this and pray that He would continue to pour His grace on our family. We pray that we would continue to spend time in God's Word, to humble ourselves and to serve one another.



WOULD YOU PRAY WITH US?

- Camp LELA: for God to give us grace and endurance during the remaining camps; for God to move in the hearts of children and volunteers
- Boys Club: for Boys Camp (happening as you read this letter!); for God to give Yura clear vision for the fall ecause several of you partnered with us by giving, Heritage Ukraine was able to rent a beautiful campsite in the forest for Boys Camp! 16 leaders are pouring into 32 teens; for 2 more leaders to come alongside Yura to mentor the 20 boys
- Group for Deaf Teens: for our meeting in August with Roman (our Believing, deaf friend who has been pouring into the teens) to map out the meetings for the fall
- Local Church: we desire to have closer connections with our brothers and sisters at our local church; pray for God to give opportunities to foster those relationships, for us to faithfully serve where we are able, and for Him to bless Holy Trinity Baptist Church Odessa with wisdom

in Christ, Madison + Yura

In order to continue reaching at-risk youth with the Gospel, partner with us in giving.

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