

Update from Holly January 2021

A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps. Proverbs 16:9

This is the time of year when we evaluate our ministries and the things accomplished in the past year and set goals for the new year. I also use this time to evaluate some of my personal habits and goals, especially in the area of my time in God's Word. 2020 certainly did not turn out as we planned, but as I looked back, I was still amazed and blessed by all that God has done. There were many things we were not able to do that we had planned, but God opened up unexpected new opportunities. I was able to be involved in more one on one and small group discipleship in 2020. God also opened the door for us to provide initial training in prolife ministry for a group planning to open up a crisis pregnancy hotline in a neighboring city. These were things that were not on my list of goals/ plans, but I am so grateful that God brought them to pass. As we make plans for 2021, we are keenly aware that we must hold our plans loosely and that perhaps God has something different and better in store for us. I hope that we will not soon forget the way that 2020 reminded us that we must make plans with open hands trusting God to direct! Please pray for God's direction and wisdom as we make ministry plans for this new year. We are planning to have a Choose Life board meeting February 6th where the board will approve our plans and budget for this year as well as consider other decisions.

We are also praying about plans for the medical ministry. We continue to adjust how we see patients and give care in order to limit contact between patients and to stay in compliance with the government's regulations. We will most likely continue to have some level of restrictions at least until the end of April. We are trusting that by the fall of this year we will again be able to host a medical team. We are also hoping to be able to open a new clinic site towards the end of summer or the beginning of fall. Pray that in spite of the current restrictions that make it necessary to move patients through more quickly and to limit contact, we will still have good opportunities to share the gospel and to challenge people to consider their relationship with God.



Decorating my tree with the Suko girls

as a short-term missionary, we are grateful to now have her as a full-time member of our team! God has blessed me with a wonderful missionary team that in its own way feels like family. I am grateful for the fellowship and fun times I can have with them especially during the holidays when I miss being with my own family.

I was able to enjoy some precious time with teammates over the holidays. I spent Christmas day with the Suko family here in Odessa and then traveled to Kiev where I spend New Years and Ukrainian Christmas with my teammates the Gustafson family and Kristin. While I was in Kiev Kristin arrived back in Ukraine, this time as a career missionary. After having her here for 2 years



Reading with some of the Gustafson kids

Speaking of family, my brother Isaac and his wife Anna are expecting twins to arrive any day now! (due date is February 14) I would appreciate your prayers for their safe arrival!

I praise God for all that He did in 2020 and thank you for continuing to pray with us as we plan & continue to serve in 2021!

Thankful for God's guidance,
Holly Friesen

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designate to one of these accounts: - Holly's ministry account # 0139523

- Pro-Life in Ukraine, account # 0757353