



## News from November



**US DOS  
Travel  
Advisory  
Level**

We are sending Christmas cards this year to all of our supporting churches. If there has been any address changes, please let us know before we send them! We hope you all enjoy your holidays with family, celebrating the Reason for the season!



Katrina prepared a short children's presentation for the church on the subject of Thanksgiving. We sure wish that Ukraine would have adopted this holiday instead of Halloween! Nonetheless, it's a good time to be thankful for what we have been blessed with.



### Russia Fact

Russia's most famous animal species is the Siberian tiger.

Recently, I had the opportunity to discuss the doctrines of salvation with this man named Sergey. We had a great conversation for about 2 hours in a combination of Russian and English. I hope to continue having these types of discussions with him in the future. Thank you for praying!



Martial law went into effect on November 28th and will last through at least December 27th. This was decided due to the government's claim that a full-scale ground invasion of Ukraine is highly possible. This month, there was an

We're thankful for the 9 students that showed up to this month's group activity. It was also an opportunity to celebrate Jonathan's birthday. It is possible to have fun without drinking, dancing, smoking, etc. Through relationships, we hope to be given further opportunities to share the Gospel. Pray for an abundance of open doors to do so.



incident involving three Ukrainian ships in the Azov Sea being fired upon by Russian forces and being taken captive. We, of course, hope that tensions do not escalate.



### Upcoming Events

**Christmas Play**  
12/30  
**Winter Finals**  
12/26-01/15

## Prayer Requests

- For Katrina's residency
- For Russia's religious freedom
- For the ministry here in Kharkov
- For language learning
- For the health of my Russian teacher's parents.
- For a peaceful end to the war

## Update from Ukraine

Hello from Kharkov!

As many of you have already heard, Ukraine is preparing for war with neighboring Russia. According to reports, both countries' troops are deploying near the border. Where are we? *Forty minutes from the border of Russia.* What effects have we seen from martial law? So far, we have seen the government begin to confiscate items mailed or shipped to us and charge exorbitant taxes on them. (Needless to say, we will be limiting what we have sent to us in the future.) This is supposed to only get worse in the spring. On November 30th, our landlord called and informed us that our *rent will be raised by 20%* because of the government's decisions (despite us having a signed contract). This has only been in the *first 2 days* of being under martial law!

However, the Lord is providing and keeping us safe. We are staying fairly healthy, staying warm, and staying busy - life can't get much better in those regards for missionaries in this part of the world. We are finally getting snow, sleet, and all the other weather-related indicators for this season in our area. The girls can't wait to build a snowman.

We wanted to share the blessing that we were able to spend Thanksgiving with our family/ministry partners here in Ukraine. Cooking for Thanksgiving is something that Katrina enjoys. She saves most of our "American" food throughout the year for this purpose. Our family hopes you also had a great holiday. Since this will be our last prayer letter before the holidays, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

Jonathan  
Skean &  
Family

### Sending Church

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