

*"Worship that is pure and unblemished in the sight of God the father is this: to visit and help and care for the widows and orphans in their affliction and need...." James 1:27*



## **Blessed time for orphans and families!**

Twenty-one orphan children from Russia and Latvia were hosted for five weeks by 13 families in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia in the first northeast hosting program of New Horizons for Children. Big Family Mission worked with New Horizons to bring the program to the northeast. Families and the children were greatly blessed. At least 12 of the Latvian children have very good prospects for being adopted in America as a result of this summer's program. Tentative plans are being discussed for a northeast program at Christmas. You can learn more about hosting and how the program works at the New Horizons for Children website: [www.newhorizonsforchildren.org](http://www.newhorizonsforchildren.org) At left are the Latvian children (some from Atlanta program) and chaperones at JFK Airport just before departure for the long journey home.

## **Ukki children love the Black Sea!**

You may recall from last month's newsletter that the Ukki children were very apprehensive about their trip to the Black Sea Christian camp, because none of them had ever been to the sea before.

We are happy to report that they loved the Black Sea!

Here are excerpts from Eva's emails which gave us a report on the Black Sea trip:

*There were difficulties and joys, tears and laughter in the trip.*

*I was not able to learn if the children had a Bible lessons every day in their schedule, but we found out that the director of the camp appointed a special man for our Ukki group. Our kids had a Christian friend all the time (this man taught them to swim, showed them sea life, different places, and shared many stories.*

*From the words of teachers from Ukki orphanage, he became a very important part of the team in the camp).*

*The kids had special events every day as teams in the camp when all kids had to perform different things (songs, fairy tales, and talents). At this type of gatherings, our kids had the chance to watch Christian type of dramas and to hear Bible stories. When we saw the Ukki kids yesterday, most of them had a nice sun tan! Little Vania found out what word "raisin" means on this trip. Someone started to call him a "raisin" but Vania didn't know what a raisin is, so he was very offended. The teachers told him that it was a sweet, dry grape, and Vania was ok with that. (He is dark, small, with black eyes and short hair).*

*Masha from Kiselnya for the first time in her life came into water, and even learned how to swim a bit with the help of the man I was telling you about. Masha had a fear of water and wouldn't go to water until a few days before it was time to go back, but*

now she was telling us how great it was to see the clear water and some fish.

Little Kristina shared to me personally that there was a boy (unfortunately, younger than her) who fell in love with her, and she was so happy.

Of course, there were some difficulties with older children, but by God's grace, the chaperones were able to control the situation.

We can say that the two ladies who went to the Sea with kids became close to children, and it is so important for them to have someone they know better and can trust in the orphanage school. These two ladies decided to go back to the same place in few days just from themselves to rest (this is how much they enjoyed the nature and the sea).

I wish you could be with us yesterday to hear 2 and a half hour (not joking) report from the chaperones: all the fun, touching stories, you would enjoy them very much...

It was great that children had chance to see fellowship with Christian man all the time, who became a friend to them.

We have asked Eva to try to reach the Christian man who spent so much time with the children. We would like to thank him and also to learn more about he was able to teach and share experiences with the children.

Stay tuned for Black Sea story No. 2. Big Family is sponsoring three orphans and Pastor Andrei's daughter to go to the same Christian camp in August. They will be traveling with a group from the church at Kommunar.

Also, please pray with us that doors will open for our friends in Russia to open an official Christian summer camp in the St. Petersburg area for 2008. One possibility is that a Christian organization might be able to take responsibility for one or more of the state camps that are conducted for orphans.

### **Really Big Prayers Needed**

In the year ahead, Big Family Mission will continue to seek out opportunities to help orphans get into families... families in Russia and families in America... or elsewhere. Family makes all the difference in the lives of orphans and children at risk.

Please pray for:

- More Russian families who are willing to establish foster homes for children;
- Funds to encourage and to help with start-up costs for Russian foster families;
- Families in Russia and America who are willing to host orphans during Christmas, summer, and vacation periods;
- More Family Friends (sponsors) for Russian orphans;
- Opportunities to present Big Family Mission in more churches in America.



**Some of our Ukki friends discover the Black Sea is very blue!**



**Vania (the "raisin") gets buried in the sand!**



**Kolia and girls enjoying the sand and the sea!**

### **Contact information:**

Ken and Dianne Dockery  
Big Family Mission  
83 Boy Scout Road  
Kutztown, PA 19530  
Home phone: (610) 683-6137  
Website: [www.bigfamilyministry.org](http://www.bigfamilyministry.org)  
E-mail: [info@bigfamilyministry.org](mailto:info@bigfamilyministry.org)

**Big Family Mission is an inter-denominational mission outreach involving churches and Christians from many different denominations.**