

# BIG FAMILY

Mission to Children September 2006

*"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 (AMP)*



Our Russian coordinators recently visited with Peter and Lia and family to take this photo. Three of Peter and Lia's foster children were away on the day they visited.

## ***Introducing an extraordinary family in Feodorovskoe, Russia***

In this issue of Big Family's newsletter, we introduce the really big family of Pastor Peter and his wife Lia, who live in Feodorovskoe.

Peter and Lia have 18 children and 17 of those children are foster children: children who were at one time street children and orphans.

We met Peter and Lia on our first trip to Russia, and we have since visited with them on one other occasion. This family represents what we would like to see more and more of in Russia: orphan children brought into a loving, Christian family.

It is not easy to provide food, clothing, and other essentials for such a large family;

therefore Big Family Mission has decided to begin providing financial assistance to this extraordinary family. Advice from Peter and Lia was very helpful in setting up our foster home in Kommunar, and Big Family would like to encourage more Russian Christians to consider becoming foster parents.

Our wish for all of our Big Family Friends is that someday you would be able to visit with Peter and Lia and family. If you think you can never visit, perhaps the "next best thing" would be a DVD with some scenes from our last visit with them. If you would like to share in some of the joy of this beautiful family and receive the DVD, just include a note when you write to

us or send us an e-mail. There is no charge for our Big Family Friends.

We will soon be offering the opportunity for individuals or families to become Family Friends for one of Peter and Lia's foster children. This is how we will be able to provide support for this beautiful family. If you know of anyone who might be willing to become a Family Friend or who would like to encourage this big family, please pass this newsletter along.

### ***Our children from Kommunar***

For those of you who have been reading our recent newsletters, you know that the orphanage in Kommunar was closed down by the government and that the children were to be moved elsewhere.

Finally, we have more official information about where the children will be living now. Most of the Kommunar children will be moved to the Gatchina internat/orphanage.

Twelve children were moved to a smaller internat/orphanage at Ukki: Sasha Shipitsin; Kolia Duhanin; Anna Suleeva; Uliana, Stepan, and Fedor Meshalin; the four Leshkevich sisters (Vika, Maria, Daria, and Anastasia), and Vania Andreev.

The Vaskova twins and Maxim were moved to a special school for slow learners in the Boksitigirsk region, which is many hours away from Kommunar.

Our Russian coordinators had hoped to visit with the children in their new surroundings very early in the school year; however, it seems that the directors were a bit overwhelmed with all of their new children and asked that the visit be delayed until October.

In all of this traumatic change, there is a bit of good news: Marina and Natasha, who graduated from the Kommunar internat in June, will be able to live at Gatchina and continue their studies there (rather than being on their own and trying to attend vo-tech school.)

Please continue to keep all of these children in your prayers!

### ***A visit with Luga children***

Our Russian coordinators, Eva and Misha, visited the children at Luga shortly after school

began ("first bell" in Russia is traditionally September 1).

As usual, there was food and good times to share with the children, but this visit was special. Eva and Misha went to Luga in conjunction with the interviewing of children for possible inclusion in a U.S. hosting program, sponsored by New Horizons for Children. Will some of the Luga children get to come to America (Atlanta and Orlando) this Christmas? We are praying that, if it is God's will, they will be included in the program.

For more information about New Horizons and the hosting program, go to their website: [www.newhorizonsforchildren.org](http://www.newhorizonsforchildren.org)

### ***Our foster family in Kommunar***

The children are off to a good start in their studies in the new school year. Slaviana and Uliana are going to "regular" school instead of the internat school for the first time. Thanks to Big Family, Tania now has the supplies that she needs to study hair-dressing and she is very excited about this opportunity to be of service to others. Vania continues with his study of auto mechanics.

Ira and Max and all of our foster family send their big thanks to those of you who contributed to help make repairs and refurbish their new flat. We were able to provide almost \$500 for the much-needed work to the apartment. That may not seem like much, but it will help make a comfortable and brighter home for our family at Kommunar.

### ***Prayer Requests***

- All the orphan children of Russia and around the world;
- The Kommunar children as they settle into their new surroundings;
- The Luga children and possibility of hosting at Christmas in America.

### ***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 of Lighthouse Community Church, Lyon Station, Pennsylvania.**

