

Summer is past, and we have much to be grateful for. God continues to lead us with amazing ministries world-wide, and our trained national leaders are in regular contact with us. I'm writing this in late August, so by the time you get this several weeks will have gone by. I say that because Sharon's health is fast deteriorating, and we pray she will be improving; however, Sharon is on hospice, and as I write we are holding God's hand and trusting Him. These days are very difficult, and we appreciate your prayers. Be sure to keep up with the most recent news on Caringbridge.com by typing in Sharon Hilts.

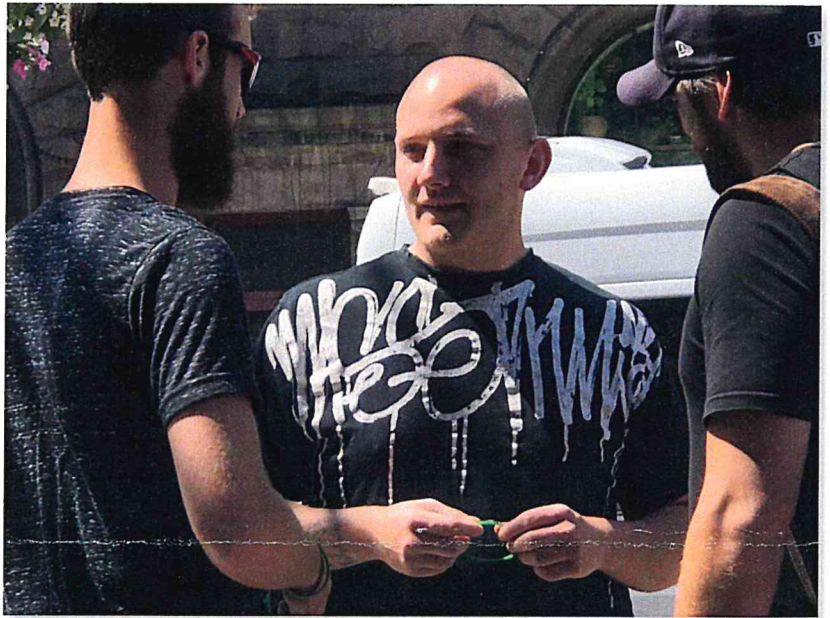
Last month, we wrote you from Ukraine and Germany a report of our evangelistic and camp ministries with three of our grandsons. God is molding their lives and using their talents, and it was such a joy to have them with me (Bob), sharing their testimonies side by side with our ministry leaders. We have 17 national leaders in eight countries that serve with us: Russia, Ukraine, Germany, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Republic of Georgia, Mongolia, and Poland.

Our grandson, Cole (22), wrote a "thank you" letter to those who supported him on this three-week trip. His letter will give you an idea of how God is working in his life through our ministries. We are proud, grateful, and blessed.

"My most sincere gratitude for your contribution to a trip that changed many lives, including my own. During my three weeks in Poland and Ukraine, I was able to minister to many non-believers as well as serve alongside many giants of Christian leadership.

"Proem Ministries, in Zakosciele, Poland, hosted an impressive basketball camp in which I participated as a member of the Ukrainian group led by Pasha, a prodigy of my estimable Grandfather Bob Hilts. The camp contained teams from Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, and the U.S. In addition to basketball, I was able to serve with the Polish worship team. Music was a huge part of my contribution as I hosted a concert, led worship around campfires, and participated in a Belarussian music video. Many came to Christ throughout the week.

"The second week saw me working alongside the aforementioned Pasha, participating in music at his church in Kyiv and doing outreach ministry in many forms, including street evangelism and sports ministry with children. This greatly reinforced my passion for children's ministry. I have been able to work with Pasha many times over the last six months as I have been in Ukraine, and Christ has used him greatly in my life as a mentor and spiritual leader with whom I have been able to grow and serve. You may remember that the original plan was for me to work in a special needs camp, but God had other plans for the trip. He drew me to where He needed me most.



Cole and Pasha sharing their faith on the streets of Kiev

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Bob with Zac, Bryce and Cole under a WW2 bomber – many battles fought here!

"As you read in my request letter, God has been doing incredible things in my heart and in my life. As you read this, I am currently applying to major Christian colleges, institutions which would never have merited consideration by the Cole of 18 months ago. This time in Eastern Europe heard God imploring me to trust Him with major life endeavors and saw me reaching far out of my comfort zone for the Kingdom. I was able to play a part in many people's lives as they grew closer to God. As usual, the greatest impact was on me. I go now into the future with great insight into the mission field, confidence in my pursuit of teaching and reaching children, and a strengthened relationship with my Creator.

"Thank you for making this possible. God has used you in my life."

Cole

In Christ,

Bob & Sharon Hilts