



Ignat Ivanov  
MP's President

"Shall we start a farm?"

Nine years ago I and Gen-nadi Dolbin, our Moscow work leader, were sitting, talking and envisioning a base on a countryside. "We could produce food and house and rehabilitate adults and young drug-addicts."

God heard our prayers and the dream came true! Today our farm in Yaroslavl, Russia, is a large and flourishing farm and a rehabilitation center for 30-35 people. It produces potatoes, carrots, meat and milk, but above all it is a place where hundreds have come to the Lord and been baptized.

This following is recent report from the farm written by Addie O'Connor, a young lady from Florida who has been a partner in helping in the work at MP's different ministry sites for over seven months.

Thank you for your gifts and prayers for our ministry!



### Drug Addicts Find New Life on MP's Farm

# A Cross Cut Into the Ice for Baptism of Twelve

I first fell in love with the ministry at the farm six years ago when I met a 17-year-old girl called Oksana. She was an alcoholic and had spent the last five years living in a Moscow train station. Oksana had come to the farm the previous year for rehabilitation, and through the power of Christ she was now free from addiction. One night Oksana and I were taking fresh milk from the cow barn to feed the piglets when I looked up and saw the most brilliant winter night sky I had ever seen. I stopped and mimed to Oksana (I spoke no Russian) "Look, it's so beautiful!" Oksana who up until now had not spoken to me, said in her broken English: "We Pray!" That's the moment I fell in love with the ministry at the farm!

Those were the words that caused my heart to burst in thankfulness to God for the farm and how He is using it to make a difference in His kingdom.

Since then I have visited Oksana and the farm many times and have been a witness to many changed lives. Men and women have gone from addicts to good

husbands and wives; moms and dads have been reunited with their children; and, parents have welcomed their children home. God is at work at the farm!

I will never forget my most recent visit there in March 2008.

A team of 20 people from my church in Florida was working in Russia and this year we were able to visit the farm. We arrived late one evening, shared some food and rejoiced when we were told that three of the 33 people going through rehabilitation had given their lives to Christ and wanted to follow Christ in baptism. Praise God! We were told that the baptisms might happen the next day, if they could find a hole in the ice! Spring in Russia!!



The next day we woke to learn that seven others desired baptism too! As we toured the farm that morning, learning about the work and the ministry, we could hear the sound of chain saws. One of our group members asked what was happening and we were told that some of the men were cutting a hole in the ice so that the new believers could be baptized. What?! We were also asked if any of our team wanted to be baptized that day! Did they forget that we live in Florida, where we only swim in the ocean from April to October because 75F is too cold?

A few hours went by and we were back in the farm house, the drilling had stopped and men

and women were being given white robes in preparation for the baptism, when two of the teenage boys from Florida told us that they too wished to be baptized.

As a family in Christ, Russians and Americans, we walked together down to the pond. It was a clear but cold day and as we got closer we saw a cross cut into the ice which was at least a foot thick. We were instantly reminded of Christ's sacrifice, and for the people going to be baptized, it was a reminder that His sacrifice was much, much more than cold water. One of the men brought his guitar and as the twelve stood barefooted draped in white waiting to be baptized, we sang and



New life on the farm: Gennadi Dolbin, MP's Moscow and Yaroslavl director rejoices for the good results both in rehabilitation and farm work.

Ignat Ivanov, Gennadi Dolbin and pastor Mike Jeffries from Florida, a member of MP Board, baptizing a born-again rehabilitant.



prayed together. I remember looking at their faces, complete Joy! They were worshipping the One and Only God who was now ruler of their lives.

As the music ended, one by one the men and women entered the water and their old lives were buried with Christ, and as they rose from the freezing ice water into a new life with Him.

After the baptisms we went back to the farmhouse and shared communion together, and as a sign of the new life of service to Christ the twelve baptized

sat while our pastors knelt and washed their feet. Humbly we come to Christ and humbly we serve Him.

The farm is a place of NEW LIFE, not only with the animals and vegetables, but also in the lives of the people who are sent there for rehabilitation. God is using the land to renew people, to give them a NEW LIFE.

Thank you God for the gift of the farm and may you continue to bless the harvest! With blessings from Siberia,  
Addie O'Connor