



Thank you Nasko and Renie!

We want to give a hearty thank you to our long-time co-worker, Atanas "Nasko" Lazarov, his wife Renie, and their little daughter Annika, who are leaving our US office in Mt. Prospect, Illinois, to serve in other areas. Nasko's time with Mission Possible began in our Bulgaria ministry where he served for eleven years and met Renie, who was teaching children who lived in the slums, like the ones told of in this newsletter. From Bulgaria they moved to the other side of the Atlantic, where they have served in the US for the past five years.

Starting July 1, our US office responsibilities will be carried out by Christina Bell.

Thank you, Nasko and Renie, for your service! May the Lord bless your family!



Ignat Ivanov
President



Hero Brothers

The Eastern European Gypsies are among the poorest people on the continent. Their families are large, but the children are often neglected. Very few Gypsy children complete public school, and at merely ten years of age, full responsibility for the care of younger siblings often falls on the shoulders of the oldest.

Mission Possible's five soup kitchens, which operate out of Gypsy churches, help 250 hungry ones on a regular basis. In addition to providing meals, we teach Christian Sunday school lessons and offer professional courses for young adults.

Toshko, 12, comes to the church to pray when he is sick

Pevtsite, a Bulgarian Turkish mountain village, is one of the places where we minister to children who live in the slums.

The churchyard in the village was swarming with children. All of them were dressed in shabby, dirty clothes. I approached a bare-foot boy holding a baby. The baby girl wore trousers that were much too short, and her cold dirty feet were also bare. The boy tried to warm her by covering her in his torn sweater. Toshko, 12 years old, began sharing unashamedly about his family. He and his baby sister Danailka



are two of eight children. Their parents went to look for work, and he was left to care for the small baby.

I asked Toshko why he was going to church. "Well, when I'm sick I come to church, pray to God, and He immediately heals me!" Again I looked at Toshko's feet, standing on the cold earth. When you can't afford shoes, medicine is out of the question. When illness comes, many rely on Jesus alone, the Healer.

We were able to give Toshko and the rest of the children new shoes and clothes.

Eight-year-old brings his little sisters to the soup kitchen

Kalee (5), Bogee (4), and Duda (3), three lovely sisters, are always holding hands. They are quick to both laugh and cry. Rayko, their brother who just turned eight, takes care of them.

Their parents are lumberjacks, touring the villages to find work in the mountains. For years now the family has been on the move. When they come to a village, the parents find a vacant shack and leave the children to look after themselves as they go to work in the forests. Their family belongings consist of the clothes on their backs, a few plates, and a pot - which is empty most of the time. It's obvious that poverty is their constant companion. The children can't remember the last time they had a bath.

This year the life of the siblings is a bit easier. They eat at our soup kitchen in the village of Belopoptsy along with forty other children who receive a hot meal and other help. The church building where the dining is arranged has become a refuge and a second home for them.



The soup kitchen in Belopoptsy. Ladies from the Gypsy church volunteer in the kitchen and provide not only meals but motherly care for these neglected children.



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Dear Friend,

Every day our team in Bulgaria sows good news in children's hearts. Think about a bowl of hot soup and a piece of bread served with lots of love and the Gospel - it is the secret recipe for changing young lives.

Thank you for standing with us, praying with us, and supporting this work.

Every day when these kids gather at the tables to eat they bless the food and give thanks for the hands that made it possible.

Greetings and blessings from the whole Mission Possible family!

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Read more at www.mpusa.org

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