



Ignat Ivanov
President

Preserving the Fruit

Yaroslavl, Russia: A Farm and a Rehabilitation Center

I have become wiser over the years: I now know to avoid visiting our farm during harvest time to spare my back!

My train from St. Petersburg arrived at the Yaroslavl station. It was 5:20 in the morning. It had been a bumpy overnight trip with stops in every village along the way. I grabbed my bag and stepped sleepily off the train, only to be suddenly awakened by the ice cold fog that hit my face and froze my lungs with every breath.

Gennadi Dolbin, the leader of our ministry in Moscow and Yaroslavl, welcomed me. We exchanged quick greetings and hurried to the car for relief from the bitter cold.

"The timing for our harvest was perfect!" exclaimed Gennadi. "Late last night we decided to finish by gathering the last of the carrots, and see, now it is snowing!" Heavy flakes were falling against the windshield. Later that day there was a real snowstorm and the fields became saturated. Winter had come. But the yield – a record amount of potatoes, carrots, and beetroots – was safe in the storage bins.

A Haircut and a Testimony

I was sitting on a chair in the corridor of the dormitory. Anya, a former heroin addict, was cutting my hair. She had come to our rehabilitation center a couple months earlier after hitting rock bottom on the streets. "She is as good as a professional barber!" I was told by those who'd received haircuts from her.

While trimming, Anya shared her story with me. She had run away from home at a very young age and quickly became enslaved to heroin. It was incredible that in spite of her horrendous drug-filled life, she had

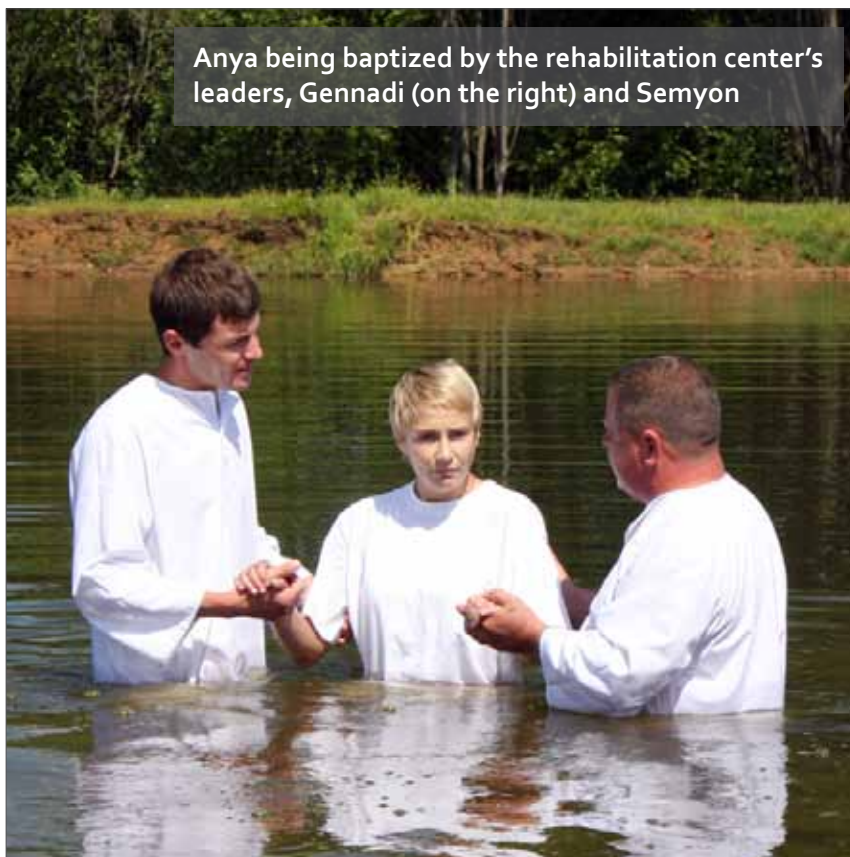
YAROSLAVL FARM AND REHABILITATION CENTER

Rehabilitation Center

- Helps more than 100 young drug and alcohol addicts each year

Farm

- 130 acres of fields
- Produces food for itself and for sale
- Main produce: potatoes, carrots, beetroots, pork, beef, milk
- Located 200 miles north of Moscow



Anya being baptized by the rehabilitation center's leaders, Gennadi (on the right) and Semyon



given birth to a healthy baby. "God changed my life here at the rehab center," Anya claimed.

A young girl approached us and listened to our conversation. Her name was Valya. She had black circles under her eyes and infected needle sores on her hands, revealing that she was a newcomer. "Listen, Valya," Anya spoke as she continued to cut my hair, "I was just like you, but I became a believer and now I am a new person."

Anya continued witnessing to Valya. I'll admit I became a little concerned about how I would look since my haircutter was only partially focused on me, but I told myself, "My hair does not matter at all, if this helps that girl to find salvation!"

"It became a little shorter than I

intended," Anya admitted when she was finished. Anyway, she had done a good job!

Our Goal: To Preserve the Fruit

To preserve the fruit - this is our goal. Every fruit must be tended and nurtured – from the fields as well as from the rehabilitation center. We have 40 to 50 rehabilitants at a time, and new young people come continuously as living places are vacated and become available. This past summer we baptized over 20 former drug addicts. Salvation and restoration of even one single person encourages us to continue on in the work laid before us by the Lord.

Over 20 former drug addicts were baptized at the rehabilitation center this past summer.

Harvesting beetroots, the main ingredient in Russia's "borsh" soup



PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT PRAY SUPPORT

Please pray for the rehabilitants, that the Lord would break their chains of bondage and regenerate them with new life in Christ. Most of them are long-time drug addicts and our center may be the last chance they have for freedom.

Pray for God's blessings on the farm, that it would prosper and support the many needs that are dependent upon it.

Pray for the wonderful staff of the farm and center. All are former drug addicts and serve as living testimonies of God's healing power.

Mission Possible Foundation, 404 E. Gregory St., Ste.#8,
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
1.800.729.2425 - toll free; mpusa@mp.org
Read more at www.mpusa.org

Please click the
PayPal button to
make a donation.
Thank you!