

# The Eshelman Exploits

In the Russian Far East



*Exploit: a bold or notable deed*

**February 2017**

Happy New Year! The new year has brought changes to our lives. The most relevant currently is reflected by the fact I (Cecil) am writing this newsletter from the States due to document issues (my resident visa was cancelled without warning). Tonya, Vera, and Diana are still in Khabarovsk keeping the mission going while I work on getting back. Timothy is Stateside attending college. I have just received my new visa to Russia and plan to be on a plane in a few weeks. Before I abruptly left, we were working on several projects and ministries. Construction on the dacha project continues. The exterior is complete now, with construction moving indoors. We continue to have access to some orphanages to teach life skills. In addition to the cooking lessons - which are always a hit - we have worked on dealing with the business aspects of life.



*Above: This is one of the games we play to help teach teamwork and cooperation. This is with a group of local teens and our missionary associate at Hope Center.*

*Below: We celebrated Christmas with a gift exchange and stories of Christmas. Many of the children are not familiar with the story of the first Christmas. It is a joy to introduce these children to this story – one of the highlights of our year.*



Thank you for your prayers!

In Russia, it is normal for a family to have a “dacha,” a cottage or small house outside of the city with a large garden. We were given a plot of land for a dacha. We’ve been building on it and have some plans for rehabilitation ministry.

Prayer Requests:

1. Safe travels for Cecil back to Russia and no further document issues.
2. Completion of construction at the dacha project.
3. Peaceful relations between the US and Russia.
4. Success for our children Timothy (at college), Vera, & Diana.

Our web site -  
<http://eshelman.info>