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O'Brien's Prayers & News

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We're safe! And God is still on the throne! Here's an update on the happenings in eastern Ukraine. January was blessed with a visit from one of our deaf who immigrated to France 18 years ago! She was in our very 1st deaf group! Its hard to imagine that this year is our 21st on the mission field! February was our annual Sweetheart Banquet and it was a really sweet time with our couples. Steven was down 4 weeks with a serious pneumonia which really took a toll on him, losing like 20lbs! March we had our annual Ladies Fellowship, the Lord blessed with a few 1st-time visitors!! And then crash!! Both Cathy & Nina go down with pneumonia! And now the world is ravished by the COVID-19 virus and Ukraine is wholly closed down: no cars, trains, planes or busses allowed in or out of Ukraine and no intercity trains or busses either. This has caused, as you can imagine, great financial hardship on our already-impoverished church family here. Cathy's pneumonia was quite serious, as 7 weeks later she's still recovering from a 2-week period that was extremely serious. It's brought fairly serious complications, as her lungs are scarred and her heart is enlarged. She's diagnosed with LVH (left ventricular hypertrophy) which is an enlargement of the left chamber and thickening of the heart muscle wall, as well as additional fluid buildup because of the enlargement, making her heart work extra hard. Combined with her pneumonia-ravished lungs, she's thoroughly winded after taking just a few steps. The numerous exams at numerous specialists (cardiologist, infectious diseases, pulmonary, endocrinologist) and the daily trips to the pharmacy have likewise pillaged our support reserves. We are asking for churches & SS groups to prayerfully consider helping. UPDATE: Ukraine finally received COVID-19 test kits and Cathy does NOT have it. She does have however an extremely bad case of pneumonia. Her prognosis is positive and recovery sure but slow.



Your missionaries in Ukraine - John and Cathy O'Brien