

# The Eshelman Exploits

July 2010

In the Russian Far East



Eshelman Family

## Far East Ministry Center Progress



We've been in awe as the ministry center has progressed from being a dream to a reality.

### Classroom renovations

Presently the property is undergoing complete renovation. There will be a classroom for the Bible Institute, offices for several churches that don't have property of their own, and a small kitchen. This project has raised a great deal of interest among local churches that are eager to use the facilities. It is also the first multi-church project in our area. As soon as the renovations are completed the facility will be open for ministry, and it seems it will be busy.



Cecil helping out

One of the exciting parts of this project is watching several churches working together to get all the documents (always an issue here), the materials and the work itself organized.

We personally hope to start a day center

here for older orphans who are transitioning from institutional life to independent living. It is a scary time for them and they often need help. So having a place to come and get advice, help, and have safe friendships is very important.



Window work

## Orphanage Outreach

Our last term we regularly were going to orphanage 31, but the orphans there were transferred to another orphanage which is near where we live. The Lord has now opened an opportunity for us to minister in this orphanage. We were even



Christian Russian Rap

a team of helpers and organize parties and eat with the kids.

In addition to occasional special events, we are going on a monthly basis to put on a "birthday party" for those who had their

birthday that month. The biggest problem we've had is being swarmed by adoring kids (well, most of them are adoring) as we leave.

### Our Field Address:

Central Post Office  
Box 2/36  
Khabarovsk, 680000  
Russia



Tonya in the Cafeteria

able to schedule a Christian rap group from a local church to put on a concert. We also have been able to put together



## Prayer Requests:

- Open doors among minority groups.
- Good organization of the start of the ministry at the new ministry center.
- The Lord to raise up more ministers from among the Russian churches.
- God’s guidance and direction.
- Boldness to share the love of God wherever we go and in whatever we do.

## Praise Reports:

- Cecil received a Russian resident permit!
- Property is purchased and being renovated for the Ministry Center.
- God has given us good friendship with local Russian churches.
- Opportunities among the Nnian.
- More workers are coming to join us here in the Russian Far East.



### The Nnian

Cecil went to a Nnian village in May. The Nnian are a small people group that is mostly unreached with the Gospel. They live along the Amur river. There are about 120 believers in Russia and 30 in China, most of whom attend Russian language churches or have no church to



attend. Despite this one church only having a couple dozen members, they already have plans to reach out on both sides of the border. We hope to come alongside them and help them out. It was neat getting to listen to them sing a worship song in the Nnian language.

### March For Families



#### Start of the March

Statistics show that families in Russia are in crisis. Three years ago some churches here wanted to encourage the development of healthy families. So they organized a “March for Families” to bring attention to this issue. Each

year more groups became involved in the march, and this year a very large number of people turned out. Our church went and we came along. The idea is good, it sure was a great time, and showed that the churches of Khabarovsk could work together for a good cause.

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**Freaky Fact.** Russia is big, it covers 1/7<sup>th</sup> of the total land of our planet.