



TERNOPIL, UKRAINE

4th Quarter 2013 Report

October

Greetings to you friends, co-laborers in the work of the Gospel! For me it's always a pleasure to share with you the blessings and experiences that we have in ministry.

Every time I write a letter to you, inside of me there is some thrill, some excitement. I understand that I'm appealing to members of our great team, on whom depends our success in evangelism. I understand that your support of our ministry is the factor on which our success depends. Your prayers and your donations are especially precious to God. When I experience difficulties or fatigue in the ministry, I think of how God appreciates what I do -- and it helps. Here's how the church encouraged the apostle Paul, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15 : 58).

In this letter I would like to share the state of affairs at the rehabilitation center. As you know, one of the ministries that we do is to work with people addicted to alcohol and drugs. For several years, we have been involved in this ministry. During this time, the Lord has blessed us, revealing to us the opportunity to serve people with addictions. Through it, several dozen people have returned to normal life.

This ministry is highly dependent on leaders who work directly with people at the rehabilitation center, on people who can be with the rehabilitants 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, they should always be with the rehabilitants. Spirituality is required of them, so that it can be a spiritual ministry. The basis for everything happening there is prayer and reading the Word of God. If this is not at the center, then lives will not change, because only God can give consistent results. Besides all this, these workers must be very organized, in order to instill discipline on dependent people. And they must have the wisdom to work with addicted people. They should not be influenced by the drug addicts or alcoholics, but must be able to understand these people "between the lines," to be able to "read" their looks, behavior. And finally, they should be an example to those who come for rehabilitation. When looking at them, the rehabilitants should understand, "When I finish rehabilitation, I will be like this man. I will also be free from dependence and even able to help others."

In recent times, we have experienced problems regarding such people. Our center has ended up almost without ministers. The men with whom we started have slowly trickled away from this ministry. They were young men who in the past had been addicts. For some years they served, but with the passage of time they have started to round out their personal lives. In other words, they have married. But since we cannot afford to pay full salaries, these ministers had to find other work to support their families. As salary for them, we can pay no more than \$60. And families would need at least \$400-500. So we were left without the two main ministers. One new man did not meet the qualifications, which I described above, so that has hurt this ministry. We began to pray about this situation, because we understood that without good leaders that ministry would collapse.

And God began to answer our prayers. Our friends at the rehabilitation center in Rivne started coming to our rehabilitation center on weekends. Usually it was a few men who have already completed their rehabilitation there. They helped us with the physical work, and we talked a lot about the structure of spiritual ministry center. After two months, two of them, Andrei and Denis, decided to help us in the ministry. Now they take turns

coming to us and serving here. That is, they live in Rivne, come for a week and go back. The center has really transformed. But they agreed to do this for half a year. What happens next is unknown...

With this letter, I want to ask you to support us in prayer for the ministers to the rehabilitation center. First of all, pray that the Lord will call ministers to serve here. If this will be the two brothers, then may God call them for permanent service. Pray that God would provide financial support for the ministers so that what happened to the previous ones won't happen to these. And, of course, that these ministers fit the above requirements.

Thank you for your support in general service.
Bless you, and peace from the Lord!

November

Our dear friends, greetings to you in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Writing this letter, I hope that the various political conflicts in our country will not diminish the meaning of it. God has moved me to ask you for a special prayer request concerning an opportunity of buying a building for our church.

As you know, our church is relatively new. We have started this church from zero. In April of 2006, the first six people made a covenant with the Lord through water baptism, by the confession of their faith. This was actually the birth date of our church. During these years, the Lord showed us a lot of His blessings in life and ministry of a church.

For now we have 28 members. Though this is a small Church with mostly young people we have a lot of different ministries. Our main direction is the young kids and youth of Ternopil region. For example, every year we hold children's and youth camps. This year, with your help, our people held four camps, two for youth and two for children. After camp we continue working with those young adults, teens and children who were there. Our youth ministry is attended by 20-25 young people every week; 15 teens attend teen ministry, around 10 children go to Sunday School, and we have a special ministry for children whose parents attend Sunday services. There are also 10 kids.

We also develop a ministry of home Bible Study groups. It gives us an opportunity to serve each other.

During these years God also gave us an opportunity to found a rehabilitation center for alcoholics and drug addicted men. Through this ministry, many people turned to God and to a normal, godly life.

Our church has formulated a vision for our ministry: «Thousands of people from Ternopil and its region who turned to living faith in God through the ministry of a church and became dedicated followers of Jesus Christ».

Over many years we rented different places for our Church services and other ministries. We rented a meeting room in a historical museum on an hourly basis, rented a cafe for youth meetings, rented a garage to use it for storage. The past two years we have been renting an office which is 904 square feet (84 sq. meters), where we have a small meeting room around 430 sq. ft. (40 sq. m.) for Sunday services, children's class, a little office and a toilet. In July of 2014 the rent contract will expire. We pay a special price for this place since when we rented it was in a very bad condition and we made full repairs. So price was 30 grivnas per square meter. Now we pay 2500-2550 hrn/month (\$310) plus heating in winter time, which is 1500 hrn. (\$185). It is really hard to pay those bills since a portion of our church members are high school students, young mothers and formerly dependent people, who have almost no money at all. As I mentioned, the contract expires next July, and after that the owner wants to raise the price to 50 hrn/meter, which means that our rent expense will be higher than 4200 hrn (\$515).

The location of the building that we rent now is very good for ministering to children, youth and young families because nearby we have a bus stop, and anyone can get here from any corner of our city. Near that building there are two of the largest Universities in the city (Economical and Teachers training Universities) and some other colleges. And it is convenient to get here by your own car.

For a long time we have been praying for God to open up an opportunity to buy or build our own building. We checked out any opportunities to get land in the city, but it is impossible to find anything convenient for working with children and youth.

We think it much better to buy a house and remodel it for a “Christian youth center” where our Church could meet and where we could do other ministries. Now we have found a house like this, which is for sale. It is near the place that we rent now. It is not a central street like our office, but it is next to a road. It is a piece of land 0,06 acres and a house 86 square meters, with a garage and a storage building. The owner wants either to sell it for 90 thousand US dollars or exchange it for a 2–bedroom apartment.

Knowing the prices in Ternopil, I see this is as a good deal because the very land of this size could cost around 45-50 thousand US dollars.

I have already told you that we do not emphasize any building. We do not plan to name it a “Prayer house” because first of all we need it, not for Sunday services, but for evangelism opportunities. Of course we will make there a sanctuary for weekly meetings and evangelical services, but the main emphasis will be on building relationships with lost people who are in this world.

In the past we never hunted for any house for a church but now we see the time has come.

Please pray for all the funds we need to raise. We clearly understand that this is a very difficult issue as far as the financial part, but we believe that our heavenly Father has all resources we need.

If you can help us even a little we will be very thankful.

If you want to come and see our ministry we ask you please come. You are welcome here; we are always glad to see our friends. You can check more information about our ministries here: <http://vk.com/newlife.ternopil>, youth ministry: http://vk.com/future_ternopil

May God bless you with all His great blessings.



Figure 1 Pastor of New Life Church, Vitaly Bilyak

The building situation in pictures:



Figure 2 This is the place we rent now.

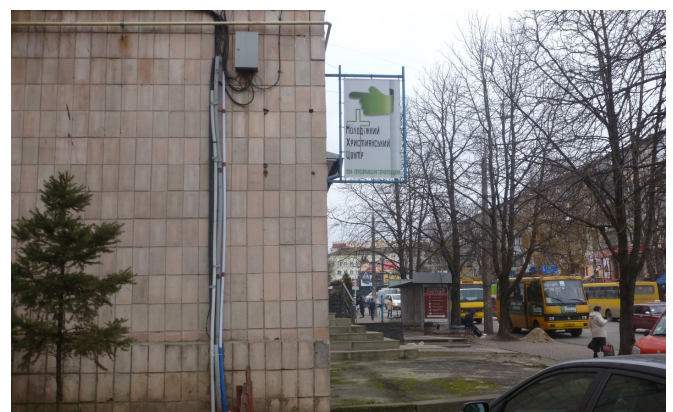


Figure 3 The bus stop is nearby. There is an Economical University campus at the corner.



Figure 4 When guests come there is not much room, and it is stuffy. We can't have there our final meetings of our camp because it fits only 50-55 seats.



Figure 5 Our place is on the left from this multistory building. The land that we want to buy is marked on this picture. The house is behind this building. In the future we can make an entrance right after this crosswalk.



Figure 6 The land is next to the crosswalk where many people are walking everyday.



Figure 7 From this corner you can see the house (yellow mark). The office that we rent now is on the left (blue mark). On the other side of the road you can see a bus stop that leads to the center of the city. This picture was taken from another stop.



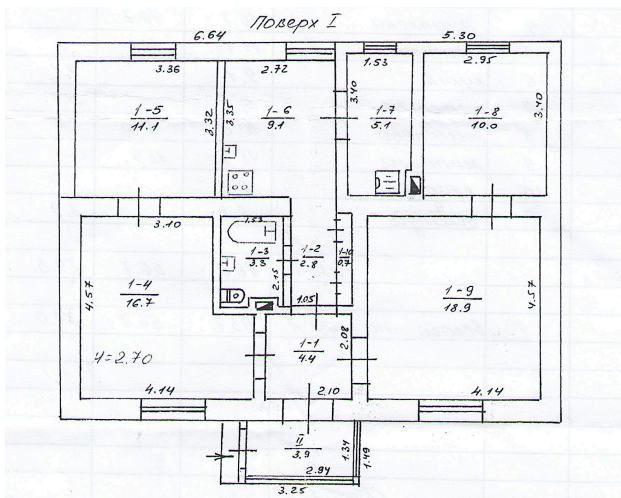
Figure 8 this is a view on a house from the street. The house is in the corner of that property, which gives an opportunity to use the land more efficiently.



Figure 9 The garage and storage is on the back next to our neighbors.



Figure 10 There is a road next to the house.



(підвальный, цокольний, надземний, мансардний)	Номери приміщень	Призначення приміщень (кв.м)	загальна	житлова	допоміжна	збудовані переоблад. площа (к
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Пг	I	сигнал	7.7		7.7	
		Парон:	7.7	"	7.7	
I	1-1	коридор	4.4	4.4		
	2	коридор	2.8	2.8		
	3	ванна	3.3		3.3	
	4	житлова	16.7	16.7		
	5	житлова	11.1	11.1		
	6	кухня	9.1		9.1	
	7	котельня	5.1		5.1	
	8	житлова	10.0	10.0		
	9	житлова	18.9	18.9		
	10	кладови	0.7		0.7	
	I	веранда	3.9		3.9	
		Парон:	86.0	56.7	29.3	
		Всього по пп А.	93.7	56.7	37.0	

December

Peace to you, dear friends, coworkers in the expansion of God's kingdom!

It's nice to share with you the blessings in our ministry. Every time when I write a letter to you - I want to write something bright, impressive, but fortunately or unfortunately, it is not always something bright. In this letter I would like to mention a few prayer requests. I cannot say that any of these needs is more important and some less important. They are just different, but all are important in the labor we are doing with you.

- Pray for the leaders of the church please. When I look at our young and small church (28 members of the church), I notice that we have almost no newcomers. If a person joins a church and does not find a niche for himself in church ministry, as a rule, these people leave the church for another church or even leave the church altogether. Not sure it's good, but those who have any sort of role in the ministry become like "patriots" of the church. This makes the "New Life" church their church, not the church of Vitaly Bilyak. So we try to connect even non-member attendees to a form of ministry. Let this be by helping in children's ministry, cutting paper or something -- but it is a form of service. Pray for all of our leaders. Many of the more actively involved ones are in several ministries. There are people who are responsible in 3-4 ministries simultaneously. Pray for unity in different teams, ministries (the brotherly council, youth ministry, home groups, teen ministry, children's ministry, ministry among the youngest (preschool children), music ministry and organization of worship, ministry of the rehabilitation center, for children and youth camps...). And pray, please, about the people responsible for different ministries, the main leaders for the church.

- Pray for home Bible study groups. We believe that the existence of home groups is a great blessing to the church. At various times, we have had a different number of groups. At the moment we have two youth groups. And there is a family group that is not very stable. Here, the issue in meetings. Unfortunately, this group has a number of problems due to the fact that in the region where it would be more convenient to hold meetings there is no possibility to constantly hold meetings. Please pray that the Lord will call leaders to this ministry, and that He will also open the possibility for such special meetings.

- Pray with us about the possibility of holding children's and youth camps in the summer of 2014. The necessary financial and human resources (leadership team). That the Lord will prepare children and young people for these camps, that it will be individuals in whom the Lord is already working, that in the camps we could just get to know them and help them to understand better or to help make a decision to live with God.

- Pray for the situation concerning a place for our church. I wrote about this in more detail in one of the earlier letters. In July 2014 the tenancy agreement for the church comes to an end. Unfortunately, the new price, which the landlord offers us for the site, is unacceptable for us (it's almost twice as expensive as what we pay now). Now there is a small house for sale near there, which we would like to buy to use for the church. We pray for finances to buy this space.

- Pray for the necessary coworkers in God's harvest field. Even though I wrote that most people are doing something for the church and the church of God's kingdom, some ministries simply can not fully develop because we have no responsible leader. We have an urgent need for a person to head up the ministry of the rehabilitation center. We are now actively praying for the election of deacons. Only one of the three candidates agreed to this ministry. We pray that we will have a man who will enter the ministry among students. Near the church, within 500-800 meters, are the two largest universities in town, where in general there are about 15,000 people.

- Pray for our family. Sometimes we are too tired physically and emotionally. Would love to complete this ministry to such an extent that the church would be "mature." But in the meantime there is a lot of work. Pray for our children. About their education, their training, health, and most importantly for us. What we most want is that the children will believe in the Lord with all their heart. Please pray for the health of Katya (her chronic kidney disease).

Thank you for your prayers and support service.

Your brother and coworker,

Vitaly Bilyak