



DESNA, UKRAINE

4th Quarter 2011 Report

October 2011



Our building is still undergoing repairs, or even more precisely, the restoration and full remodeling of the bath area. Many people help to make these changes; often specialists with whom we must spend a lot of time and discussion. And this time is not being wasted, because they (like all people on earth), need complete remodeling, cleansing of their inner spiritual home. And although the facades are often the same, inside, if we permit Him, resides the One who completely changes our lives. This month, new people participated in the construction, and for us it was great joy when the wife of one of the workers came to the Sunday service. She was interested

and asked her husband; now we pray for the salvation of her and her family.

We also thank God for His gifts of autumn, for a large quantity of potatoes, which we could distribute to needy elderly sisters in our church and to those who do not have money to buy them. It was a testimony of God's special concern for the neighbors of one of our sisters who have seen how the church brought her potatoes.

In our church, from the very time of its founding, there has been a young unmarried sister, Natasha, who has long studied in the seminary, completing several courses and Sunday school, and in theology. She has always had an important role in children's ministry. She has devoted a lot of time to holding camps, and she helped to open and hold a Sunday school in many villages of Kyiv region. We were happy that she served many people, but saddened that she was not with us in the ministry in the church, where there is a lack of leaders all the time. But the Lord answered our needs, and this year this sister has a great desire to spend all her time in our church ministry. Now she helps organize rehearsals and conducts Sunday school lessons; all of her free time is devoted to the church, and my heart burns for her needs. We thank the Lord that He has up this girl to be a strong leader for our church.

Prayer requests:

- 1) For Larissa and her family, that God will save them.
- 2) The ministry of Sunday School (for new kids to come).

November 2011

In November, our church celebrated a day of thanksgiving to God for His benefits. In advance, the youth and the children decorated the auditorium with autumn leaves, flower arrangements, fruit and berries. It all reminded us of God's mercy to us, His care about our food and life here on earth, and the spiritual gifts and food for each day.

For this special day, we invited a musical group from Kiev, and they prepared special songs, and a program. It was a wonderful time of worship together. The celebration was also attended by the kids from Sunday school. They recited poems and sang songs of thanksgiving. It was nice to look at their animated, happy faces, to see them spending the Lord's day in church.

Our room was packed, so that some did not have a seat to sit on; there were about 60 people. Thank God for five new people who were first in church for the first time and took part in the service and the banquet, which followed. The whole church gathered for the meal, sitting at a table loaded with lots of food lovingly cooked by almost every member of the church. The new visitors did not hesitate to stay, and we were able to find out who they are and what had brought them to the meeting. One of the new people, a man named

Valentin, was very open to conversation and talked about his life. His life did not work the way he wanted: his wife left him, and for a long while he lived in dependence to alcohol, had no children, and lived half his life away. He is disappointed and wants to change something, but he does not know how to do it. So, having heard from his mother (who is, unfortunately, not a believer) about our worship services on Sundays, did not hesitate to come. From that day he has attended every meeting, asks many questions, and is really interested in God and having a relationship with Him.

Also, our church has been enriched by the conversion of a woman named Vera. Not everything in the life of this elderly woman has been all sweet either. Her daughter was a long time in prison, but-and this is a great joy-the Lord touched the girl in that horrible place. Now she is an active leader of a small group. For several years this girl wrote to the church letters, which contained greetings and asked to pray for her mother and brother. And then, the Lord answered her request, her mother got saved and started to come to our services. Sister Vera really wants our church to baptize her and also wants her husband to visit the church. We gave him a Bible, which he is already reading, but so far he shies away from coming to the services.

Please pray for our family, for spiritual growth and a close walk with the Lord, and for the new people, and that the Devil won't be able to steal this fruit, and that Valentin will decide to dedicate his life to Lord.

December 2011

December was not easy for our family. For a long time our children have been sick, and the younger one, Danik, is not yet fully recovered. We were saddened by this and asked the church and all friends to pray for the children.

We would like to continue to share about the fellowship, which took place during this time, for me as pastor. One day a woman I only slightly knew called me, and she asked to meet to talk about her son. This woman does not know God, but she heard about the church and understands that the Lord helps and supports people. At the meeting, she told me her son Max, after being in prison, began to behave inappropriately. He was reading satanic literature, saw a spiritual world, and again began to use drugs and talk about strange things. Together we prayed about it, about her family. After this, Sveta started to come to services and wanted me to meet with her son, but on Sunday she said that they took him to the hospital and asked that I accompany her on the next visit to her son. So we went to Chernihiv psychiatric hospital, to see Maxim. This is a special hospital, where every door is shut and the windows barred, and where it's not so easy to see patients. Sveta asked Maxim's doctor to speak with the pastor, that is, to me, but this woman was frightened and refused. We talked with Maxim about the Lord, and he asked me to pray for him because in his mind everything is confused and he sees things that others do not see.

So Sveta comes to services, and her youngest son, who is 11 years old, has begun to come to Sunday school. She also would like me to talk to her husband, but he is afraid.

Another sister has started attending our church services. The Lord revealed Himself to her through the stories of Jehovah's Witnesses. She began to read the Bible and at the invitation of our sister Natasha, came to church. Nadia's sister's husband has cancer and is in very poor condition at home. For her, Sunday services are a lot of support and encouragement.

Please pray for our family, for our kids' recovery, that we will be a help for all our spiritual family, for the salvation of Sveta and her son, Maxim, his sanity, and for sister Nadia and the salvation of her dying husband.

Sincerely,
Pastor Igor Fomichev