



CHURCH PLANTING IN BILOGORODKA, UKRAINE

4th Quarter 2014 Report

September

With God's help, and by His great mercy, we have held a long-awaited joyous event -- holy water baptism, and the church enlarged by 5 members, of whom the youngest 25 years old and the oldest 76 years.

It really was a feast for the whole Church, and especially for those who were baptized. Their unbelieving relatives and friends came to watch.

During the baptism something very interesting took place. On the other side of the church fence lives a retired general and his family. He perceived our church as normal, but his wife said she might walk into a normal church, but not to our abnormal one. And when the service began at the lakeside before the baptism, this general who was walking his dog tied her up and began taking pictures. At first we thought that he wanted to write a denunciation or might want to criticize this action in the local newspaper.

But after the baptism at the lake, we walked back to the church yard for prayer, and he again began to photograph us.

When the service was over, we invited everyone to a meal. We also approached and invited this general. He refused, saying that he was not wearing appropriate clothes. But then he began to tell about his sister. First he liked ministry. Second, his sister, who lives at home, had repented and was baptized. She had moved to a village with a group of believers and attended church there. And there was the main thing that he wanted to say.

For all of us it was an unexpected turn of events, and we thanked God for His wonderful working.

What will be next, we do not know, but we pray for this a family, because they are in need of salvation.

We thank the Lord, and we thank you for your brotherly support. May God bless you in your life and work.

October

We praise God that for the celebration meal, which was held this month. This was "Harvest Holiday," or a day of gratitude to God for the harvest, which God sent us this year. We informed people in the village, we handed out invitations and prayed for those who were invited to a celebration of local churches.

Our desire was that this would be an evangelistic ministry, because when we invite people we remind them that we will give the Lord thanks for the harvest of our fields and His blessings.

By His grace, God has blessed this day and more people than we expected came to the service. A chorus sang, the word of God was read and preached, many people came into the God's house, which created an

atmosphere of unity and joy. We sincerely thank the Lord for His great love and mercy.

What great joy for the church it was when a soul came to repentance. This is not a young sister; she lives in southern Ukraine, but gets home where she lived before with her parents. The parents were believers; they passed away. And lo, God hath remembered their prayers, when they were asking the Lord for the salvation of their children. Arriving at her father's home, she came to the service, where she repented, and accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. She is ready and willing to receive baptism.

Glory and thanks to our Lord for this wonderful time of grace, for His fatherly care which he reveals to us all.

We are extremely grateful to you for your prayers, for brotherly support and assistance.

May the Lord bless you and your life and work in God's field.

December

Thank God for His mercy. He led us through this year. Summing up this time, we sincerely thank God for His blessings and generosity this year. We are particularly glad that this year 5 people received holy baptism.

Three of them had never known believers before and did not know about them. But two of those had been prayed for since the 1930s, since their parents and grandparents were believers. One older sister who became a member is the daughter of the man who was the choir director of the Bilogorodka church in the 1930s. Also, the other is the grandson of the man who served as pastor of the Bilogorodka church in the 1930s and 1940s of the last century, until 1947. According to brethren, he expressed opposition to church members participating in military bearing of arms, so the KGB arrested him and gave him a sentence of ten years in prison. The church building was closed and the people attached to a neighboring village. And now the great-grandson of that minister is a member of the reopened Bilogorodka church.

So we pray for those loved ones, for our grandchildren and family members.

We are extremely grateful to you for your prayers, for brotherly love and care. May God richly bless you in your life and work.