



CHURCH PLANTING IN BILOGORODKA, UKRAINE

2nd Quarter 2014 Report

May

God's , mercy and care always accompany us along the road of life, from the beginning of our time following Him until we meet the Savior in eternity. In our church there is a woman who repented; her husband died of alcoholism, and we told you about that. Shortly afterward, she began to miss services, especially on Sunday morning, after which are classes and conversations with those who are preparing to receive water baptism. Therefore, it was impossible to hold a conversation or even to know whether she wished to do so. Our prayer group began to pray for her, for God to help her overcome the obstacles that stand in her way. Then one day she came to the minister to come to talk about her further life. Before the death of her husband she sang in the choir at the village house of culture. When she repented, she ceased to be involved, she felt that this initiative had nothing to do with Christianity. But at work (she works at the post office), and people on the village council convinced her that it is possible to participate in their choir and attend church. And this was the reason for her cooling. She believed that the best thing to do was to cope with this problem alone, and when the minister asked what is the problem, she answered that everything was okay. But thank God, the Lord gave wisdom to the minister and opened this sister's heart to hear and understand the truth that it's not possible to serve two masters. After the conversation, they prayed, and from that day onward the sister has attended classes, morning worship, and prepares to receive holy water baptism. After her baptism, she will sing in the church choir. Thank God for His fatherly care which He reveals to all of us.

We sincerely thank God and you for your prayers and your support of our church fellowship. And please pray for the children's Christian camp, which will be held at the church next month.

May the Lord bless you and His heavenly blessings.

June

This month was mostly used for preparing and holding a Christian children's summer camp at the house of prayer. We prayed to have children, that parents would not object to their children coming, and that many children would open their hearts to the Savior Jesus Christ. And thank God, with His help we managed to it. More than seventy children of all ages came; parents brought them from different parts of the village. A grandmother even brought one girl from another nearby village. Very well, in the same spirit, the camp team came together to minister. They taught the children to give glory to the Lord in all activities of the camp. After the camp, a grandmother whose grandchildren attended testified about how the children ran around in the yard and on the street and singing a song learned at camp "Wonderful Love of Jesus," and recited poems and the mottos of their teams. In one apartment building where there are only 18 apartments, there are 15 children; of those, 10 were in the camp. And now the number grows—they testify of Jesus to children who were not in the camp, and they in turn are asking their parents if they can visit the camp next year. One boy told his parents and grandmother, that they need to go to camp and learn how to cook food that is so delicious, although the family is wealthy. Very instructive and useful lessons have been conducted with children in the older group, who need so much instruction concerning their future path in life. May God grant that they will continue to seek the Lord after the end of the camp, and that they will find Him and receive salvation.

We thank God that he has given us the opportunity to accomplish this very necessary and useful thing. We are grateful to you for your help, for your support and care for us, that the work of the Lord is accomplished

everywhere.

May the Lord bless you and His heavenly blessings.

June

Bilogorodka Summer Camp

Each of us in life experiences a special blessing, which we want to share with others. The Christian evangelistic camp in the village Bilogorodka that is near Kiev was exactly that kind of blessing.

The children, as always, were looking forward to the start of camp. Despite the fact that almost every day there was a little rain and it was cool for the summer, we had about 90-115 children each day. During Bible lessons we read the Bible to the children and told them about many missionaries. Back in the camp there was a lot of sports games and team competitions, and children learned beautiful songs. During craft time, the kids drew interesting things. In this camp, only one thing was missing – American friends, who always have a lot of interesting crafts and games, and who could always share their testimonies. Every day the children asked, «Will Americans be here today?» And they still remembered about American candy ...

Everyone knows that in Ukraine for more than half a year we've suffered from instability, and despite that the parents may not go to church, but they joyfully send the children. Many learn about Christian camps at churches from relatives and neighbors. I notice how some parents always stop at the gate and do not come onto the property of the church when they drop off or pick up their children. Not even if they are invited. In the camp was a boy; his dad Sasha oversaw the construction of the townhouses (where the BIEM office is located). This Sasha is not a believer, but his mother-in-law (wife's mother) attends church. Thank God that Sasha at least permitted his son to attend the Christian camp.

On the last day of camp, the children invited their parents and grandparents and put on a genuine worship service for them. Children who were in this camp for the first time actively and happily participated in this service. Each child received a gift of Christian children's literature and children's a Christian film on DVD.

Thank you very much, BIEM, for funding this camp. Thank you for your prayers for the camp and our country. Thanks for Children's Bibles, which BIEM purchased and donated to spread the Word of God.

There is one more prayer request. In past years a neighbor girl, Katya (she lives in the town house one building away from the BIEM office), 12 years old. This year, she had no desire to go, although the children invited Katya every day. Please pray for her and her family.

Sincerely,
Sofia Buyko