

CHURCH PLANTING IN BILOGORODKA, UKRAINE 1st Quarter 2014 Report

January

Since here Christmas celebrations take place in January, the whole attention of the Church was directed to the preparation and celebration of this holiday as much as possible to convey to people the importance of this joy -- the birth of Christ and the salvation that is granted by Him.

So we prepared a service for the Church, and a Christmas service for children. And we extended invitations to all people, and separately for children.

Thank God, for the service unbelievers were invited, nearly 20 souls. That is not an insignificant number for the village.

We placed Christian literature, brochures, near the entrance to the church, and people helped themselves to it. It is good that there are still those who seek God, who seek the truth.

Children's Christmas service was held, and by the grace of the Lord up to 90 children and 30 parents came. Most of these new ones had not previously been in the church. They took literature, and listened as attentively as children can. The program was interesting for both children and parents, and parents came and thanked us for a pleasant holiday for the children.

After the service, we handed each child a Christmas gift with sweets.

We also received from children's social service a list of addresses of disabled children so we could visit them and greet their families on this joyous holiday.

A group of teachers and students from the Sunday school prepared gifts with the aid of the BIEM mission—children's Bibles, and a Bible for the parents. And for two Saturdays we visited 21 children at their homes. The kids and parents received their Bibles, with which they were very pleased. They invited us to remember and visit them again.

We sincerely thank the Lord for His care for us, and we thank you for your prayers and fraternal support.

February

God remembers the prayers of parents, and the Word of God sown in early childhood years, accomplishes its effect at its time, as the Lord draws a soul toward salvation.

One elderly woman sent word through her sister, a member of the church, that she would like a visit from a minister of the church. And when we visited and began talking with her, it turned out that, until

the war in 1941, her father had been one of the ministers of the village church. After the war her father did not come home, and she did not listen to her mother's advice and instead rejected God and began to live a worldly life, placing hope in herself and her own strength. But over the course of time, she began to lose everything and and began to think about the values she had lost in her life. About 6-7 years ago, she came to the house of God, but she would not accept the ministers' counsel to repent, even though God was knocking.

And when her health declined, she began to walk with two canes. She started behaving badly toward people and neighbors.

Her daughter started avoiding her because of her aggression, even though they live on the same street, but in different homes. She realized that she had become useless.

So she requested that a minister come and pray and give advice on what to do next! After a long conversation, she realized that God loves her and wants to save her soul. She was crying; she confessed that was sinful, although previously she had claimed that she had not sinned and was not ready to repent. At the end of our conversation, she asked if a group of believers could come to call on her when she is ready.

So we pray for this soul, that the Lord will show her salvation in Jesus Christ.

We sincerely thank God and you for your prayers and brotherly support.

March

God, in His great mercy, hears the prayer of the Church, the faithful prayers of parents for their unsaved children.

One brother who is a member of our church has a son who repented in camp when he was a teen. But it so happened that he did not draw closwer to Christ and but rather drifted away even though he also attended Sunday school.

And so time passed. He became an adult young man but visited the church very rarely and so lived in this manner. But over time, his heart appeared to grow anxious and to fear for the future. He increasingly started visiting services, and by his appearance you could tell that some kind of fear was haunting him constantly. One day he came and tearfully asked for a conversation. During our talk, he said that he really wants to repent, but his fear of standing in front of the church was winning out. Time was passing, and this had become an unbearable burden. After a short but very instructive conversation, I prayed for him before the evening service.

And thank God, the Lord gave this brother victory over his fear, and he came to the evening service of the Church and fell at the feet of Christ in repentance. Now he has joined the group, which is preparing for baptism to become a member.

We sincerely thank God and you for your prayers and your support of our church fellowship.

May the Lord bless you.