

CHURCH PLANTING IN BILOGORODKA, UKRAINE 3rd Quarter 2011 Report

July 2011

Heartfelt thanks go to God for this summer month. In the past month, with the help of God, we had a children's camp for the Christian church. This month we had the wonderful opportunity of traveling with children to the Christian camp on the sea, along with our teachers of the Sunday school.

Unfortunately, this year there won't be in our church the joyous celebration of a baptism. Although many (5 children Sunday school, and 3 adults) repented since last year, difficult family circumstances have built barriers that the converts have found difficult to overcome.

Ludmila (35) repented at the Harvest holiday in 2010. Since then, she once visited a church service on Christmas Day, was at a children's holiday service with 2-year old daughter Alina. After that, the situation in the family, already strained, deteriorated sharply. The husband of Ludmila, right after her confession, forbade any contact with believers of the church, forbade visiting and fellowshiping with Christian parents. After Christmas, the husband placed her under house arrest, and even offered to "free" her if she would reject God, stop the Bible reading and prayers. But Ludmila chose "confinement" with God, instead of the conditional "freedom" without Him.

In our prayer meetings, we often pray for this family. We pray and believe that someday the Lord will destroy all the obstacles and will release Ludmila to attend meetings of the church and later to be baptized to enter into our local Christian family and serve her Lord. We pray also for her husband Vova, that he will turn to the Lord and become a Christian.

Also, bring prayer to the Lord for other converts to the Lord, that He will help them to survive all the trials and remain true to the choices that they have made.

Now our church is preparing for the holiday harvest (September 2011), and for August 21, our choir was invited to an evangelistic service in the village of Komarivka. We expect unbelievers to visit this meeting. This is a great opportunity to sow the seed of truth in the hearts of many people. Thank God that the Lord gives the opportunity to work in His fields, and He provides all the essentials.

We sincerely thank you and for your support, for your prayers, for your brotherly help. May God bless you all His blessings.

August 2011

This month God gave me the opportunity to prepare for and participate in evangelistic ministry, which took place in the village Komarivka, where was held the "Harvest Festival," a service of gratitude to God for the harvest, which, in His mercy, He granted us this year.

Thank God that some people in the village responded to the invitation and joined with with the people of God to give thanks and praise for His care for us this year. There were people who still remember the days when Soviet authorities forced us to celebrate and praise the party and its leaders. And then it was free drinking

of alcoholic beverages. And one woman said: "But how different you all are. You have a reverence, a dignity and I'm very pleased to be here, and without coercion. The soul simply rests." But unfortunately, she said, her children forbade her to attend services in the house of prayer. They tell her to go to the Orthodox church, but she doesn't like it there, and there is no joy for the soul. Her children told her that "If you go to the house of prayer, then we won't give you rides; you'll have no one to help you." And this is a stumbling block. Only once a year, at the time of harvest, can she attend this festival, for which she thanks God and all who participated in this festival.

Thank God that the Lord and we have used this holiday feast, both for the village, and for us.

The next month we'll conduct a similar holiday for God's people in Belogorodka. We're preparing invitations to hang up and hand out personal invitations to as many as people possible to reach the village and to invite non-believers to be this evangelistic service. We pray for this and ask you to pray that unbelievers will hear the truth, accept it, and believe.

Glory to our Lord for this wonderful time of grace, which He continues in our country. We thank you and for your support, prayers and fraternal assistance.

May the Lord bless you and your work and life.

September 2011

For almost two months we were preparing for the big feast of the church, "Harvest Day." This is a celebration of gratitude to God for the harvest that God sent this year. In rural areas, people love this holiday, and even non-believers accept it. So we prayed and asked God to use this holiday as evangelism for the village, to invite as many unbelieving neighbors and relatives as possible. We prepared invitations in which we explained what would be there, and mentioned how Bibles would be given as gifts for adults and children.

Thank God that the mission has all the necessary literature, but before us was the question: how much to take, how many non-believers would be at the service. We received Bibles in the Russian and the Ukrainian languages, children's Bibles, and New Testaments in the Ukrainian language. There was also helpful Christian literature.

Also we invited to this celebration the choir from the church in Kiev. And we personally invited the head of village council (mayor of the village).

And now by the mercy of the Lord, God heard our prayers and blessed this holiday. There were a lot of non-believers, even the chairman came to the service and stayed until the end. He was very satisfied. Also satisfied were all those who received a Bible and other literature; they gave thanks and promised to read it and attend





the services. One woman at the end of the holiday said: "I live near here and how many years this church has been here, and I did not know you so well." It gladdens our hearts that God so blessed this this joyful holiday.

We are very grateful to you for your prayers, for your brotherly support. May the Lord bless you with His heavenly blessings.