

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Planting in Chervona Sloboda *4th Quarter 2013*

October/November

During these couple of months of October and November, we focused on the doctrine of the church. Our church, named "Grace" gathered on Sundays to worship God, and at these services we considered: What is the church? What are the goals set before the church? What should we expect from the Church of Jesus Christ? We raised such topics as the worship of the church, ministry, fellowship, discipleship and evangelism. God has blessed us in these meetings. For some people, they had never considered these topics in this way. Others received a clear understanding of the church and worship.

Also, we finally started the interior trim of the Sunday school. Glory be to our Lord for His care in this matter, for He prompted some Christians to donate money for this work. We hope that in the New Year we will finish most of the work. Pray that we will finish the Sunday school; yet, we need furniture for the Sunday school and kitchens.

We also plan to hold a Christmas service for children and their parents. To do this, we want to go to the school and give children a brochure with Christmas stories or a children's Bible. We want the children to read the story of the birth of the Savior and draw pictures on the subject, then we will do a drawing contest and the winners will receive an award, and all other children will receive Christmas gifts. To this festive service, we would like to invite children along with their parents. Please pray about this project, that God would bestow success in this business.

We are very thankful to the Lord that we have such friends who pray for us and support the ministry financially. Thank you, dear brothers and sisters, for your participation in the ministry in Ukraine. Thanks to you, God's work is being done in Chervona Sloboda. God bless you!

December 2013—part A

Greetings to you, dear brothers and sisters, workers of the mission BIEM, and all our friends! We thank God for you, for your prayers and support for our ministry. May the Lord bless you and reward you richly.

Yesterday in the Sloboda school, we gave children's books *He Lived Among Us* to the children of first to fifth grades. We also announced a competition for the best drawings on the theme of Christmas. With great interest and desire the children have accepted the offer to participate in the competition. The children should read the story of the birth of Jesus Christ in this book and draw a picture. A week later, the Christmas show will be in the village club, and awards will go to the winners. We invited all the children and their parents. Our goal is to introduce children to this story of the birth of Jesus. We want children to read the Bible and also other stories in this colorful book, which describes history in an illustrated format, and our goal is to invite children to Sunday school. Everyone who wants one will receive a children's Bible.

We ask you to pray about this event that both parents and children learn more about God.



December 2013—part B

Merry Christmas, dear brothers and sisters!

I hasten to inform you that the competition for the best Christmas illustrations by children from our school was blessed. We did not expect that at the Christmas performance there would be so many children—about 60—plus their parents and teachers. In all, 80 people. Praise God! But we also did not expect that so few children would draw pictures. Only 13 children participated in the competition, and five of them were awarded prizes for their effort and the best drawings. This celebration was attended by our friends from Komarivka, Igor Balashov and the children from their Sunday school. They sang Christmas songs, played various musical instruments. Anatoly and Ludmila live in the neighboring village; they personally made dolls and a screen for puppet shows and serve God. They put on a Christmas puppet show. All the children received Christmas gifts and a children's Bible. So, we brought a lot of different Christian literature; all teachers personally gave Christian books and brochures. After the celebration, everyone came up and took free literature. Thank God, everything went well.

We thank our Lord for His blessing in the ministry. Thank you, dear friends, for your prayers and support. Thanks to you, we were able to put on this children's holiday. Please pray for all the children and their parents, as well as for teachers, that the seed of the Word that was sown will bring abundant fruit in their lives and that they come to know Jesus Christ. God bless you!

Sincerely, Vitaly Yurchenko