



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Planting in Chervona Sloboda

3rd Quarter 2013

July

As planned this month, our church and some Christian students conducted a week of spirituality in our village. The event was timed to coordinate with the anniversary of 1,025 years of Christianity in Russia. We took the base verse Proverbs 10:25: "As the whirlwind passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation." The main idea of the event was to get people to consider the foundation on which they build their lives.



In the center of the village we put up a large tent, where we held services, seminars and just meetings to chat. We held a workshop for couples, and after the workshop there was a romantic evening for couples. A daily English club was held for those who want to learn English. We conducted a workshop for moms on how to be a happy mother despite so many worries and problems in life. There was a fishermen's day too. We invited people to compete in catching fish. When fishing, we constantly preached through a microphone, using verses from the Bible related to fish, fishing or fishermen. The winner received a prize of a new fishing rod. We also set up an inflatable slide for the kids and a trampoline. Thanks to these, mothers brought their children to play and they, too, had the opportunity to listen to the Word of God. In addition, all participants in this project witnessed

daily to people on the street, and visited people's homes, where there is a need for help doing the tasks that people don't have the strength to do for themselves. Evening meetings were held by the fire. Young people from the village came. We had a lot of singing. Christian songs with guitar accompaniment communicated and testified about Christ.



During this time, many of the villagers heard the Gospel. I'm sure people thought about their lives, pondered about the grounds on which they are building their lives. We sowed good seed in the hearts of people. Now we pray that the Lord will nurture these seeds and bring them fruit of repentance and eternal life.

I am very grateful to you, dear brothers and sisters, for your prayers, for your support in the ministry in Chervona Sloboda.

This is a huge blessing for us. Thanks to you, the work of God is being performed in Ukraine. God bless you! Pray for us, and pray for the people who heard the Word of God.

August

The month of August in our villages is a time of intense work. People bring in the harvest from the fields; then they prepare the harvested food for the winter. Anyone who does not work on the land usually goes away in August for vacation. In Sloboda, this month has passed very quickly. Time flies so quickly when people are very busy. Despite all the busyness, we were able to get some work done to improve our house of worship.

As you know, we have an unfinished project. We built a Sunday school, but did not finish the inside of the building. There is not yet money to do it. I appealed for help to the brothers and sisters of those who can help a little bit. Thank God, friends donated some money, and we were able to put a floor in the building and poured concrete around the building, so we have made some progress in the front. We ask you to pray that we'll be able to finish the interior of the Sunday school and be able to hold classes there for the kids.

The church has elderly sisters, to whom our brothers and sisters have provided special assistance in the harvest. This is a good testimony to others. They saw the love among the believers not only in words but also in deeds. One grandmother received a lot of help from the young people. Now that grandmother comes to meetings in our church, whereas before that she had never come. Thank God for this grandmother. Pray for her, that the Lord will save her.

Pray for us, that the Lord will incline people to listen to the word of God in our village, so that they will have a thirst for God.

We thank you for your prayers and donations. Thanks to you, the work of God goes with us in the Sloboda Ukraine. God bless you!

September



Despite the cold weather and rain, our church decided to hold a baptism in the river in Sloboda. We prayed about this event, asking that the Lord would send us good weather. This Sunday morning was no different from other days. For the past few days we had had only incessant rains. So on this day, in the morning the sky was overcast, but we decided to go ahead to the bank of the river and carry out our baptism plans. When everyone got together and started to sing, the sky opened up, the sun came out, and it was warm on the faces of the smiling, faithful ones. Most of all, Lera was glad for the sun, because it seemed that the very heavens smiled on her and supported her decision. Lera is only 17 years old. She is still in school, but Lera has a great desire to serve God, and today she decided to devote her entire life to make a covenant with God through baptism.

When all the faithful, joyfully

returned to the church after the baptism, we held the Lord's Supper, but by this time outside the windows rain began to fall again. We were surprised but happy to see God's care for us. As the Lord is good to us, He cares even about the most trivial of



our needs. For the first time, Lera saw a miracle that the Lord performed in reply to the prayers and requests of His children. Glory to Our Lord for His care and mercy to us!



We are thankful to the Lord that He is drawing the saved to church. We thank Him for our younger sister Lera. Pray for her, and for all young Christians. It is not easy to be a Christian in this corrupt world. May God keep them from the evil.

We are very grateful to you dear brothers and sisters, for your prayers and your donations, thanks to you the work of God takes us in the Sloboda and throughout Ukraine. God bless you !

Sincerely,
Vitaly Yurchenko