



CHURCH PLANTING IN BILOGORODKA, UKRAINE

4th Quarter 2015 Report

October

At first, we cannot always grasp the significance of seemingly insignificant things that the Lord arranges. But the fact is, God can take something that seems small and turn it into something more significant.

Last year we invited our faithful sisters, who live in the village of Bobritsa, to hold a festive evangelistic service titled "Thanks to the Lord of the Harvest" or "Harvest Feast." Those locals requested permission from the village authorities; it is a cultural village. We invited people and brought Christian literature for both children and adults. This holiday went well, although it was cold in the room. People listened attentively, accepted the literature and were grateful. This year we were planning to hold another evangelistic service in the same village at Christmas, including gifts for the children, but it turned out that the people themselves and the leadership invited us, as they put it, to make a feast for the village to thank God for the harvest. Thank God that the Lord prompted human hearts and gave us this opportunity to minister.

People came, and believers from other churches who live in the village also came, and there was a friendly and joyful holiday. Many were given different Christian literature. People asked questions after the service, and it created a warm atmosphere. At the end of the service, people invited us to come back for Christmas. This village is located near Bilogorodka, about 3 kilometers from the new prayer house [church building], which is being built on the other side of Bilogorodka. So this prompts us to continue to visit that village to conduct evangelism and minister, to continue God's work in that village. We sincerely thank the Lord, we are extremely grateful to you for your support and assistance. May God bless you with heavenly blessings.

November

As it turned out, we took a family from the zone of military conflict into our church building. And thank God that we are putting in efforts and with God's help have made living quarters in the storeroom for our brothers and sisters from remote locations.

Very interesting events took place during the war with this family. When the war began, the place where they lived, was under militants. The militants began looting and all the people who did not support them were persecuted, so this family left home, taking only two bags, and headed for Kyiv. In the village of Bilogorodka they rented an apartment next door to a brother from the church.

Between them neighborly relations began; our brother helped them and testified of Christ. And then arose a situation in which the family from the east asked our Christian brother to take them to visit their friends in Kiev to talk together. This brother agreed, but suggested that before going to visit their friends they come first to the church, and then go to their friends.

So for first time ever they stepped across the threshold of the church. They liked it and since that time they have begun to regularly attend the services, although they moved and live away from Bilogorodka. The husband repented first, and then the wife. And this past summer they were baptized and have become members of our church.

Then, in the early fall, their landlord said they needed to vacate immediately because he needed that apartment for his own purposes.

So the family was in a very difficult position. They had only just repented and been baptized, but then they were left without a residence for the winter, and they could not return to Donetsk, because there is still fighting. Then we decided to let them stay in the church building and make the need known to the church. This is a blessing for us. The brother helps in the work at the house of worship, is actively involved in doing current repairs, and his wife helps with the housework in the church. So, thank God that we can help them, and they can serve the church and see the Lord's care for them.

We sincerely thank our Lord and Savior for His immense love for us and for the children in His care and for your support and prayers. May God bless you. Amen.

December

Marvelous are God's works!

In our church a sick woman who came from the area of fighting repented. After treatment, she returned home, but then, after a while, once again came to back for more treatment. And when she entered the house of God, it was as if she had come home to relatives. She said she had returned to family.

After the service she sincerely thanked the church for prayers, for support. She also told how her husband was waiting at home with her mother and her mother-in-law, with whom they live together in the country, because their apartment was damaged by cannon fire and she had been depressed because of all this. But she was now happy and joyful and had begun to testify of Jesus the Savior, of Christ's church, and of the joy she'd received in Jesus Christ. She began to pray for her mother and mother-in-law, one lying in bed, and the second managing to walk with a little walking stick. Her husband, too, had once been in a church, and wanted to go again. Therefore, this woman had asked our help to find out whether there was a church of believers anywhere near where they now live, because she and her husband wanted to go to church services.

When we investigated the matter, it turned out that 10 kilometers from their home is a house where believers are gathering, and the church sends a van to the village to bring believers for services. This news brought great joy to this sister.

When she returned home, she gladly wanted to go that house. But when she and her husband were getting ready to go to a Sunday morning service, one of their mothers unexpectedly died. So, there they were, far from their own home in the country, where they had no friends, and a dead mother. And immediate question was, "What do we do now?" She phoned us, and we went there along with the minister of that church.

Thank God that believers responded to this great need. We arrived in the evening, and we had a service. On the second day we organized a funeral service, and thus the family was in the church. The joy and gratitude of this couple knows no limits!

So we thank God for His immense love and mercy to all of us! We are grateful to you for your prayers, support, and help in the work of God.

Amen.

The Kosyanchuks