



CHURCH PLANTING IN BILOGORODKA

1st Quarter Report 2009

Bilogorodka **January 2009**

This month filled with different joyful events. By God's will we celebrated a holiday when about one hundred kids came to the church for a Christmas celebration. They heard about Christ, received presents, and had a fellowship with Sunday school kids. But with the joyful moments we also received some sorrow, which God permitted to happen; going through it the church is being strengthened in patience. And that's why we ask you to pray for our need for a decision, according to a God's will, of a matter concerning teaching Bible lessons in the public schools of our village.

We already wrote to you about this kind of ministry, and everything was all right. God blessed us, and we received an entrance to teach in almost all classes in both of our village's schools. But Satan does not sleep; he is doing his black job of destroying children and the young generation. One teacher, from one of twenty most influential orthodox families in Ukraine, came into the classroom and was displeased because instead of her lesson it should be our lesson. It made her angry and envious of the better success of our teachers among the students. So she told her husband who has some important post on president's team, and they put a ban on our ministry in public schools. So our teaching in both schools stopped. We went to the regional council of education, and they told us that only through the special intercession of the parents by the teachers' desire could we resume our activity. Praise the Lord, this happened in one of the schools, and we have already resumed our teaching there. Those parents and kids who understood the need for our activity weren't apathetic. They gave us the very last hours of the day, when kids are tired and wanting to go home. But according to God's, our classes became not smaller, but bigger. Now we are negotiating with the other school. The head of the Region's educational department has "washed his hands" of it and said that the school's leadership should decide. The administration of the school is afraid of Orthodox Church, of the president's team, and of these twenty families. Meanwhile, the young people get more and more involved in drugs, immorality, and drunkenness.

So we are praying for it and asking you to pray with us. May God bless you and send you all you need in your work. Amen.

Bilogorodka **February 2009**

By His Great mercy and by different methods, God is directing to Himself both adults and children. There is a boy in our village; he is 10 years old and he is missing one leg. Last year during church summer camp his father rode him on his bicycle. He liked it so much but even in that time his prosthesis, which he uses for walking and even for playing soccer, was small and chafed his leg. But he continued to attend Sunday school after camp. He should receive a special prosthesis for his age, but he didn't. So now he can't attend Sunday school, but he wants it so much. The kids in our Sunday school are praying so that God will help him to walk and to find the needed prosthesis, and that this boy will be able to be with them. His father and mother are unbelievers, but as they saw a desire in him to attend Sunday School they allowed him to come. And his father said that he would be driving him to church. We are thanking God for such favor from his parents.

We also thank you sincerely for your care and for your prayers and for your work which you doing on God's field.

Praise the Lord, that He is motivating the church of God's children to work and enlarge the ministry. So, as we felt a need for the Komarivka's church members to have more spiritual growth, for spiritual support. They have gone through a time of no growth, without adding new members, so our church decided to help practically.

We added this matter to our church's member council [in Bilogorodka], and all the church members voted for this proposition. We decided to finance trips to Komarivka and to form a ministry group of our church members for them. We put out another box for donations especially on that ministry. Praise the Lord, this work is going on; people are donating toward it. Bilogorodka's members are happy to serve and Komarivka's members are glad to receive this brotherly support. Also, with God's help, we started to publish a church newspaper with evangelical content, and we are distributing it among the village people, inviting them to services. We thank you also for your support, for your prayers. Our top need for today would be for open doors in School #1, so that we'll be allowed to teach Christian ethics.

Let God Bless you all.

Komarivka

By the great Lord's mercy, God shows His long patience to save. One sister in Christ from Komarivka has an unbelieving father who was a very ungodly man. He hated his daughter who had become a believer and was always trying to say something against her faith, against God, and to do something hurtful, unpleasant, and disrespectful. And once he fell ill with cancer and went to bed, nobody wanted to take care of him because of his character. But his daughter and her husband are Christians; they patiently carried for him as they were praying and witnessing about salvation. And God by His great mercy humbled his heart. He phoned everyone to whom he treated evilly, and he repented before God and asked forgiveness of all these people, especially his daughter and wife, whom he had tortured his whole life. The day after that, he went into eternity. And when this sister was witnessing during the funeral about this situation, his relatives and acquaintances who had come from faraway said that she was crazy, that she had gone insane because of her faith, and that this was an impossible story.



But we know that this is God's mercy. It is a great testimony for the church that God is able to do everything, and He loves and wants to save and He saves even the worst sinner. Praise the Lord for it.

By God's mercy and with the Lord's help, we fixed a class for the Sunday school in Borivka. The Komarivka church members took part in it; they join the Borivka believers and together made a great gift for Borivka church. We finished the inside repair work, and we need to fix the outside, and especially we need to repair the façade of the building. This work needs a lot of human power and finances. So we are praying and asking you also to help us in supporting this work. Thanks a lot for your help and care. Let God bless you.

Komarivka, Borivka March 2009

One very special event happened for our Sunday school kids, an event for which the children had been waiting almost two months. On the property of one Kiev church during spring break a children's festival took place. Most exciting for them was the number of kids from all over Ukraine, almost 1,200 of them. The children received great pleasure from talking to each other and from the many different programs prepared for them for that day. Almost all of the kids expressed a desire to continue having such meetings in the future.



When we were traveling back home after the two-day festival, the children all sang Christian songs which they learned at the festival. Praise the Lord that He did this work for the children's good and for His glory.

And great thanks to you, also, for your prayers and for your participation. May God reward you back hundredfold.