

The Buykos 4th Quarter Report, 2016

October

Autumn of this year has been full of important events, notably the opening of the new church on the opposite side of Bilogorodka. Even before the official opening service, the building had already been used for three ministries. First, the Harvest festival, which attracted about 200 people. The musical program included a church youth choir from the "Temple of Salvation" church from Pukhova Street [in Kiev]. People were pleased to hear the choir's good singing, plus other musical numbers. For example, a trio of young males; Michael Klim played saxophone, and Nazar sang solo. Samuel Slobodian demonstrated masterly use of the trumpet and glorified God.

Everyone enjoyed a small lunch of snacks and hot drinks before the beginning of the service.

It was full service, attended not only by Samuel Slobodian, president of the BIEM mission but also pastor Nicholai Velichko. Eugene led the service and also preached. The closing message came from the president of the brotherhood of churches, Sergey Shaptala.

In the middle of the service Samuel Slobodian and Anatoly Dmitrievich Kosyanchuk (pastor on the other side of town) prayed over the food and the Bible and gave thanks for the harvest that God has given us this year, and after the service there was a dinner, for which almost everyone remained. Thank God that He gave us help for this. Sisters from the first Baptist church in Bilogorodka prepared the meal.

Almost a week before this service, my mother and I sent text messages to the children and some of their parents who had attended our summer camp. We said that we were inviting their families to the feast of the Harvest, and to the children's program, which would be held in the afternoon.

Praise God, about 10 unsaved children from the camp came, as well as the children of the choir members. For children there was planned a mini-quest for prizes and sweets. The tasks were a bit funny and interesting. For example, they had to sing a song they had learned "I Am a Little Lamb" with corn sticks in their mouth. It was funny, and the kids ate more of these sticks and laughed. There was also the task of writing their names with a marker. It sounds simple, but it was not: they had to do it with their toes. Those who wrote their name well enough so that you could understand it received some tasty prizes. There were many games and relay races, and the kids liked it.

The second service [this month] was also quite good. Of course, we knew that few people would come, but, praise God, there were about 22, maybe more. My father, and Anatoly Dmitrievich and Alexander Esik, and the pastor of the first church on the other side of town, Anatoly Kosyanchuk, preached the Word, and between them we learned new songs in Ukrainian:

Eugene played the guitar and we sang. Initially, some people were a little shy to sing and did not know how, but then the atmosphere warmed up and everyone enjoyed it.

For the third service we brought a synthesizer to the church and sang to two musical instruments.

There were again about 20 people. This service has already enjoyed quite a family atmosphere, and even took up offerings. Roman Cauka was appointed to oversee church finances, and he also preached the Word.

I hope that in this house of prayer, more and more people will come to God, and especially we would like to see children coming to services.

Thank you for prayer, financial and moral support. May God bless you.

November

This month there was a biblical quest in Zdolbunov, which all of our family visited. The basis of the quest was the Gospel of John. Some people learned it by heart. The aim was to test their knowledge of the Bible and refresh their faith. Many young people traveled to this event for the first time. Everyone enjoyed the day, despite the unfavorable cold weather. There was delicious food, good conditions for sleep, fine singing... All of these things will leave many good memories in the young people.

As for the services in the new church in Bilogorodka, we have moved into the main auditorium, now that the room is now finished, thanks to your financial and moral assistance. Grandfather Vasya is very pleased even though he does not have God in his heart, because he played a big part in helping to construct the new church building. He sits and listens, but not on the front row, and now he begins to join us in singing.

Christian women who come to us from the neighboring village of Bobritsa invited our family to take part in an evangelistic service, dedicated to the Harvest holiday. Anatoly Dmitrievich Kosyanchuk participated in the service, and so did our family. Eugene preached and prayed over the bread. Salomia played the saxophone. After the service, we distributed Christian literature that was obtained with your help [BIEM], thank you.

Please pray for those people who for the first time have attended a service and have heard the Word of God, that it will yield fruit. Please also pray for our church on the other side of Bilogorodka, that God would draw new people to attend, and that the church would see more people come to repentance.

Thank you for your support.

December

A whirlwind of preparations preceded the Christmas holidays. Our workmen were trying to finish the main auditorium [of the new church building] to make it attractive. We wanted to hold our Christmas services in that auditorium, where they could have piano accompaniment. Then we received a phone call about a German piano for sale. When we talked to the owners, they said that a week ago the piano was priced at 10,000 *griven* [Ukrainian currency], but that day they were willing to sell it for 3,000 because they had sold the apartment and had to turn over the keys that very night.

As it turns out, the woman who was selling the first piano (the German one) for her mother said her mother was a teacher at a music school, and she was very fond of this

instrument. Because the mother loved it, and it was expensive—made in Germany—the owner wanted it to end up in good hands. We explained that it will definitely be in good hands, as it would be used in the auditorium of a Baptist church. When she called back, she said that her mother agreed, and we could buy it. We started looking for piano movers.

Then we remembered that Masha, a former employee of the BIEM mission, had offered to donate a piano for free whenever we had to move some large cargo (or, as it turned out, a second piano) from Kiev. Masha was even willing to pay for moving the piano. Here's the story: A year ago, one Sunday afternoon, Masha telephoned and told about a sad event that had happened in their family: Her grandmother had died, and that night an Orthodox priest had instructed to put a lit candle near her portrait. The candle had melted and tipped over and caught the portrait on fire and scorched the top of the piano. They were all fast asleep, but the dog climbed onto Masha's bed and began barking to wake her. When Masha got up, she saw a fog of smoke, which rose to the ceiling.

When we drove there in the afternoon, Masha gathered their friends and relatives, mother, sister, and others. We read the Bible and prayed, as they were very shook up. But, thank God, they are alive, that there was no fire. And during the conversation with Masha, we learned that they didn't need that piano and that Masha wanted to donate it. We explained that we were in the midst of constructing a church, and that there was no place to put it right at that moment. That piano would need to wait a little longer.

So then came the moment when we had an opportunity to fetch both pianos in one van. We picked up the first piano, and then drove to the home of Masha for the other. So we returned to the church with two pianos. Experienced pianists declared that both pianos are very high quality and worthwhile instruments.

Therefore, praise God, that He has blessed the church, and BIEM has helped with the purchase.

The Eugene Buyko Family





Запрошення ^{на} Різдвяну постанову для дітей

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Будемо раді Вас бачити!





