



The Fomichovs

2nd Quarter Report, 2019

April

“... love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” (John 13:34-35)



We had a good opportunity to hold a combined Easter service with the church in Chernigov. This required much organizing, but the goal was very plain. We wanted this ministry to bring forth fruit. We desire for the pure Gospel always to go out from the pulpit, so that people can receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We want believers to utilize their gifts in ministry for the Lord. We also want to be good testimonies for the world around us. It was quite an unforgettable service, and many good and deep conversations took place.

After the service we had a combined meal, where we could eat and fellowship. Afterward we had a time of games and of walks, where there was a special atmosphere around the church. Passersby could see how joyfully the people of the church of various ages spend time. But there was one other event that happened, and that was important, too.

Roma

When Roma ended up in the army, it wasn't own choice. He had a clear understanding that he had desire to take up arms and kill people. He refused to military oath and didn't want to say it in front of all soldiers, because of what's written in the Word of His behavior resulted in many various reactions, both the commanders and among the soldiers of his own

Roma began boldly telling everyone that he is believer. They started to work on him, and he was summoned to the procurator's office, where the investigator began to work with him. The investigator



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was a man who was raised in an Orthodox home, so he has respect for other people's faith. That investigator was acquainted with one brother from our church, and he told him about Roma. He suggested to Roma that he should visit our church, and if he would like to attend, then he would help him to get permission to come to services every Sunday. So Roma attended our church for a year and a half. This Easter service was his last service with us.

Roma has been a very humble brother and was a big blessing for us. During his service in the army he demonstrated himself to be a hardworking guy, which put him in good relations with the commanders, and he even received the title of soldier. During this time Roma witnessed to his military peers and invited them to come to our services. He declared that for him it was a blessing that there is a church in Desna and that he could attend it. In his own words, he said, "You all have been a blessing to me. After all, in the army it's not easy to be a faithful Christian. There is much evil, and injustice, much sin. For me, the church was a big support. I could come and draw strength.

I know that the church in Desna began its work thanks to you, my dear brothers and sisters. And you are so faithful in your prayers. May God bless you.

Prayer requests:

1. Pray for God to change the situation in our country, and that any soldier could have freedom to come to church.
2. Pray for growth of the church, that God will draw new people to the church.

May

A Lesson from Sunday School

What really causes a pastor's heart to rejoice is when the church grows, when people come to worship services and they serve God. When it's evident how God changing people's lives. These things cause joy and encouragement. ☺ Something else that brings joy is when you see how a Sunday school lesson is going, and atmosphere is very relaxed. When the children joyfully down on the trampoline and listen to a lesson on the life Christ. Seeing this reminded me of the relaxed atmosphere, when Jesus taught people as they sat on a mountainside. And He fellowshiped with them, taught them, fed them, and spoke words of life to them. This is how our Sunday school lesson went this Saturday, where the children listened to words about our Lord and Savior.



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Soldiers

Here's an interesting story of something that happened. Five soldiers from various cities in Ukraine began coming to our services. The Lord so blessed that all five of them ended up here together for their military service, and all five wanted to attend church. When they were marched past us to the

military showers, they saw our church building. They talked to their commander and told him they would like to go to this church.

He gave permission and said, “I went to Sunday school in my childhood, and I know the pastor and many people from the church.”



He told them quite a bit about our church. He said that, from his side of things, he would not be opposed to their attending church. So now they have been coming every Sunday for several months. Together with us, they pray and praise our Savior. Recently I ran into their main commander, who was at the war in eastern Ukraine and received a serious wound. I had been acquainted with him even before I trusted Christ. I decided not to pass up the opportunity to thank him for not forbidding his men from visiting our church. He was surprised that I know, and then he began to ask many questions.

“Why don’t they want to bear arms, and how does God look on this?”

And perhaps he was pretending that he didn’t know how I became a pastor, but I decided to remind him of my testimony and happily told about how God saved me. I didn’t need to tell him how I had lived in sin. He already knew that. With joy, I shared the Gospel with him. I told how I had been perishing and how God saved me and gave me a new life. I said that there is such a thing as eternity, and that I hoped God would reveal Himself, since more than one time he had looked death in the eye at the war.

Pray with us:

1. For the growth of the church.
2. That the soldiers will have the opportunity to come to church.
3. Pray for our preparations for camp and holding it.

June



The Summer camp in Smolin

The residents of Goncharovsk are growing in trust toward the believers of our team with each day. Therefore, it is with pleasure that the school and the mayor invite us to hold a day camp on the property of the local government school. Although the opponents to Christianity express their resentment, nobody pays attention to their opinions.

This year there were around 150 children who came to the camp. And we joyfully told them the Gospel and about how important it is to study the Word of God for their lives. We had Bible lessons and

sang Christian songs. In this camp, I was the leader of our team, which consisted of 32 people. Over the course of all these days we chatted with them and tried to witness of Jesus Christ. We did handcrafts with the kids and played games and gave them treats and spent time with them. The children always had many questions and much energy, which they don't know how to spend. It was an unforgettable time in this camp, and the children could listen to the Gospel. We invited them to pray, and they did pray. We believe that, in the future, God will complete this initial work that has begun in their lives.



Pray for the ministry in Goncharovsk, that God will draw the saved to the church, and that the ministry will grow.

Pray for the children and their parents, that they will come to salvation.

P.S. When we began the work in Goncharovsk, there was no church or Sunday school there. Now a Sunday school has been operating there for many years, and there is already a church. Many of the children who came to camp say that their parents know us and send greetings. And we pondered how we are planting, and each generation receives us more and more warmly, and it's easier for us to build relationships. We see how the sown seeds are growing.

The day camp in Smolin

In Smolin there were many difficulties and obstacles when ministry began there. This year there were 36 children in the camp, and the children were open, although there were some other kids who would ride past on their bicycles and feared to come into the yard even though we called out and invited them. Probably the parents forbade them from coming.

We see how God is working, and we can witness about Jesus Christ there. This year the parents themselves brought their children, and we had opportunities to get acquainted with the parents. The parents would walk up to us and say how excited their kids were about the camp. We told the kids the Gospel and sang Christian songs, taught them to make handcrafts that they could take home and show their parents. All the kids in camp prayed, and for us this was a big testimony. We prayed that there would be fruit.



Pray with us for the ministry in the village of Smolin, that God will establish a church there and begin a Sunday school.

Respectfully,
Igor Fomichov