



**Yurchenko**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, 2019**

**April**



God provides for our needs and answers our prayers! With these words, I want to begin this letter. When I left for the USA, our theater group urged me, if it was at all possible, to bring back a new laptop computer. With that charge, they let me leave on this trip, with hope and prayer that the Lord would hear their prayers.

When I returned from the USA, the first thing I did was to encourage our puppet team by letting them know I'd brought back a new, powerful, modern laptop computer. We are very thankful to brother Eric, who sacrificed his own money for this. We needed

this laptop so badly, because our ancient notebook computer was so old it refused to work anymore. Praise the Lord, and a huge thanks to Eric! Now, with this new laptop, our ministry to children will be more joyful and effective!

After a fruitful January full of ministry, our puppet theater did not put on any presentations for two months. During this time they engaged in rehearsals, we looked for new shows to put on, and they practiced and prepared themselves for new presentations.

Recently we were invited back to a home for handicapped children in Potievka, and also to an orphanage/school for handicapped children who have mental disabilities in Mostyschi. We have already been to each these children's homes several times. For children like these, you need a special way of capturing their interest, and it's not easy to maintain that attention. Many social services and various organizations that aid children



decline to work with such kids. When we met these children the first time, it was very complicated for us, too. We had a hard time holding the kids' interest. We weren't prepared for working with such kids. But the Lord gave us wisdom and strength not to give up, but to continue ministry to such kids. Each time we go, we do better in working with them. We treat them like normal kids. We preach the Gospel via a theatrical production. For them, this is understandable and on their level. The children listen very attentively and understand what they hear. Praise the Lord for that!

Please pray for these children. And pray for us, that the Lord will give us wisdom to minister to such kids. Pray for the workers in these children's homes, for them to be saved. Thank you very much for your prayers and support, for your loving and sacrificial hearts. May the Lord bless you!

### May 2019

This month our puppet theater traveled 6 times to minister to children in various places. These were good trips. The Lord blessed abundantly. There were many interesting moments, new acquaintances, meetings with various people, and testimonies of the grace of God.

The trip to Gardeevka was particularly memorable. This was a long drive, beyond Zhitomir. A small church invited us to do an evangelistic performance for children. The meeting with the children went well. The kids were attentive, and everyone received us well. Even the teens were active and attentive; it was obvious that everything interested them. Several children prayed a prayer for salvation. At the end, we asked if that day was anyone's birthday. Several people raised their hands, and we gave them gifts. While we were packing up our things to leave, one girl walked up to us and said that she had deceived us and asked for forgiveness. It wasn't really her birthday, but she wanted a gift so urgently that she lied. She wanted to return the gift, which she had received through a deception. But we decided to leave her the gift while complimenting her for her honesty. How nice it is to see when children have an understanding of sin and of incorrect actions, plus the boldness to confess it. The local church received us, then we ate lunch and fellowshiped. This church has no pastor. Please pray for the Lord to send them a pastor.

When we were in a different school in Karashina, after the service something interesting happened. We stepped out for a cup of coffee in a local café. Near the café sat a couple of guys. According to the locals, these were alcoholics who often drink alcoholic drinks there. We struck up a conversation with them. They got interested when they heard they we'd put on a puppet show in the school. They asked questions about our faith. We witnessed to him quite a bit. We also showed them an illusion [magic trick] using a cross. In a container we had a dark liquid symbolizing our sin. When we placed the cross into this liquid, the liquid became clear. We explained how Christ cleanses us from sin. While we talked with them, other people also came over to watch. We ended up holding a mini-evangelism near the café. We invited these people to



visit the local church. Please pray for these people who heard the Gospel, that they will come to believe.

Summer has just begun. Before us are many plans concerning ministry to children, many various children's camp and events. Please pray about this, that the Lord will bless these ministries. And pray for brother Anatoly, that the Lord will strengthen him. Since his operation, he sometimes feels poorly. Also, his minivan, with which he often serves the children's ministry, has started to break down frequently. He needs finances to repair it. Now he is doing body repair work on it, and that is costly. If you are inclined to help with that repair cost, Anatoly will be very glad and thankful.

Thank you very much, dear friends, for your prayers and financial support. Thanks to you, the children's ministry is being done in our church. May the Lord bless you!

## June

This month turned out very hard for me. For two weeks I was sick. It was quite a setback, with high fever. I had to spend nearly the whole time that I was sick on my bed. Because of that, for those two weeks I wasn't able to be active in ministry. I gradually began to recover, and then



I was able to perform wedding ceremonies with a scratchy throat for two young couples. But the Lord blessed and strengthened me.

On the first Sunday of the month, when I was feeling very bad, Eugene Buyko and his family visited our church. They conducted the entire service. Eugene preached and then led in the Lord's Supper. Their children sang and performed on musical instruments. It's wonderful when you have such friends and coworkers of the mission who can support and assist at any moment. In Chervona Sloboda they really

love the Buyko family, and the church is glad whenever they come. One sister in Christ told me that, for her, the Buyko family is like an example of dedication. The children are humble and well-behaved. We praise the Lord for Eugene and his family.

Now we're preparing for a children's camp that will take place in the beginning of July.

Thank you very much, dear friends, for your prayers and material support! Thanks to your assistance, we can serve the Lord here in Ukraine more effectively. May the Lord bless you!

Please pray for the ministry in Chervona Sloboda, for the puppet ministry, and for the salvation of sinners.

Sincerely yours,  
Vitaly Yurchenko

