



BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

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March-April, 2017

“That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.” I Corinthians 2:5

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Praise God for His saving grace and for the privilege of being able to serve Him in these interesting and eventful times. As we see the political struggles of our country and the conflicts which plague Ukraine and other places we are reminded that our hope is not in human leaders but in the Lord God Almighty who never fails and has a purpose and plan for every person and every nation.

In March and April, we once again had a couple of our Ukrainian church planters come to the United States and travel with us to report to supporting churches. This time, it was Vitaly Bilyak, a church planter in Ternopil, which is in Western Ukraine and Eugene Buyko from Kiev who is planting a church in nearby Bilogorodka. God blessed our meetings in New Jersey, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan and Pennsylvania as folks were encouraged by the reports of the souls being saved and of their churches going forward. Despite the language barrier, Vitaly and Eugene's zeal for the Lord and enthusiasm for their missionary work was clearly evident. These men returned home encouraged by the warmth and interest that was expressed to them and very thankful that some key ministry needs were met through these meetings.

One of the highlights of this time was to have a good group of volunteers come to our headquarters on two separate occasions and work together with our Ukrainian brethren in loading a container bound for Ukraine. This particular container had not only hundreds of boxes of clothing, shoes and medical supplies but also some wheel chairs and bicycles which are always eagerly received. There was also a few hundred donated Bibles as well as items needed in new churches like tables, folding chairs, musical instruments, and a pulpit. We also loaded 200 stacking chairs purchased on eBay. The container is due in the port city on June 1st and we hope to have the 200 chairs in place for the dedication of the new church in Bilogorodka scheduled for June 18th. It is not going to be easy to clear customs and transport all these items in time so please pray that our brethren are able to navigate this shipment through Ukrainian customs quickly and that there would be no delays.

April 30th was a wonderful Sunday for the church in Bilogorodka. Another man who was very much involved in the construction was saved! Not only is this the second soul saved in this new church but brother Vasily is the father-in-law of the church planter Eugene Buyko. As you can imagine Sophia and the whole family were thrilled. Vasily had looked upon Christians with skepticism for 17 years. Nevertheless he was brought to Christ through the relationships developed by working hand in hand with believers in building the church. Praise God for his saving grace!

Finally please pray with us for the funds still needed for this summer's camping programs. Each year we sponsor more than 20 camps with a total of around 2,000 campers. Each summer we have seen hundreds saved through these efforts as well as many other life-changing decisions. We hope to once again conduct a special camp for Downs Syndrome children and their parents. However, we are behind where we normally are in raising the \$40,000 needed for this summer's efforts. As of right now we need \$23,000 to be able to conduct summer camps at the same level as we did last year. Please pray for this need and consider contributing to this project if you are able. Thank-you for your partnership in this ministry through prayers and support and may God bless and strengthen each of you in your service for Him.

The Slobodians

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"...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." Mark 16:15