

## BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

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## March-April, 2011

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Phil. 1:6

## **Dear Pastors and Friends,**

It is a blessing to greet you in the name of Christ and bring you this update on the work of planting churches in Eastern Europe. We thank God for each of you who support us through your faithful prayers and giving. The economy in the U.S. can certainly be described as difficult and uncertain. Since some supporters have found it necessary to cut back, we are especially thankful for those who continue to make this ministry possible, and we praise God for the continued open door to reach souls and plant churches in needy places.

During the month of March it was a blessing to be able to have a couple of our Ukrainian church planters with us in a number of churches. Whenever we reported to churches, we showed pictures of nationals who are the fruits of the missionary effort these churches are supporting. In this way, churches were able to meet face to face with these dedicated servants. As Sam translated for these men, it was evident that their enthusiasm and love for God's work touched the heart of God's people in a special way. As God blessed these meetings, we have determined that we need to do this more often so that every supporting church has an opportunity to have such first-hand fellowship with those overseas who have been raised up through this ministry.

We are also glad to report that towards the end of March, we were able to ship our latest container to Ukraine. The size of this 40 foot long container enabled us to load it with an amazing amount of clothing, toys, medical supplies, Gospel literature, and church planting supplies such as pulpits, chairs, tables and other donated church furnishings. Pray for the safe passage of this container that is due to arrive in May. Along with all this, the container also included furniture and items like ping-pong, foosball, and air-hockey tables to equip our Serviceman's Center on the Ukrainian military base we have been reporting about. Praise God for the salvation of Anton, a young soldier recently reached through this new outreach. Pray for his growth and for the salvation of many others soldiers we hope to win to Christ.

Pray as well for Nikolai and Valera Ryzhuk (brothers), our church-planters in Belarus as they are currently holding special evangelistic meetings. Please pray for these meetings which they conduct at risk since they have been arrested, tried in court, and fined once before for such activities.

Finally, please pray about joining us for our special jubilee conference celebrating 30 years of BIEM ministry, which will be held in Kiev, Ukraine September 16, 17 & 18. Please consider joining us on either the 11-day or 15-day mission trip highlighting this event. Contact us for more information. May God bless each and every one of you!

The Slobodians