



CHURCH PLANTING IN UKRAINE
2nd Quarter 2009 Report

Komarivka & Borivka, Ukraine
April 2009

By God's mercy this month we connected gas to the prayer house in Komarivka. We've waited for it a long time, prayed that God would help us with it, and with God's support we have gas heating. Also this month we celebrated the joyful holiday of Christ's resurrection. We prepared very hard; both kids and adults made a holiday program. Two churches gathered on this day. Christian kids from Sunday school and people we invited from Borivka went to the church in Komarivka. (We organized this trip). We held a combined service, and kids from both Sunday schools took a part in it. Some unbelievers came, plus children's parents and neighbors. It was a great feast for the soul—joyful meetings, and conversations, it was a planting of a seed of God's love. We thank the Lord for His mercy and care for us.

We thank you also for your brotherly support and for your prayers. May God reward you one hundredfold.

Bilgorodka
April 2009

This month one very joyful event took place: one sister repented during a funeral which was conducted by our church. She was touched by the singing and lyrics of psalms we sang during the funeral ceremony. After the invitation that we gave at that ceremony, she came to the prayer house; she attended a service and asked for a psalm book which we use for singing. She read the song book and New Testament she bought before, and by God's mercy her eyes opened and she repented and received the Lord as her Savior. So through singing and lyrics, this sister found the Lord.

Also this month we have done a very important thing for the Lord's house which we have needed to do for a long while: we made a borehole for water, with Lord's help, and now our church has its own clear water for use. We need only to buy equipment and turn it on, because before we used store water.

Praise the Lord for all His goodness in the prayer house and among God's children. We thank you for your support for your prayers and your work.

May God bless you with all His blessings.

Bilgorodka
May 2009

We've already written to you about the village of Bilgorodka and about its believers. Now we've learned some new facts and want to share them with you.

Three kilometers from Zhitomirske highway and almost up to the town of Boyarka is where the village of Bilgorodka is situated. People have lived here for about 1000 years near the River Irpin. Old chronicles say that here, in the time of Kieven princes' conflicts, Prince Vasilko was arrested and unfairly blamed for treason. He was driven to Bilgorod, 15 kilometers from Kiev (that was the old

name for Bilogorodka), and he was blinded at night in prison, then taken back to his hometown of Vasilkiv.

There have been many dark pages in the history of Bilogorodka. The surrounding area included old pagan altars. Sometimes, various extrasensory people and different ghost finders come here to “charge up” with the power of ancestors’ spirits. In the middle of the nineteenth century an evangelical awakening grew in Ukraine. Brothers Balaban and Liaskivskii preached at Kiev State, and the first Shtundist church was formed in the village of Tarashcha. That’s when the first sparks of spiritual awakening were carried to Bilogorodka.

In spite of the tsar’s regime, the Bilogorodka church contained about 100 people at the beginning of the twentieth century. Many different trials occurred in the lives of believers. Revolution, civil war, years of atheism and Stalin’s dictatorship, World War II from 1941-1945. But the biggest attack on this community by ungodly authorities came in 1948-1949. The church was destroyed and its pastor, Ivanov I.D., was condemned to ten years of prison. Church members partially dispersed to different churches and partially joined the Gorenichi church. When the USSR broke up, churches began reopening in many villages and towns. So at the end of 1992 and in the beginning of 1993, workers of the Boyarka’s Bible Library who worked in Bilogorodka spoke many times with the village’s believers about establishing a church here. In 1993 believers began meeting in a private home. Then they went to a temporary building on a piece of land which authorities gave them for prayer house. Then, with God’s help and with the participation of brotherly churches, the current church building was constructed. Now, like as in former times, God’s fire is flaming in Bilogorodka; a community of believers lives. The renewal of a once-destroyed church has taken place. And praise the Lord that now living testimony is once more sounding on old Bilogordka’s land.

We thank you also sincerely for your prayers and your support.
May God bless you.

Borivka and Komarivka May 2009

By God’s mercy, a very interesting evangelical service took place this month in Borivka. We invited for this ministry a group from Lipivka village that attends church and praises the Lord on a high musical level. When they arrived, we prepared a place near our prayer house for holding this service. Komarivka’s church members came with the Sunday school kids.

We invited people and children from Borivka, and by the Lord’s mercy a big gathering of people resulted. People especially began coming after they heard live Christian music. Those who were passing by on the street stopped and entered the yard and listened to the singing, God’s Word, and music. People cried when they saw and heard children who were worshipping God; adults looked at their behavior in comparison with the kids of this world. When it was time to finish our service, people were still coming. At the end of service, we held conversations with people. They were interested in the ministry, asking questions about Christ, about faith and the children’s service. Praise the Lord that He given us such a wonderful ministry and this possibility of conversing.

Now we’re praying about having more such services, and we want to hold the next one at Komarivka. May God bless you with His heavenly blessings.

Sincere thanks to you for your care.



*Anatoly and Deacon holding gospel tracts
for the evangelistic outreach*

Bilogorodka
June 2009

The deeds of God are great and wonderful. And God demonstrated that at one event which took place at our church. At the beginning of the month one elderly lady visited our morning Sunday service; she had never been here before. She attentively listened to the sermon and looked around with much attention. She studied everyone who was at service. After the service, one of our ministers approached her and asked whether she had any questions, and she said that she wanted to ask some questions to the pastor of the church. After a second visit she asked about conversation with the ministers. After we started talking, we realized that that soul was lost but God according to His great mercy and love called her out of this evil world. Now she is seventy-seven years old. She was born into a Christian's family. Her father was a first music director in 1920, and in the following years until 1941, when he was captured in World War II, and he never came back. After the war, Stalin's regime forbade youth from attending church and tried to get the youth out of Church using various methods and promising "golden mountains." So that woman went to the world and her destiny waited for her. She tried to find believers many times, to feel the same rest as she recalled from childhood, but the Devil made many barriers. Time passed, and in her old age she came to the prayer house with her old father's New Testament, which was given him by a pastor in 1922. She was full of sorrow, tears and sadness.

We talked, cried together, and prayed and rejoiced that our God is wonderful, merciful, and loving One. Praise Him for everything.

We thank you also for your care and your prayers for us.