



The Petrenkos in Ukraine

4th Quarter Report, 2020

October

Hello, dear brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ!

I'd like to share with you some of these blessed experiences that God has allowed us to enjoy in this month.

To start off, I'd like to thank each of you who prays for us and participates in the ministry in Goncharovsk-Smolin. We constantly sense your role in our combined ministry before the Lord.

God continues to bless the construction of the church building in Smolin, and we have come to the raising of the walls. The building is starting to take shape. This gives us delight in our Great God. We are holding services there; so, we have put up a temporary tent, and now each of us can plunge into the atmosphere of the Old Testament, when Israel wandered and dwelled in tents. This is an interesting experience for our church, and it shows us God's faithfulness and our faithfulness in our desire to worship Him regardless of the place or conditions. For the people who live around there, this is also a testimony of how important for us it is to praise God no matter what.



In addition, it's a great blessing for each of us to see how the church building is growing before our eyes, and we look forward to that time when we will be able to praise the Lord there. We pray that the Lord will save souls in this place.

Also, as I wrote to you before, I ran for the office of city deputy [a political office, not law enforcement], and we prayed that if this were the will of God that people would vote for me. We had the election, and people voted for me, and then I accordingly went on to become one of the city deputies. Now, it's important for me to know what God wants to do through me in this responsibility. I believe that nothing in our lives simply happens and that we can use every situation for the glory of God.

Please pray for these needs:

1. For the continuation of the construction of the prayer house and for favorable weather.
2. For all of our health.
3. For everyone who participates in this ministry.

That is what kind of month we've had. Thank you for being with us!

November

Hello, dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus!

We would like to share with you some experiences which God has led us through this past month.

First of all, I'll mention that the family of Eugene Buyko [BIEM's director in Ukraine] has a very good, biblical, tradition of visiting other churches. These are not simply visits, the Buyko family takes active part in church services using the talents that the Lord has given to them. Before one such church service, I had invited our neighbor, Yura, to come and bring his family. This was an excellent service to God's glory. At one point, Yura pulled out his cell phone and began to film how the Buyko family played and sang to the praise of God! Several days after that service, Yura bumped into me on the street and told me that, when he got home that Sunday, he showed his parents and his wife the video that he had taped at our service. Judging by his words, he had really enjoyed the service and his loved ones enjoyed what they saw, too. He also declared that he will be coming to our worship services. We need to pray for him and his family, that God will continue to work in his heart and will call him to repentance.

Another big blessing for us is that the construction on the prayer house in Smolin is continuing. The walls are nearly completed, and the building is taking shape. It's very funny to watch people who constantly admire the building, and nearly all of them stop and ask what we are building. ☺



This is indeed a good location for a church. We're already praying that God will work in people, so that when the building is done, God will fill it with newly saved souls.

That is how our month has been. Please pray for these needs:

1. For the construction of the new church building.
2. For good weather, so that construction will not stop.
3. That God will bless those who are praying and giving for this project.
4. For everyone's health.

Allow me to thank you once again for your role in our combined ministry for the Lord!

December

Greetings to you, dear brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ!

I'd like to share with you some of those blessings that we have experienced in this month.

First, I'd like to say that this month was a bit difficult, since Covid-19 struck our family. Ira got sick first, but then the kids and I also became ill. We were sick with it for about 14 days. But praise God, we got better! We waited it out at home, for which we give thanks to God!



Also, God blessed us with favorable weather for pouring the last of the concrete work. The forecast had been for freezing weather, and when I arrived at the church, Lyosha (the main builder) told me that we needed to decide whether to leave the construction until springtime or to continue. I told him we would pray concerning the weather and God would see to it. Praise

God! He answered and sent us good weather so that the construction process on the church in Smolin did not have to stop. In addition, with your help, we were able to obtain the boards for the roof, and now we can proceed with constructing the roof.

We were able to complete the work connected with pouring cement. God answers prayer, and this was such an encouragement for the church and a testimony to those around us.

Another blessing of this month was that the church invited unbelievers and celebrated Christmas. One man came to the service. He had already suffered a stroke and didn't feel well, but he was there and heard the Gospel along with the Christmas story.

That's the kind of month we had. Please pray concerning the following needs:

1. For our health.
2. For the construction of the church building.
3. For those who heard the Gospel to accept Christ.
4. For the Lord to send more favorable weather.

Thanks be to God for all blessings and to you for your involvement in our ministry for the Lord! May the Lord bless you!

Sasha Petrenko

