



The Kosyanchuks in Bilogorodka, Ukraine

1st Quarter Report, 2023

January 2023

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27

Last year was very difficult for Ukraine: our country was attacked by an enemy, and there has been a war in it for almost a year. Many people have died, and even more are injured. But even those whose property and external health have remained intact bear a great burden of worry and sorrow, both for the country and for their own lives. Thanks be to God, who has not left us alone with our troubles. He cares about us, helping us in everyday life, and the main proof of His love is His death for our salvation, through which a person can gain that real peace and tranquility, which he needs, and a door to this event is Christ’s birth!

Therefore, even in such difficult circumstances, we continue to labor, and for the Christmas holidays this year, with God’s help, we wanted to bring the Good News that they so desperately need to every child and their relatives. On January 7, we held a Children’s Christmas Service in our local church. Despite the constant threat of air raids, the danger of rocket attacks, and regular blackouts, many children and their relatives wanted to be at this event. They were asking when it would take place. Unfortunately, due to the flu, which worsened during this period, not everyone was able to come. But up to 60 children and their families gathered in the auditorium of the church. Together we sang, played fun games, watched a Christmas play, and learned about the meaning of Christmas for us during this difficult period. At the end, the children had a great time as they received nutritious treats and gifts. Many of the children’s relatives expressed great thanks for the wonderful holiday, as well as for everything the children received.

Traditionally, we have invited children to come to Sunday school and teens to socials held in our local church. And what was very comforting, unlike in previous years, some of the children came the next day!

We sincerely thank you, dear brothers and sisters, for your sacrifice, for taking care of us, who are at a great physical distance from you. But in Christ we are close to you! Thanks to your help, in such difficult times children can have joyful moments and hear about the One who wants to give them salvation and hope, even in a seemingly hopeless situation. Your funds helped us to hold this holiday, as well as to repair the video projector, which serves us a lot in the children's ministry, both at Christmas and throughout the year. May the Lord richly bless each of you and provide for all your needs!

Amen!

February

Even through difficult and challenging life circumstances, we see God's immeasurable love, mercy, and fatherly care for each soul, even when that soul has gone astray.

This month there was great joy for the church: the return of a "sheep that was lost" and had wandered for 18 years. This sister had repented and been baptized while she was studying at the university. The church loved her, helped her, and took care of her. But when the girl graduated from her educational institution, she wanted independence, first from her parents. She went to live with her grandmother, who is not a believer, but her parents are believers. Then she married an unbeliever against the advice of her parents and of the church and began to live a secular life.

But it didn't last long, because her grandmother died, and then she went to court with her husband for several years to get rid of her marriage. From there, everything in her life "went downhill," as she said. She very rarely attended church. There were tears in her eyes and sadness in her soul.

Next, her mother became seriously ill, and she began to take care of her. She began to come more often to the church. After the mother passed into eternity, she soon came to the service with bitter tears, repented before the Lord and the church, and sincerely asked to be accepted as a member of the church. Tears of joy flowed from the eyes of many church members that day because "a prodigal had returned."

Sincere praise and thanks to you, dear brothers and sisters, for your brotherly love in Jesus Christ, for your care, support and help, for your prayers and the sincerity of your souls towards us.

God bless you.

Amen.

March

Thank God that, with His blessing and your support, we were able to hold a service for ladies in the local church and held such a service in the village of Radinka, near the Chernobyl zone. (Twenty women were present there.)

It was a mercy from God to see the joyful faces of the women who were at the services. They expressed great gratitude that in these troubled days, when life is difficult in our country, they were not forgotten and were not left without attention and care.

There were more than twenty unsaved women and up to twenty believing sisters at our service.

The non-believing women were very grateful for the Word of God, because almost all of them had not read it and did not know that the Lord through the Holy Scriptures also addresses women personally. This surprised them.

After the service, there was wonderful fellowship between believers and non-believers.

One unbelieving woman testified that this was the first time in her life she was with believers and in their church building. After she had received an invitation, she tried to imagine for several days what it would be like there, what would happen there, what horrors awaited her. But now, after everything she heard and saw, she expressed her thanks with tears of joy for this wonderful, as she called, "holiday."

Thank God we had an opportunity to offer Christian literature to everyone who wanted it. Thank you very much for the New Testaments in the Ukrainian language. Also, young women with children accepted children's Bibles, also in Ukrainian.

It was really a wonderful holiday, and they asked me to remember them again if possible.

We sincerely thank the Lord for giving us this opportunity and for your help and support in holding this service and for the gifts that we were able to give to everyone who attended this event.

May the Lord bless you abundantly with His heavenly blessings.

Amen.