



## The Buykos

### 4th Quarter Report, 2019

#### October

One of the blessings for our church is to have sisters' meetings. This is a time when the sisters of the church have informal gatherings, where they pray, sing, share their ministry experiences, their family relationships, and discuss questions of importance to them.

At our most recent gathering we had a visitor, Amy Slobodian, and about 15 sisters from our church. For this day, in preparation for the holiday dinner, brother-ministers were also there: They were preparing the meat for the sisters. Everything was prepared in such a way that all of us felt special and valued in God's eyes. On this evening, Amy led the spiritual time. She told about her ministry, about her children, about relationships within the family. Also, she talked about how a woman can support her husband.

In the course of the conversation, in which our sisters took an active part, Amy answered many questions. It's not every day that we have a chance to learn about how a Christian woman lives in another country, on another continent. This was a wonderful, lively fellowship filled with laughter, joy, and sincere praise for our Creator. More importantly, we understood that there are no particular differences between the women of different countries, if the Lord is living in their hearts and their gaze is on the heavens.

Praise God for this blessed time of fellowship!

Recently, one sister recalled this fellowship time, and she said that the verse Amy quoted as her favorite ("I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me, Phil. 4:13) had become precious to her! She expressed thanks once again for the sincerity and simplicity of this fellowship!

After camp [last summer], the older group began to visit the church. They like to fellowship and sing. Also, they helped at the Harvest holiday with putting up decorations and with the holiday dinner. They served tea or coffee to everyone. Now we want to arrange for them a girls' time (like the sisters' gathering, but for youth).



We request your prayers for this. We want them to find answers to their own questions and to draw closer to the Lord.

## November

On November 24 we held a sisters' fellowship in our church. To make this event memorable and special, we decorated the auditorium: we set up a photo zone with flowers and decorations, and for a masterclass we prepared the ingredients for preparing the Italian dessert "Tiramisu."



All the sisters came to this fellowship event dressed in sharp-looking clothes, and with enthusiastic moods.

One sister, upon entering the auditorium, declared she had never attended such a festive holiday event, and for her this was a great joy.

For the meal, each one of the sisters had prepared something, we ended up with a table covered with various tasty dishes.

Sofia Buyko led the spiritual part of the evening. Using the examples of women in the Holy Scriptures, she spoke on how each of us is unique and about our destination. Afterward, she suggested dividing into groups of 3 or 4 people so that the girls could share their prayer requests.

This was a big blessing! Because in this way there was a chance to chat about what concerned them the most and what needs they have, and there was also an opportunity to pray for those needs. The main thing is that those in each group were supposed to pray for the rest of the month concerning the needs shared in their group.



For instance, in my prayer group there were 4 people. One sister requested prayer for wisdom in raising her children and for her oldest son, who has gone the way of the world. The second for her spiritual condition, since she found little zeal in her heart for reading the Word of God. The third requested prayer for her sick sister.

For me personally, this practice of praying became a blessing. Each morning you pray, not only for your own needs, but first of all for the needs of your sisters in the Lord! Humility comes into your heart as you ponder that you're not the only one who has problems, that all around you are other people

who are in need of your prayerful support. A couple of days later, we called each other. Everyone said that they could feel the prayers of others.

Praise God for our sisterly fellowship, which not only brought joy to our hearts, but also united us in daily prayerful ministry for one another. Praise the Lord for our local church!

"I thank You, that You have made us brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. I thank you for the encouragement, support, investment, edification, and ministry to each other, for joint worship, study of the Word, and prayer, that we can have in the body of Christ.

## December

On the Saturday before Christmas in our church, we once again held a teen fellowship. The theme for it was “Christmas.”



Mostly teens girls came to it, but also several boys. Those who had come to previous fellowships helped to pack Christmas gifts for everyone. They were glad to help with this.

We watched a video about the true meaning of Christmas. It explained how the holiday isn't gifts and fir trees, but the birth of Jesus. Then we talked about account in the Bible and had a discussion on the topic “What Christmas is for us.” We also made crafts, decorating candles for the holiday.

What's interesting is that, two weeks before this we requested help from these teens to decorate the sanctuary for the holidays. The teens gladly responded, and a large number came, not for a teen fellowship but for that

Saturday. The teens helped to decorate a fir tree and the auditorium. Afterward they helped to take down everything and they asked when the next youth meeting on the theme of Christmas would be. Praise God, that He gives us the opportunity to hold such fellowships, where we can read the Bible and discuss various stories and their themes, to fellowship and spend time together to the glory of God!

We ask that you pray for these teens, that they will continue coming to church and will serve God.

Praise the Lord!

