



## The Fomichovs

### 4th Quarter Report, 2019 October

#### *Harvest Holiday*



Yet another year is passing, and once again we can celebrate the Harvest holiday. Many preparations are underway, and everyone in the church is waiting for this event. But not only because we knew we'd have a tasty meal to eat. The most important thing is that the holiday provides an opportunity to invite unbelieving relatives and friends and to spend time together with them as we bear testimony of God.

We waited a long while, and it turned out to be a wonderful service, filled with much participation by the children. They recited Bible verses and sang songs. It was a testimony of how God blesses our children. People wanted to share about how God has shown care for them, and they gave testimonies of this.

And when we looked back and considered this past year, we saw that nothing simply happens. If you want something good to grow in your life, you need to make an effort. Because, only weeds spread all by themselves. And looking back on the past, it's evident that we didn't receive easily those fruits, which we reaped this year; that is, five people received baptism in the church. With each one of them there was a process of prolonged labor, and the whole church took part in this. There were many conversations, many questions answered... It wasn't easy, but how the heart rejoices to see the fruit.



God has made us into one family that rejoices in each other's successes. We are grateful to you for your prayers, and we ask that you continue to pray for us, since we know that prayer is important:

1. Please pray for the leaders in our church, that God will give them wisdom and the desire to serve even more fervently.
2. Pray for the church's children's ministry (nowadays children want to spend time only playing computer games).
3. Pray for the music ministry, that God would give someone the desire and send people who can serve God in musical ministry.

## November

### *God Answers Prayers*

Here, where we are, there is always something to pray about, both in the church and in our personal lives. So, when we pray about something for a long time and then receive the long-awaited answer, this brings a double joy. Today I want to tell you about some answers that God has given to our prayers.

For many years the entry foyer for our church has remained rough and unfinished. The moment you stepped inside, you saw a horrible gray concrete ceiling and walls, which presented a fearful first impression. We lived with it this way, and everyone who came to the church



immediately saw this devastation, and only afterwards they saw the repaired areas of the building. For a long time, we have prayed about this and collected funds to repair the entry hall, but there were always other constant needs, so we ended up never able to repair this part of the building.

Well, God's answer came from another direction. A church in York, Pennsylvania, sent two brothers to help us. These were brother Guy and brother Wayne. And we had a good time serving God together, both in building physically and in building spiritually.

Immediately after flying in, these brothers set to work, which

showed us a good example of love for labor and sacrificial spirit while always being open to fellowshiping. They shared with us their faith and understanding of God's will for their lives.





For the whole week, we worked alongside the brothers on the reconstruction work in the building. According to our plan, they were also supposed to visit the church in Chernihiv, and more specifically, the club for those studying English. Most of the young people who attend it do not know the Gospel. We had a good opportunity to use these brothers to witness to the young people about the Lord. In Chernihiv, Lyosha Savchuk is the one who organizes the meetings. Brothers Guy and Wayne had a good opportunity both to witness and to assist the ministry in Chernihiv.

In addition, we visited the ministry to young people that Sasha Petrenko conducts in Goncharovsk for unsaved teens. The brothers told about their faith in Jesus Christ and encouraged the young people to come to the Lord, because only in Him is there salvation.

No sooner had we introduced the teens to Guy and to Wayne than the teens asked various questions. Most of the questions were about America, but the most important thing is that they heard the Gospel along with an invitation to come to the Lord. In Ukraine people love Americans, and people always have a great interest in Americans, so having the brothers in services was a big support and encouragement.



On Wednesday the brothers participated in the Bible group ministry in Desna, where some soldiers also came, and this, too, was a big blessing. Guy and Wayne shared with people from the Word of God and what God had taught them through it. After brother Wayne shared, a girl named Inna came to me and said, "I want to repent." How surprising; she has been in the church from childhood, and on

that evening the Holy Spirit touched her and she responded to the call to salvation. None of us had expected that turn of events. God answers prayer. Her parents had prayed that she would accept salvation, but nobody could know it would happen that evening. God used the brothers for the salvation of a sinful soul.

The brothers labored with dedication and joyfully participated in ministry and boldly told about their faith and about the importance of following the Lord. We took them to visit the new church in Bilogorodka. God gave us a good time for fellowship and for labor in various ministries. And God used them.







Here is how the finished area of the church building looks now. Brothers and sisters, for us the coming of these brothers was a huge encouragement. We felt your prayerful support. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and the churches are grateful for such dedicated brothers. We want to thank the BIEM mission. Without the mission's help and support, it's hard to imagine how things would be for us.

In addition, we would like to thank personally brothers Guy and Wayne, as well as their families and churches.

May the Lord bless all of you for your participation in God's work.

## December

### *A Gift for Christmas*



My dear brothers and sisters, each of us would like to do something special as a gift for our Lord for Christmas. And so it turned out that our Lord gave us a special opportunity. For Christmas we had planned an evening holiday celebration, where we were to praise the Lord. We sang songs about Christmas to witness to unbelievers whom we had invited. But our plans began earlier. In the morning we arrived at the church to decorate the sanctuary. In the church there were already a number of people from the congregation,

and I noticed one man who was a soldier that I didn't know. I assumed that he just happened to drop in out of curiosity to see what was happening. But then I saw he wasn't alone; one other soldier was

with him. I introduced myself, and I learned the first one had



been in the army only two weeks. He'd wanted to come to church here, but his superiors didn't want to give permission. However, since that day was Christmas, he persuaded his commander to let him



attend church on condition that another soldier who had been in the army a little longer accompany him. That soldier-escort considered himself there only by happenstance. However, with God there are no coincidences. So, we talked with that young soldier who desired to attend. His name is Roman. He told about how he found our church on the Internet and about how glad he would be to attend church. But things are not so simple. His commanders fear to give him permission. His soldier-escort sat nearby, and from time to time he would interject the answer to some question that he already knew since he had served longer. Roman and I traded telephone numbers. I promised to look for a way for him to get his commander's permission to attend Sunday services. He expressed regret that we had no morning service that day. He couldn't promise to come back that evening, although he said he'd try.

We were already at the door and saying goodbyes when Roman's soldier-escort and I started talking a little. He told me, "I'm not a believer, and I've never gone to church." Well, we were already standing at the door, but I decided to share a quick version of my testimony. Roman came back and listened too. That man said he couldn't help himself then asked, "Can God help me, too?"

I responded that it was necessary to turn to God in prayer and to repent.

"I'm ready, except I have never prayed before."

I told him, "There's nothing scary. I can help you with this first prayer. You can repeat after me."

So, we prayed, and he called out to God. Roman stood nearby amazed, because he couldn't believe his eyes and ears as he listened to an atheist calling out to God. I rejoiced, that yet another sinner had called upon God. This became a huge testimony and encouragement for everyone in the church. And in my opinion, this is the best gift for God – a sinful person placing his trust in God.

For God, there are no coincidences. This is His special plan. Merry Christmas to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

That evening, we celebrated Christmas at the church. It was a joyous evening. Many different sorts of people came, including unbelievers. And we had an opportunity to witness to people about our Lord and Savior.

I ask you to pray for the ministry of our church, that God would add more saved souls to our church.

With respect,  
Igor Fomichov