

UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWS

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

July 2015

In This Issue

 Ivano-Frankivsk property construction has started!



"Greetings, dear brothers and sisters! 10
August 2015—the beginning of the construction of the church building in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine.
Ground was broken at 8:00 a.m. We thank everybody for prayers and help. May the name of our Lord be glorified all over the world!
Ivan Skoleba"

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John L. Kachelman, Jr. Ukraine Missions College church of Christ 2934 East Moore Street Searcy, Arkansas 72143 Cell: 901-626-4538 john@kachelman.com "July was filled with great joy as the Lord answered our prayers and we started construction...We were on the verge of losing all hope...the Ivano-Frankivsk Religious Department wanted to take away our land and give it to Catholics...The Lord is our strength and source of opportunities...We have started working on the first phase of the construction. This start is thanks to the funds given by brothers and sisters and congregations in the USA...

Now nobody can take the land away from us."

July 2015 in Ivano-Frankivsk was a historic moment for the Ivano-Frankivsk church of Christ! This was the time when the Church began the construction that guaranteed the gift of property on the main highway into Ivano-Frankivsk. This plot of land is located on the main road and is in a prime location.

This property was gifted five years ago but the Church faced an incredible and constant assault from enemies that sought to destroy it. We had problems with the State's Religious Department in Ivano-Frankivsk because its head was a strong Greek Catholic and was following directives from the Catholics to oppress any religious group that was not Catholic. Then there were others consumed with bitter envy and jealousy that spread slander and a factious spirit. The members of the Ivano-Frankivsk Church endured these years of persecution. They were distressed and at times distraught. But the brethren continued to serve the Lord with the resolved stated in Acts 5:29. Through the Ivano-Frankivsk Church we shipped more and more containers of benevolence items that were distributed without bias to those in the greatest need. Indeed, the Ivano-Frankivsk Church followed practically the Lord's commands that even if one's enemy is in need then do good things to him. The brethren are doing the best they can to live in peace with their enemies, BUT some folks are just not "peaceable" and choose the evil (Romans 12:18-21). With such the only option is to leave them alone.

When we received registration we thought all was secure but then the Religious Department sent a letter stating that the gift of property was to be lost because no construction had begun. Once again the enemy was threatening. It was critical for construction to start or lose the property. This required an unexpected trip to Ivano-Frankivsk to deal with this emergency. In Ivan's note below he mentions this emergency trip and how important it was for the congregation.

MARIUPOL REJOICES IN THREE JULY IMMERSIONS!



"His name is Arthur and he is from a displaced family that comes from Mariynka, one of the towns around Donetsk that was destroyed almost to the ground. He and his mother came to Mariupol several times while the situation in Mariynka was dangerous because of shelling and destruction. He is 18 year old. He came to Mariupol about 3-4 months prior to his baptism and stayed in the church building. He would attend all services and listen very carefully. Then he realized he had to be baptized and having found out that David and Vlada were to be baptized on July 26 decided to do it on that day as well. So this is his story. Now he is back to Maryinka."

Thankfully a call for help was answered and we have been able to secure enough money to "start" the first phase of the construction. We still need donations to complete the amount required for the first phase but we have begun! If anyone would like more information on what is needed please contact me and I will be glad to send you the information.

This month's newsletter focuses upon the great beginning of construction for the Ivano-Frankivsk Church.

Thank you for your prayers, financial support and encouragement in the work of the Lord!

—John L. Kachelman, Jr.

IVAN SKOLEBA REPORTS FROM IVANO-FRANKIVSK!

Greetings, dear brothers and sisters!

The month of July was filled with great joy as the Lord answered our prayers and we started construction of the church building.

We were on the verge of losing all hope because we were pressured from all sides and threatened that we would lose our property. It has been over one year since the church was given that property (property was first given to our benevolent mission several years past but with the understanding that upon official registration the property would be transferred to church's ownership). Thank God Church was officially registered last year!

During first year of official ownership of land we (church) were supposed to start building on it but we did not do it because we did not have enough money. This gave the Ivano-Frankivsk Religious Department an opportunity to continue persecuting Lord's Church as it wanted to take away our land and give it to Catholics.

Our congregation is sincerely thankful to you for your help and partnership in the church building construction project. So we are sending our heartfelt thanks to all American brothers and sisters as we understand that without your help and prayers this project would be impossible. The Lord is our strength and source of opportunities. The Lord blessed you and your country and now you help us by sharing your blessings with us. And we always pray to the Lord asking Him to reward you and your families for your faith and kind hearts. Our Father's Kingdom has to spread all over the world and the church building is a necessity to us here in the Western Ukraine where Orthodox Church for a long time has spun its web of deceit over the minds of people since it first appeared in Ukraine.

We fought so long for the church registration, for the land that was under a threat of being trespassed and stolen. People were discouraged and some even left Church thinking that the Lord was not blessing us. Some wanted to use Church for their profit and lied to us and demanded money and they left. But we thank God for helping us through these trials. Now we have faithful Christians remaining who work diligently to spread the Word of God that changes our lives and gives purpose to everything we do here on earth.

We are thankful to you, dear brothers and sisters, for having given John Kachelman and Jerry Morgan an opportunity to come to Ukraine at this time. Upon their arrival we received our Land Privatization Certificate, gave first payment for construction and signed a contract with a construction company

A Good Progress



"There is a joyous event that happened recently; it's a wedding of our brother, BVBIU graduate and a preacher, Stas Kuropyatnikov and Anna. It's nice to see that the church is growing and there are marriages among the Christians. About 10-15 years ago there was a tendency to look for a spouse outside the church. Many young people were saying that there are so few of us and we could not find friends among the Christians. Now there is an evident progress. Young people are looking for friends among Christians only. Many young Christians are dating and enjoying fellowship of Christ's body. It's a good progress."

that began first construction work on Monday (03 August).

We have started working on the first phase of the construction. This start is thanks to the funds given by brothers and sisters and congregations in the USA. Not all money is received for this first part but enough has been given to start and we pray that the remaining will soon come to us. Our Christians also collect money for construction and we are willing to help physically if need be.

Now nobody can take the land away from us. We are still assembling in the rented rooms in the center of Ivano-Frankivsk but if that becomes impossible we can assemble at the warehouse where part of the building will be furnished for this purpose.

Our construction will be done in phases. First of all, we will build a warehouse/meeting hall where we could assemble and have storage area for clothes and food which we give away. In this way people receiving things will come to church building and see us instead of storage warehouse. This will help Church become known.

The final blueprint also makes provision for classrooms for the Bible School. But we understand that it all requires a lot of funds that is why we have divided our project into phases. It is very important that we have started construction now because we were threatened to lose the land if no construction took place.

Again let me say that we are very thankful to all of you for having made it possible for brothers John and Jerry to come here and help us with paperwork, negotiations and contract. Right now heavy machinery is being pulled onto the plot of land and work will start in a few days. We will keep you posted on a weekly basis.

Our brother Andrew, our lawyer, who has dealt with the land issues ever since we were given the land, is also sending a letter describing our status from the point of view of the Law of Ukraine. With the construction having started with first phase, we are confident that our property cannot be stolen.

We continue assembling on Lepkogo Str. in our rented facility. Sunday worship service takes place from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible class is from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. We study Acts 20 now. Classes for others are Monday and Friday as those who receive benevolence often want to study and ask questions from Bible.

All the brothers take part in conducting services and benevolent work. We help orphans, disabled and refugees. Many refugees turn to us for help but we are not able to address every request. Detergents and food are the things they need most of all. We have already given away buckets with detergents and now there are only 21 refugees that we help regularly because we cannot afford having more. Church members are very active in aiding different social institutions, orphanages, hospitals. We understand that there is no way we can help all needy people but the Gospel is being preached to all we come in contact with. Praise the Lord that there are souls that repent and are immersed.

We send special thanks to brother Ernie for \$50.00 each month, which we use to support a young family of Lena and Dmitry with their little daughter Nastya. They rent an apartment and are facing a very difficult time in their lives. They thanked God and Church for this help with tears in their eyes.

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This family lost everything in Gorlovka and Donetsk. They left their flat and business in Gorlovka having taken only some things and documents. They will need help for awhile till they take care of their situation. It is very difficult to find jobs now due to a great rush of refugees. Thus, the husband Dima tries to get any job he can find.

We would like to ask you to pray for Volodya's father. He continues drinking and mistreats his wife, which crushes Maria's and Volodya's spirits. Please, pray for the construction of the church building as well.

Sveta teaches children and helps women who are without husbands for different reasons.

We are looking forward to having brethren from Hillsboro here. We really need classes for young people. Many are fearful as they do not know what tomorrow holds for them, which is stressful. The older ones are drafted; some flee the country because they do not want to fight a war.

Sveta and I are also concerned for the future of the country and pray to God asking Him for peace. People tell us their stories and what they had to go through living on the occupied territory. It is hard to believe at times that such is happening in the center of Europe in the 21st century. But sin has no regard of time or territory; that is why we have to preach the Gospel.

We thank all of you for our joint work in the Kingdom of our Father.

In Christ, Ivan and Svetlana С люб. Иван и Светлана во Христе

Andrew explains the security of the Church's LAND POSSESSION AFTER CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Greetings, brethren!

According to Article 92:1. Right on permanent usage of a plot of land is the right to own and use a plot of land that is either state or communal property without any conditions for period of time. 92:2. The right of permanent ownership of a plot of land that is part of state or communal property can be given to: B) religious organizations of Ukraine, with the Statutes registered in accordance with the law, for the sole purpose of building and maintenance of religious constructions and other constructions necessary for their activities.

To meet all the above mentioned speculations we have received an official registration of the congregation of Church of Christ in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk. According to the current Land Code of Ukraine we receive the right of ownership of a plot of land from the moment when those rights are legally registered (Article 125 Rights to Own Land).

State registration of rights to own plots of land is given as soon as the plot of land is registered in the State Land Cadastre (Article 125, clause 10).

To secure the right of permanent ownership of the property we prepared the "Project of Land Utilization of the plot of land used for the purpose of building and maintenance of a religious construction,

REQUEST FROM KRYVY RIG

"We also help a children's shelter/school some and have given them four boxes of children's blankets and soup mixes. They are thankful beyond words for that help...We have also helped some families with family buckets and soup mixes (see pics). Great many people are thankful to you for such help and they promise to pray for all of you, my dear brothers and sisters...

We continue studying the Holy Scriptures with both adults and children. It is a joy for me to see people's thinking change and I pray to the Lord asking Him to strengthen them spiritually even more and to give me more wisdom and love so that I could be a better worker in His vineyard...

Please, pray with me for my family, for my children and for my near and dear ones. I would like to encourage you to continue praying for the church in Kryvy Rig. Please, pray for peace in this country, for this nonsense of a war to finally come to an end."

support structures and warehouses" and had it approved by local village deputies at their session.

The right of ownership of the land can be terminated if religious organizations dissolve. The law makes provision for a compulsory termination of the right to own the land through legal proceedings if the land is not used according to its purpose.

Based on the above mentioned norms set by the Land Code of Ukraine, we have met all stipulations in order to start building a religious construction and other necessary support structures on the grounds that our religious organization has legally received the plot of land to use according to its purpose. Thus, having started building in accordance with the purpose we protected ourselves from possible attempts to trespass this plot of land on the part of anybody interested in it.

Sincerely yours, brother Andrew

PAVAL TUZNICHENKO REPORTS ON THE LORD'S WORK IN KRYVY RIG!

I am glad to greet you with great love, my dear brothers and sisters. I always thank our Lord for opening your hearts to support us and to pray for us all the time with such love, understanding and sympathy.

Due to the current situation in this country – war in the East of Ukraine and economic problems associated with the inflation of our currency – prices have increased tremendously but salaries as usual have remained the same. However, churches of Christ in Ukraine can survive thanks to humanitarian and financial help that comes from you. When we give away humanitarian aid people see that Christians treat them with love and understanding and they choose to come and hear the Word of God.

We also help a children's shelter/school some and have given them four boxes of children's blankets and soup mixes. They are thankful beyond words for that help and, of course, ask for many more things, such as school supplies, detergents, etc. I promise them that we will help as much as we can. We have also helped some families with family buckets and soup mixes (see pics). Great many people are thankful to you for such help and they promise to pray for all of you, my dear brothers and sisters.

We continue studying the Holy Scriptures with both adults and children. It is a joy for me to see people's thinking change and I pray to the Lord asking Him to strengthen them spiritually even more and to give me more wisdom and love so that I could be a better worker in His vineyard. Brethren, please, pray with me for those who once made the decision to follow Christ but did not do so because Satan, as we know, is alert and puts multiple hindrances and hassles in our way so that church would not grow.

But I am sure that the Lord will never abandon His children and if someone chooses to follow the Lord he/she will have Lord's helping hand.

Please, pray with me for my family, for my children and for my near and dear ones. I would like to encourage you to continue praying for the church

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in Kryvy Rig. Please, pray for peace in this country, for this nonsense of a war to finally come to an end. We keep you in our prayers and ask the Lord to bless you in all you do, to grant you good health and spiritual growth.

I keep you in my prayers all the time. I wish good health, God's love and blessings for you.

With love, Pavel (Tuznichenko), your brother in Christ с любовь ваш брат Павел

VOLODYA SENDS NEWS OF HIS WORK FOR THE LORD!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I am happy to send you greetings from Western Ukraine again. I would like to greet you on behalf of the Ivano-Frankivsk church of Christ. In our prayers, we always thank God for your love and support, and for your ministry in His vineyard.

We have lived through another month of our lives once again and I would like to share some news and plans for future with you. To begin with, I would like to ask you to pray for peace and de-escalation of the conflict and warfare that are taking place in the East of this country. This war costs us a lot of strength, both physical and spiritual. Many people suffer from despair and disappointment. That is why God's grace and encouragement is vitally important at such moments. Thus, we ask you to continue praying for the situation in this country asking God to give wisdom to our government and politicians. But even more important it is to pray that they would understand their accountability to God. I know that you pray all the time and would like to encourage you and thank you. We really need your prayers.

As for my ministry in Stary Lysets, nothing has changed. I do my best to become closer to the people of the village and make friends with them. At times it is very difficult and at times it is very easy. But the Lord does not open doors for Gospel without that. Orthodox churches have a strong impact on the minds of our population and once I start talking to them about God, not having anything to do with those Orthodox churches, people think I am a sect. You cannot do anything with it but become friends with people to be able to explain to them what relationship with God means. In fact, all people living in this country know the Gospel, know that Christ died for us and know that there is hope for eternal life, but hardly anyone knows how important it is to have fellowship with God through the sacrifice that Christ made. And to teach someone something special you need to be a friend. Even unbelievers stay out of giving advice for personal affairs if they are not friends. Same here. If a person does not know me and does not trust me there is no way he or she would listen to what I say. That is why I'd like to ask you to pray for all of this. With prayer everything is possible.

As for the Ivano-Frankivsk congregation, we continue studying Scriptures. I teach class on the Acts of Apostles every Wednesday. I have also preached on Sundays several times this month. The majority of sermons dealt with prayer. This topic is particularly important to us.

As you know, we are about to begin construction of a church meeting place and warehouse for humanitarian aid. It has taken us a long time to come to this point. We have faced great obstacles – with church registration as well as some issues associated with the property. But the Lord has balanced out everything and thanks to Him we have overcome all hardships

"When we give away humanitarian aid people see that Christians treat them with love and understanding and they choose to come and hear the Word of God."

(Pavel Tuznichenko)

that we have faced. It is very important for us now to have a place that is on the blueprint. This will help us to keep our ground in this Orthodox world. We are very thankful to you, dear brothers and sisters, for supporting us in this construction and for giving funds for this cause. I would like to encourage you and thank God and you for this sacrifice. It is a joy to see and feel your love to all believers. Thank you.

I cannot but thank you for our brothers John Kachelman and Jerry Morgan and their recent visit here. The trip was necessitated and associated with the construction and did not last as long as we would like it to have been. Despite that God has encouraged us through these brothers and passed your love and care on to us. We are thankful to these brothers and to all who support this ministry in God's vineyard.

Together with brothers John and Jerry we visited children's home in the village of Medynya, Galych District. Staff and children were happy to have us. We plan to bring some aid for children to that home when the season of summer vacations is over. Administration of this children's home told us that shoes and school supplies are things they need most of all now. We collect and put together this aid and plan to take it to the children's home either at the end of August or beginning of September.

We also visited a boarding school in the town of Snyatyn. We took our brothers there before. And this time, we visited this school once again with brother Jerry and interpreter Anya. We bought school supplies and everything needed for school for 21 children whose parents had their parental right terminated and orphans. Unfortunately, I do not have pictures but brother Jerry did take pictures of the children and he can show them to you and they are those that really need encouragement and support. We are thankful that God allows us to work in His vineyard and be of benefit to other people.

I would like to give special thanks to brother Jerry and all those who took part in purchasing the truck that this brother bought for us. We are very thankful to you for such a gift as it will help us to give aid directly to people. It is very important as it will provide direct contact with people and opportunity to talk to them about God in the first place; secondly, with this truck we will be able to avoid asking administration to help with transportation as we have had to do in past. Often we did not have way to deliver benevolence so had to ask administration and they, and others that could provide transportation, would often have no integrity and with sticky fingers try to get some things to use it for their personal benefits. It was always a battle and was exhausting in emotions to arrange distribution to places that could not come and pick up their things. That is why we are really and truly thankful to you for such help. Praise God for this. May He bless you.

And finally, I would like to ask you to pray for my father as he is on a drinking spree again. The situation in my family is very tough. My Dad drinks, and Mom works and at that she takes care of the household they have. It exhausts my Mom and downweighs on her. And when my Dad drinks he cares for nothing. Please, pray for this situation asking God to take care of everything and to help my Dad quit drinking. I try to stand by my Mom but it's still a trying and difficult time for her. Thank you for your prayers. May God bless you.

In Christian love, Your brother Volodya Didukhm з любов'ю, ваш брат Володя Дідух

LION'S CLUB DONATES A CONTAINER OF MATTRESSES!

July 28 we loaded a container of mattresses for severely disabled. This was donated by the Lion's Club in New Durham, NH. We arranged transport to Ukraine via the USA Department of Defense. Russia's invasion and occupation displaced 260,000 disabled from Donetsk and Lugansk!



Hello John, We had help loading from the inspector, driver and two of non lions who work at the camp. It was a great time. Take care and keep in touch, your new friend, GLT-Lion Jerry Vaccaro-Director of Lions Camp Pride and Global Leadership Team Coordinator for Lion District 44H

NEWS FROM ANDRE ZHURAVLYOV FROM KYIV, SKVIRA AND GORLOVKA!

Hello dear brothers.

We continue serving the Lord in Kiev Region, trying to use every opportunity that He gives us.

1. Situation and ministry in Gorlovka.

Recently mass media has been talking about creating buffer zone in Eastern Ukraine. Gorlovka will be part of it according to the Minsk regulations. That territory will be demilitarized, and it will be under control of Ukrainian army. In such case, it will be possible to return the building and continue God's work in Gorlovka. Right now there is much unrest in Gorlovka. There are shootings every night. Civilians are dying, and there are children among them. There is no single control over the insurgents that took over the town. The town is ruled by separate gangs, which divided Gorlovka into several parts under their control. Often people (mostly men) are being kidnapped by armed insurgents out in the open. Those who were kidnapped are rarely found. We hope that such actions of insurgents are the last ones, and that the Lord will stop this bloodshed.

As previously, I teach Bible classes on Wednesdays and do the worship service on Sunday via cell-phone. God's word provides comfort and hope for the future. The Christians who are regularly on the phone these days are looking forward to the next class. They are all tired of this war, daily shootings, constant danger, lack of money, sky-rocketing prices and inability to serve and worship the Lord freely as it used to be before.

2. Ministry in Kiev and Skvira.

Shevchenkivska church of Christ in Kiev asked me to teach a series of Bible classes on "What happens to a person after death." I am greatly encouraged by those lively discussions during classes. Each Sunday we spend an hour before the worship service preaching the gospel on the streets of Kiev. We hope that this work will bear its fruits – new saved souls.

In Skvira, I teach Bible classes on Revelation every Wednesday at the church building. I had private Bible studies with 15-year-old gild Nastya. Her parents abandoned her, and her relatives at her grandma's house practice alcohol and drug abuse. This girl lives in such horrible conditions and suffered much. Nastya is searching for God, and I hope that those Bible studies, love and care that we show to her will help her chose the way of New Testament Christianity.

3. Other points of news.

We thank all those brothers and sisters who donate finances for us to do God's work. We plan on having another VBS in Skvira at the end of August. Veronika and I plan to work with the kids who will continue coming after the VBS as long as we stay here. We are working on finding contacts of refugees from Donetsk area who now live in Skvira. We want to do evangelizing work with them and provide some humanitarian aid. Most refugees have suffered from psychological traumas and have various financial needs. Therefore, such work will help them to find a way to make peace with God and will help them in their physical needs. This work would be impossible without the financial help from Christians of Bear Valley

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!



Greetings, dear brothers and sisters! It is 10 August 2015— the beginning of the construction of the church building in Ivano-Frankivsk, Western Ukraine.

Ground was broken at 8:00 a.m. We came to the property at lunch time. Vladimir, the bulldozer driver, said the soil was very hard due to the heat and drought. His task is to remove a 30-cm layer of the black dirt.

After that such works will begin:

- ✓ 120 meters of road will be lain.
- Construction field will be covered with gravel (crushed stone).
- Electric power lines and water lines will be put in and the perimeter will be fenced in.

We thank everybody for prayers and help. Be with us, brethren, we need your support and encouragement. May the name of our Lord be glorified all over the world!

Ivan Skoleba

church of Christ in Denver. We are making some videos, so that you could see the work that is done with your help.

Several years ago, Dennis Sopelnik, some BVBIU students and I went to rehab center "Father's Home" in Dnepropetrovsk region to tell people there about the Bible institute. Right now refugees from Donetsk and Gorlovka live there. I was asked to teach Bible classes for them every week via cell phone. In this way I bring them sound New Testament doctrine, and probably when the war is over, they will return to Gorlovka and will become members of our congregation. They are greatly encouraged by those classes.

A great encouragement for us was a camp for Christian families organized by Jeff Abrams in Dnepropetrovsk area. There were about 220 people in the camp. Mostly those were students and graduates and Christians from sound churches of Christ. There were four immersions, many wonderful classes and amazing fellowship during the camp. Those people who were scattered all over the country because of the military actions had a chance to meet again. We thank God for people who organize such events.

We thank God for those who support us financially and spiritually, who pray for country and for the war to be stopped. God be with you always, blessing your congregations, your ministry and your country.

In Christ, Andrew Zhuravlyov (Андрей Журавлёв)

NEWS REGARDING THE PREACHER TRAINING SCHOOL!

Hello friends, brothers and churches.

I know that many of you are praying for the Bear Valley Biblical Institute of Ukraine and its future constantly. Thank you for your care and continuous prayer support. As you remember, in the previous report I wrote about the institute moving to Dnepropetrovsk. Surely, this city has many advantages; it's big and comfortable; there is an airport there, etc. However, it did not work out, and now we are in town Bila Tserkva (80 km south from Kiev). Most likely we will start our school year there.

At the very last moment, brethren from Dnepropetrovsk congregation refused to provide any assistance with the building for the institute and said that they disagree with us on some doctrinal issues, though they had been saying that everything is ready for our moving and that our presence would be a blessing for them. It might be the case Luke is describing in Acts 16, when Paul and his team wanted to preach the gospel in Asia and Bithynia, but Holy Spirit didn't allow for that to happen. However, doors were open for them to spread God's Word in Macedonia. Now we are actively getting ready for the beginning of the school year. We need to find apartments for my family, students and teachers. Classes will begin on September 7.

In June, my family and I attended camp Americraine, where we visited with many friends, BVBIU teachers, graduates and students. Then we spent a week of vacations at the seaside and two weeks in Dnepropetrovsk. I hoped we would be able to stay in this city, so I was looking for a building to rent for the school and the Church. Yet the city is big, and there was little time left, so my family and I moved to Bila Tserkva at the beginning of August. This town has a population of 200,000 people. There is a church of

"The Lord is our strength and source of opportunities. The Lord blessed you and your country and now you help us by sharing your blessings with us. And we always pray to the Lord asking Him to reward you and your families for your faith and kind hearts."

Christ there, which was founded in the 90's. Konstantin Kisilenko preaches there. We plan to have the next school year there and see how it works there for us. Please pray for our stay there and effective ministry to the Lord.

There is a joyous event that happened recently; it's a wedding of our brother, BVBIU graduate and a preacher, Stas Kuropyatnikov and Anna. It's nice to see that the church is growing and there are marriages among the Christians. About 10-15 years ago there was a tendency to look for a spouse outside the church. Many young people were saying that there are so few of us and we could not find friends among the Christians. Now there is an evident progress. Young people are looking for friends among Christians only. Many young Christians are dating and enjoying fellowship of Christ's body. It's a good progress. I was asked to do the wedding ceremony. Almost all Ukrainian teachers of BVBIU were able to come. These wonderful moments God gives us to enjoy and recharge.

Thank you for your prayers and support of my family, students and teachers. In 2 Thessalonians Paul thanks God for the growth in love among the Christians. We also thank God for your patience and financial support of the institute.

Your brother and co-worker, Dennis Sopelnik



Stas—an orphan in the village of Medynya, Galych District, Ivano-Frankivsk