

UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWS

September 2016

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

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The month of September 2016 was as full as usual. I continue to be amazed at the developments and opportunities that are presented to us.

The month was filled with activities associated with the groups preparing to visit Ivano-Frankivsk during October as well as our usual activities in picking up donated items (we were given a dental office that had four chairs and all supplies!). In addition to the dental office pick up we were busy going to hospitals in four different locations and the unloading several truckloads from C.U.R.E.

During September we loaded four containers. These were loaded out of the following locations: Searcy, AR; Cherokee, OK; and Indianapolis, IN.

The totals for our benevolence shipments thus far in 2016 are amazing:

- ✓ 23 containers have been shipped into Ukraine
- ✓ 552,452 pounds of benevolent items have been collected, packed, and shipped in the Lord's Name
- ✓ \$3,732,531.00 is the total value of these commodities that have been shipped
- \checkmark \$62,124.00 is the actual cost thus far that we have paid for shipping.

I do not want to brag but I know of no other work in the Lord's Church that does what we are doing with the results and impact for the Lord's Church that is being made. The results come from the network that we have

Wonderful News FROM INDIA

For a number of years we have been associated with brother Immdai who works for the Lord in Jadcherla, India. David Lawyer and Don Eads visited there and reported on the wonderful work being accomplished for the Lord. It is always encouraging to receive reports from Immadi. Here is one that he sent to David.

"My dear loving brother David and sister Gennie,

Greetings in the merciful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Sir, how are you, how is sister Gennie and how is brother Ernie?

I, my family, children and the preachers here are daily praying for you all.

I once again bow before you for your love. The preachers here are conveying their hearty thanks to you all.

Sir, the work is growing by your valuable prayers and helps. I am visiting many places in our state and in other states also.

Last week I had been to Gadwal area. This is 100 miles away from Jadcherla. You, brother Don and me, we had been to Gadwal area when you came to India."

(Continued below)

developed. This network includes those who see the opportunities and donate the funds that are critical to its operations; willing volunteers of the Lord's Church who go and pick up, sort, pack, repair and clean, and load containers; brethren in Ukraine who are diligently involved in securing the necessary approvals and then spend countless hours in distribution and unloading of containers; various government officials who are supportive and helpful in our efforts; various shipping companies that offer us great rates and commendable service. The dynamics and intricacies of this operation are really amazing. The Lord has helped in unimagined ways to bring about the results.

THANK YOU to many reading this newsletter who are a part of the network that the Lord is using to further His Cause!

Below are the reports of brethren for the month of September. Read these reports and rejoice in the gospel's progress.

-John L. Kachelman, Jr.

WORLD BIBLE INSTITUTE TO OPEN EXTENSION IN IVANO-FRANKIVSK!

ADDING TO THE EXCITEMENT of the Lord's work in Ivano-Frankivsk is news that a Bible Institute will begin in January. This institution will be registered and able to offer recognized diplomas throughout Europe and the USA! The emphasis is upon training evangelists who are able to support themselves. In order to do this we have tailored a vocational training parallel with the Bible instruction. This is PHONEMONAL news! Here is David's Hamrick's assessment of his visit in September.

Dear Brethren,

Our trip to Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine has been absolutely wonderful. Howell Ferguson and I came for the expressed purpose of evaluating the potential for an extension school for World Bible Institute. It became evident early on that the people were ready and the time was right for such a school.

A number of things impressed us about the work here. The Church is extremely loving and hospitable. We were welcomed with open arms and genuine smiles. Among the members were attorneys, electrical engineers, an expert in aviation computer programming, a nurse, one holding a Masters degree in History, another with a Masters in Economics, and a medical doctor. These are highly educated people who are thrilled about their new found faith. They are growing in number and have already outgrown the current rented facility.

There is a great need for a larger and more permanent location for the church to flourish. I sincerely believe that a new/larger facility will immediately result in numerical growth.

The humanitarian aid that John Kachelman has facilitated through the church of Christ has paid great dividends toward developing a positive image for the Church in a country heavily dominated by Catholicism and Greek Orthodoxy.

Needy families, children homes, hospitals and the like have all reaped the benefit of the charitable work of the Church.

(continued from above)

"This place is Gone Padu this is a different village. There is a congregation and growing. They arranged three days Gospel Meetings there.

They invited me and Sam to preach there. I and Sam went there and preached.

Many non Christians attended. God opened the hearts of seven people. They obeyed the Truth.

Since some years, we are facing acute problem for water. we could not find sufficient water in Gadwal to baptize them.

From there we went to a river which is eight miles away from that place. There I baptized them.

Please pray for the spiritual growth of new souls. I send few pictures of baptisms soon.

Thank you very much once again for your love.

The poor widows are conveying thanks. One of the widows, Masamma has sight problems. I take her to doctor tomorrow.

Please pray for the poor widow.

You are in our prayers.

Kindly pray for us and for the work and for widows.

> Closing with love, Yours, Immadi"

Local authorities and government officials are ready to offer valuable assistance to the furtherance of the church of Christ. As a result we have seen television interviews, dedications of new hospital facilities, special recognition at village celebrations, and have witnessed land and even buildings that have been donated to the church of Christ in various locations.

It is, therefore, an easy decision for us to establish a preacher training program starting in January 2017 to further the good work that is already rapidly developing.

We see an urgent need to train men that will be able to take on the responsibilities of establishing and growing newly planted congregations of the Lord's church. Our initial target area includes the region within the 150 kilometer radius covered by Kachelman's humanitarian aid project.

Remarkably we were able to establish an operating budget for the WBI extension school at a mere \$450/month. This is achievable because most all involved are volunteering their time to make it possible. Our extended plans include reaching into Poland, Romania and Moldova from Ivano-Frankivsk.

God is gearing up to do a tremendous work in Western Ukraine. I encourage everyone reading this report to seriously consider joining Him to be a part of something special.

In His service,

David W. Hamrick President, WBI http://worldbibleinstitute.com/index.php



Exciting New Way to Support WBI

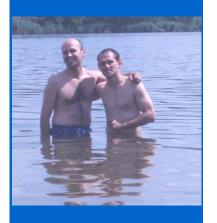
We want to tell you about a new opportunity you have to support World Bible Institute that will not cost you a single dime. Simply by making purchases from Amazon.com through the link on WBI's website, you can help WBI fulfill our mission of training preachers to take the gospel into all the world. Simply visit http://worldbibleinstitute.com/index.php/bookstore and use the banner in the sidebar to visit Amazon and make your purchases. That's it. No higher prices. No extra donation. WBI simply receives a percentage of every purchase you make. Be sure to bookmark this link to use in the future.

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IVAN SKOLEBA REPORTS FROM IVANO-FRANKIVSK!

Greetings, dear brothers and sisters!

We thank God for opportunities that He provides for us to mature in the Spirit as we study the Bible and live a Christian life in our society. With your aid and support, we help different institutions, such as children's homes, hospitals, social institutions and individuals that come to us for help and Fruits of the Gospel's Harvest!



"We had two baptisms, Sergey (he has been bringing his children to study Bible and English to ABC Bible School first) from Konstantinovka and Victor (he does not have a permanent place of living, he asked the Church to help him buying food) from Kramatorsk.

Sergey has been attending Pentecostal congregation for two years, so did Victor.

Sergey is a very active young Christian, his wife and children are attending worship with him." some of these stay in Church.

The benevolent ministry that this congregation has taken on utilizing humanitarian aid shipments that Brother John Kachelman is sending here opens up great opportunities to us. We have been engaged in this benevolent ministry for eight years and it provides us with access to many people and institutions.

This congregation has grown in the spirit and is growing in number. Every member is involved as much as they can. We repaired a ward in the Maternity home in September. We repaired everything—bought new beds, mattresses and bedside tables, painted walls, put tile on the floor, bought a mirror and sink, new plumbing, replaced old power line and put new lights. There's a plaque on the door to this ward saying "repaired with the help of church of Christ." We put Bibles and other literature with our contact information in the ward.

We also gave aid to a children's home where there are children of different ages. There are total of thirty-eight children there. We gave them rice mixes that Kathy Cadden had sent as well as lice treatment, clothes and shoes. The Administration of this children's home agreed to our teaching Bible classes to children there. Previously they did not let us teach the Bible but now they say, "We see that you are people of integrity and we do not mind if you teach our children. There have been different groups coming. But all they do is taking pictures. They have never kept their word."

Svitlana and Luba (the one that was baptized together with her husband earlier this year) work with the children's home. Svitlana does a lot of practical work with women for Christianity to be active and alive. Such work makes us more fruitful and well-known in the community.

Church members helped repair school desks that John Kachelman had shipped to us. They were damaged when Customs inspected them. We plan to give those desks to schools. All sisters came to help even elderly ones did as much as they could.

We would like to thank our brother John Durham who is teaching Bible classes in Ephesians. Our members like his classes very much. John uses a lot of illustrations and practical examples that are clear to everybody, even the illiterate. Besides that, John teaches English at the Law School, which opens up more opportunities for church of Christ in Ivano-Frankivsk.

There are classes for African students that are enrolled in the Medical School here. Emanuel teaches them. He is from Ghana and has a wife and two children. He is a member of Church.

Big thanks to Brother Joel and his wife Joy for their good classes. Joy shared her experience with our sisters as to how they can teach powerful Bible classes for children. She brought a lot of very good materials.

Brother Joel taught lessons on Leadership for the men of the congregation. Those were very good and interesting classes. We had good time with him and learned a lot about the practical life of an elder at church. We thank Church in Cincinnati that made it possible for Joel and Joy to come. Their visit and lessons were wonderful blessings to us.

We are planning to set up Bible School here and David Hamrick came from the States for this purpose. He is the President of the World Bible Institute. He and his colleague, Howell, surveyed the situation, the potential BENEVOLENCE DISTRIBUTED IN THE LORD'S NAME...



Shoes and Food mixes being distributed to an orphanage in western Ukraine





of the Church and students and agreed to start the School in January. There are seven members that want to study the Bible and become church ministers. Brother Howell's wife Mary taught ladies' class on Christian ethics. Women enjoyed the class and thanked Mary for it as it was very interesting and practical.

We plan to start churches in Yaremche, Nadvirna and Sniatyn upon having trained ministers. Please, pray with us for all these plans asking the Lord to open up doors for us in order to plant and spread His Kingdom in Western Ukraine.

We thank the Hillsboro Church for the additional support that was given to us. We used the money to buy medicines for the children's home, bought four mattresses for the Maternity Home. We still have some money left and plan to use it to buy potatoes, sugar and cooking oil for our members. The heating season has started and we all will have to pay much more for utilities until spring. We try to help sustain our members at such difficult times that our country is facing now.

Thanks to brother Gary from Hillsboro who helps medical institutions a lot together with brother Ron. Brother Gary consulted some Christians and gave them advice being a doctor and a Christian. People appreciate medical help they get through the Church.

We look forward to having a group from the Dalraida Church. They will teach a week of Bible classes at the school and Palace of Culture in Stary Lysets from October 9 to October 14.

Thanks to the medical supplies and equipment that brother Ron from Hillsboro donated to the dental clinic in Stary Lysets we are welcome in the village which opens up an opportunity to start Church there. Brother Volodymyr Didukh works there and does all he can for our Lord to be glorified.

We thank our brothers and sisters on behalf of the church for helping us mature and labor in our Father's Kingdom that is on earth and prepare ourselves for eternity.

In Christian love, Ivan and Svitlana С любовью во Христе Иван и Светлана.

VOLODYA DIDUKH SENDS NEWS OF HIS WORK FOR THE LORD!

Greetings, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I am sending you greetings from Western Ukraine on behalf of the Ivano-Frankivsk brethren and my family. In our prayers, we always thank God for your hearts and work that you do in His vineyard.

Another month of our lives has flown by and I would like to share with you some of the events that took place as well as plans that we need to pray for.

This month has been blessed with many guests from the USA. John Durham is visiting with us now teaching classes in Ephesians and teaching English at the State University where he has opportunities to introduce people to the Church. We are also blessed to hear lessons taught by

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"The humanitarian aid through the church of Christ has paid great dividends toward developing a positive image for the Church in a country heavily dominated by Catholicism and Greek Orthodoxy." Brother Joel, who is an elder and has come here with his wife Joy. Both of them teach classes. We are very happy and thankful to our American brethren that care for us and help our congregation grow. We pray and ask God to bless them for their great attitude and work in His vineyard. It encourages us greatly to see so many faithful that care for God's Kingdom.

Brothers John Kachelman, David Hamrick and Howell Ferguson came for a visit. It was another important event for us as it was an answer to our prayers about Bible School in Ivano-Frankivsk that we prayed for many years. We have thought about possibilities to set up a good school that will train ministers for Western Ukraine and for Europe in the future. Church of Christ is far from being present in every town in the West of Ukraine, that is why there is a huge missionary field to till, but there is a shortage of ministers. We had wonderful fellowship with these brethren and discussed the possibility to start the School in Ivano-Frankivsk. If God blesses us with strength and wisdom to set the beginnings for the school then we will have a church of Christ school in Ivano-Frankivsk very soon. We need to pray a lot for these plans so, please, give us prayer support in this since Satan is sure to interfere and cause all imaginable problems as we work to reach our goal.

This month, we have started giving away children's desks that you shipped to us through brother John. We have given a lot of them to Stary Lysets for their school and kindergarten. This year they have repaired the roof and façade of the kindergarten and the village was happy to know that besides that they will have a new supply of furniture to have classes. Thus, the village has opened up even more to receive our American brethren that will conduct a seminar in the village. We are working to set up a schedule for English classes at school. This work that is to take place in the village in the near future will be quite a challenge because there are two Greek Catholic churches there that have a great authority with the village community.

Thus we ask everybody to pray for this work so that the Lord would open people's hearts and so that we would not have problems with Catholics. The village celebrated their 600th anniversary since the village was founded, and our brothers Ron, Gary, David, Howell, Joel, Joy, John Durham and John Kachelman were honorary guests at this celebration. Brother John talked with a Catholic priest and told him about the forthcoming seminar discussing qualities that would make a happy village. The priest showed interest and said that we all worked towards the same goal. However, we still have to be careful not to insult people's belief in traditions and not to become their enemies but on the contrary, be friends with them so that God would work through us. Please, pray to God asking Him to give us wisdom and courage to be His ambassadors to the village.

Brothers Pavel, Ruslan and I have spent some time at the garage finalizing our truck repairs. The truck is already usable which allows us to deliver humanitarian aid directly to the needy. It is very good as there were situations in the past when the aid we gave to villages or to some groups did not get to the needy. And now we can deliver it directly to those that are truly in need.

My father has been on a drinking spree almost all the time this month. It has had a very bad impact on my family. My mother has to work and take care of the whole household in the village. I help her as much as I can but it is still a burden. I pray and try to do all I can to help my dad quit drinking. Thank God for humanitarian aid as it helped us to befriend many doctors

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and they have agreed to help me. I pray to God and ask Him to help my dad get out of the state he is in now and to understand the true meaning of his life.

Thank you for prayers, fellowship and support. May God bless you!

In Christian love,

Volodya Didukh, your brother in Christ 3 любовю ваш брат у Христі Володя Дідух.

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

I am happy to greet you with much love again, my dear brothers and sisters. I always thank our Lord for you and for your hearts that are open to love us, understand us, sympathize and pray for us continually. As I pray I always ask our Lord to bless you for helping us and all churches of Christ in Ukraine.

I continue working in God's vineyard in Ivano-Frankivsk. I am in the midst of wonderful people and spiritual mentors in the local church here. People of kindred spirit always help us to grow in Christ. I would like to thank you for financial support and humanitarian aid that allowed us to repair and equip a hospital ward, which I mentioned to you earlier. We did "face-lifting," to this ward. We replaced old power lines and plumbing, replaced old windows, door, floor and had beautiful wooden beds and bedside tables made to order. This ward looks beautiful thanks to you.

I would like to thank you for the school desks that you sent. After some repairs done to them we gave them to schools and orphanages that were in need of those. No educational institution can afford buying them. This work allows us to evangelize and show others that God's children selflessly work to help others in order to glorify God, His grace and love to all people for all to remember the sacrifice He made for us.

Thank you very much for the support to help our brethren from America conduct a great campaign that is coming soon. We will be blessed to attend wonderful Bible classes that these brethren will teach and to have brotherly fellowship, of course.

As always, my dear brothers and sisters, I ask you to, please, pray for my children, for God to bless me with a good helpmeet—a true Christian that would be a wonderful keeper of our home. Please, pray for the Church to grow and expand all over Ukraine and throughout the world. Please, also pray for those that are not Christians but would like to become. Please, ask the Lord to add more and more people to His church; for this absurd war to stop so that no more innocent people would die.

I ask our Lord to bless you in all you do, to keep you healthy and give you spiritual growth. I keep you in my prayers all the time and wish good health, God's love and grace to be outpoured on you and yours.

With love,

Pavel, your brother in Christ с любовь ваш брат Павел.

Jim Akridge (Clarkson, KY) visited the congregation in September





VLAD & OKSANA PAZIY FROM KRAMATORSK REPORT ON THEIR WORK FOR THE LORD!

Greetings brothers and sisters! Here is the latest news of Kramatorsk church of Christ and Konstantinovka.

The situation is stable in Kramatorsk but I cannot say the same about other regions of Donetsk territory, they are still having fighting back and forth. Here you can see the picture of Donetsk airport made by Jeff Abrams. Those who flew through it might be interested to see its present condition.

Please keep in prayers the present situation in Ukraine and people who constantly suffer from it.

ABC Bible School has successfully started the new 2016-2017 school year. 140 students 5–16 years old plus adults are attending classes every day except Sunday. Read more about it in ABC report. Coming soon.

Baptisms.

We had two baptisms, Sergey (he has been bringing his children to study Bible and English to ABC Bible School first) from Konstantinovka and Victor (he does not have a permanent place of living, he asked the Church to help him buying food) from Kramatorsk. Sergey has been attending Pentecostal congregation for two years, so did Victor. Sergey is a very active young Christian, his wife and children are attending worship with him.

Benevolence work.

We are taking part in distributing wheelchairs for disable people in Kramatorsk along with the benevolence organization from Kiev "God's Riches." It was a wonderful opportunity to tell them about the Church and spread the literature. More than 60 people got brand new wheelchairs.

Wedding ceremony

I was invited to conduct a wedding ceremony in Svaytogorsk. It was an honor for me to do it.

Thank you for your help and prayers, we do appreciate that.

In Christ, Vladimir Paziy

ANDREW ZHURAVLYOV SENDS NEWS OF HIS WORK FOR THE LORD!

Hello, dear brothers and sisters.

Quite an unexpected cold weather and frequent rains came to us in the second half of the month after the two weeks of an unusually warm weather in the beginning of September that was more like the mid of July. People are still adapting to this sharp contrast. They had to wear warm coats, pants and boots right after T-shirts and sandals.

1. Situation in Gorlovka.

In the second half of the month of September the situation near the front line became much calmer. The thing is that recently began to operate the "silence mode." Both sides of the conflict try to use this situation for negotiations. The situation is as follows: the authorities of the self-



Wedding ceremony: "I was invited to conduct a wedding ceremony in Svaytogorsk. It was an honor for me to do it." (Vladimir Paziy) proclaimed republic "DPR" are interested in conducting the elections that Ukraine will recognize. The Ukrainian government is ready to do so at the condition that the control over the Ukrainian borderline with Russia will be totally under the Ukrainian control and the rebels give up their weapons. The leaders of the DPR are ready to do this if their soldiers will be granted amnesty, and the territory controlled by them will receive the status of the region with special permissions in composition of Ukraine. The Ukrainian politicians also insist on letting the peacekeepers into this region to maintain law and order. The reaching of agreement on these matters is a very difficult task, and it has many people who disagree with such variant of solving the war conflict in the diplomatic way. Often there are provocations aiming at frustration of these negotiations. We all hope that the Lord will work everything out in such a way that soon war and afflictions of Christians in the eastern part of Ukraine will cease.

The brothers and sisters are looking forward to my coming to Gorlovka. I have already planned this trip for the end of October. This time my wife Veronica will go with me. She has not seen Christians in Gorlovka for a long time, and misses them very much and wants to serve and worship God together with them, despite all the hardships and dangers of staying on the occupied territory. Please, pray for this trip to be safe for both of us.

2. Ministry in the Kiev region.

This month I conducted classes and preached in Kiev and Skvira on Sundays. The last Sunday the Shevchenko district church of Christ had their worship service in the new place. It is a four-room apartment on the 23rd floor in the apartment building. It was offered to the Church use by the family of the first preacher of this congregation. This is where we moved, since the former place was not heated and was not suitable for assemblies. The most obvious advantage of this new place is the fact that about 300 000 people live in this district and there is no Church there. We continue to preach the gospel.

Veronica continues to teach Bible classes to the increased after our VBS group of children in Bila Tserkva.

We are grateful to all the brothers and sisters in Christ with whose help and support, encouragement and prayers we continue our ministry for the Lord.

In His service, Andrew.

NEWS FROM DENNIS SOPELNIK IN BELA TSERKVA

Dear brothers and sisters,

In my monthly report for September I would like to share the last news of the Bible Institute as well as our plans and our victories in the Lord's vineyard.

The school year started on September 5th. This year we have 16 students in the program. The students from all parts of Ukraine came to study in Bela Tserkva. One of them whose name is Alexander was able to leave the occupied territories and join us to study in the program. We have big plans for this group of students. Some churches have sent their own representatives to study so that upon graduation they can return to their home congregations and serve as ministers. Being a part of church life in

BILA TSERVKA!





"Veronica continues to teach Bible classes to the increased after our VBS group of children in Bila Tserkva."



"It is such a joy to see that children come specifically to study the Bible (not English and not to be entertained)."

Ukraine, I am able to closely observe the progress in the ministry of our local congregations. Our churches used to wait for the arrival of the missionaries who would advise them with strategies and they would not make any plans of their own. But now I am able to see the work of the congregations who run men's meetings and make plans for the congregational growth. They realize by now that they will need additional ministers, preachers, Sunday school and ladies' class teachers. When they send off their Christians to be our students, they pray for the person and hope to receive a prepared servant in the end.

In September the first year students had the following courses: How did we get the Bible? Homiletics I, The Plan of Salvation. The second year students had Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Minor Prophets II, The Period between the Testaments. We are very thankful to God and all the brethren who help us in our work. Jim Sherman comes to Ukraine twice a year to teach in our Institute. He started this ministry the first year of our program when the Instituted was first opened. Next year we will reach 20th year of our cooperation. His work in Ukraine is an encouraging example for us.

In the middle of September two of our students Yuri Romanov and Alexey Mitskutis took part in an evangelical campaign in Kharkov. Almost the whole week they have been giving out booklets, visiting schools, hospitals and other public places. As the result of this effort some new visitors attended a seminar on "Non-denominational Christianity." Currently a similar evangelical effort is taking place in the city of Chernivtsi and Alexey went there with his family.

I am very happy to share with you that one of our graduates Sergei Pavlenkov is doing internship with Poltava church of Christ at present. This congregation had a difficult past and a few months ago they lost their last preacher. They decided to contact us and ask for help. We recommended our 2016 graduate Sergei and his wife Lyudmila. They moved there and placed membership with that congregation where Sergei is hoping to preach the Word of God. His ministry is in need of financial aid and if you have any suggestions or ideas please contact me.

Also the establishment of a new congregation in the city of Kremenchug is under discussion. Our graduate and my right hand Alexey Mitskutis would like to take an active part in this work. His family is ready to move to that city and start the work there. Right now they are making all the necessary preparations and are working on creating a team for this ministry. So as you can see the Lord still gives us grace despite of all the difficulties. With His blessings we are trying to move forward and spread the Gospel all over Ukraine.

Everything is well with Bela Tserkva church of Christ. Our students are the wonderful addition to the local congregation and it looks like we will have to buy another set of chairs to be able to accommodate everybody. A few Sundays ago after the services we all had an outdoor picnic with our spiritual family.

The Sunday school is growing as well. Every Sunday we have 10+ children. And we hope the numbers will increase. It is such a joy to see that children come specifically to study the Bible (not English and not to be entertained).

Your brother, Dennis Sopelnik, the Director of the Bible Institute.