



# UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWS

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

November 2016

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Snow came early in Ivano-Frankivsk

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**“EVEN THOUGH THE FIELDS ARE WHITE AND THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL THERE ARE STILL AREAS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ‘TILLED’ AND ‘PLANTED.’ THERE ARE OTHER PLACES WITH SEED ALREADY PLANTED THAT NEED PROPER WATERING AND NURTURING WITH THE WORD OF GOD...THERE IS STILL MUCH WORK AND WE CANNOT RELAX BUT RATHER ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND WORK HARDER!”**

It is hard to believe that this is November 2016's newsletter! In just a few short weeks we will bid 2016 farewell and welcome 2017. Next month's newsletter will contain a summary of the work's successes in 2016. As you see the totals you are reminded that our efforts are the result of the Almighty's providence opening great and effectual doors of opportunity.

This month's newsletter provide updates on how God continues to bless His People with opportunities to serve Him and broaden the borders of His Kingdom. The Church in Ukraine continues to struggle with the adversity of Russia's invasion and occupation of portions of its eastern oblasts (Luhansk, Donetsk and Crimea). This evil invasion and occupation continues to have an unsettling rippling effect upon the entire nation. However in the midst of this evil we are given multiple opportunities to show love, mercy and compassion to those struggling.

In the midst of the upheavals of earthly life we find comfort and assurance in the fact that the Almighty God is in control. During November I was invited to preach at several locations and my lessons focused on the assurance that Christians have in "their heavenly citizenship." How true are the words of the hymn, "This world is not my home I'm just passing through." We are indeed "straying pilgrims" eager to reach our home. As I almost have completed the schedule for reading the Bible through this year I am encouraged by the Scriptures that stress the sovereignty of God, the inadequacies of those trusting in mortal strength and human intellect, and the inescapability of all being held accountable to God for their choices and actions in life—whether in political, secular, or religious environments. Perhaps not today but eventually all will be held accountable and will answer for their willful rejection of God and delusional trust in worldly wisdom (See 1 Corinthians 2-4).

Thank you for your support and encouragement in the mission efforts during November. From the many actions in November I have limited space to report only those that I deem most significant.

—John L. Kachelman, Jr.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

*"Work on the assembly place has been very good as brothers are putting in the main beams"*



Flooring beams were a special order because of the length needed.

These are being installed by the brothers of the congregation to construct the second level over the assembly room. This second level will have two rooms.



## TANYA'S SUMMARY OF THE MISSION GROUPS VISITS DURING OCTOBER!

My dearest brethren! As I am writing this report I know that all of you are celebrating one of the most wonderful holidays that mankind has come up with – Thanksgiving! And on this day I want to thank God for His endless love to us, for His faithfulness, for His Son in Whom we have the greatest blessing there is – salvation. I want to thank God for His Church and for you, my dear brethren and my Christian family, that I love and cherish no less than my physical family. Thank you for being there for me personally, for our Church in Ivano-Frankivsk, for other Churches in Ukraine, and for my country. THANK YOU!

On this day of giving thanks I would like you to know that I greatly appreciate your support of John Kachelman's mission and benevolent work. John's trip was different this time. But even though he did not get to teach as much as he usually does his Christian example was encouraging and refreshing, his fellowship was strengthening and motivating, and his spirit was loving and caring. He also helped coordinate activities of the three groups of American brethren that came while he was here. We did not get to run all over Ukraine this time and it was very good, too, as it allowed more time with the brethren. Schedules were still busy and work was plentiful.

The first team that came together with John Kachelman, Jr., was David Hamrick, Howell Ferguson and his wife Mary. David and Howell represent the *World Bible Institute* that operates from the state of Georgia. They came to evaluate possibilities of having the Institute's extension in Ivano-Frankivsk. The fact that these brethren came over for a visit was an answer to our prayers for the Bible Institute in Western Ukraine. We have stressed again and again the importance of having a Bible School in Western Ukraine where we would train ministers for this part on Ukraine where culture, language and mindset are different from Eastern Ukraine. We really need Ukrainian speaking ministers for the local culture here. It is always an advantage to have local people trained to be ministers as they fit in with the community very well and can relate to their needs and feelings.

It was good to see David's and Howell's excitement as far as the location and potential for the Institute here. We already have several prospective students that want to be enrolled in the Bible Institute and are willing to go outside Ivano-Frankivsk to be missionaries and to start new congregations. Thanks to humanitarian aid an amazing number of doors have been opened to us. We are in a good standing with the community here in Ivano-Frankivsk and in many towns and villages outside the city because of the humanitarian aid that you have shipped. People's hearts are open to us now that they have witnessed all the good deeds and unbiased approach on the part of New Testament Christians.

I cannot but remember Jesus' words in John 4:35, "Do you not say, "There are yet four months, then comes the harvest?" Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." And in Matthew 9:37-38, "Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Indeed, the fields are white and waiting to be harvested but we are in

*"Snowfalls added more physical work to shovel the snow, and especially did we have to work hard to clean our construction site where our church building is being built. But God blessed us with good strength to shovel all the driveways and to clean the space for construction material storage in just two days. We have started working on the dividing wall that will divide our temporary meeting place from the warehouse. We have brought in all the materials and have begun working on it. At times this work is a real challenge when temperatures stay below freezing. We plan to purchase an air heating unit to improve our working conditions. Besides, we could use that unit later on to heat the building we are working on now. We trust that God will bless these plans. Thank you for such great help that you give us collecting funds needed for this construction. We thank God, Who blesses us with opportunities to labor in His vineyard and to build up His Kingdom together."*

desperate need of workers. There are several places where soil has been ploughed and the seed has been planted. Now we need trained ministers to do the nurturing in a sensitive way remembering than many have Catholic/Orthodox background and trying not to offend them by downgrading "the religion of their fathers" but rather by helping them see the difference.

So all of us are excited beyond words that the wheels have finally been set in motion and we want to do all we can (and ask God for His wisdom and helping hand) for the Institute to meet requirements and expectations. It will differ from all Bible Institutes that we have in Ukraine as besides theology and ministry training students will have an opportunity to get a secular job so that when they graduate they will be able to provide for themselves. This way they will not depend on support and will still be able to preach even if there is no support and they will be able to join the community so others will see their godly lives in every day working. That is a new approach and we cannot wait to see how it all will work here.

Both David and Howell taught very good lessons and the room was full with the members and visitors. This offers another proof that "the fields are white for harvest."

Then there was another visit and this time our brethren from Hillsboro church of Christ came in a team of four – Gary Jerkins, Ron Swang, Joel and Joy Campbell. Gary and Ron have done so much that cannot be described for our medical institutions and are always welcome in this area. As for Joel and Joy, it was their second trip to Ukraine but it still felt as if we had known them for much longer. Both of them had great series of lessons that were just what we needed. Joel taught our men to be true leaders and planning for congregation (I believe, this is one of those topics on which you can never teach too much). Joy had prepared and presented amazing classes for women on different methods to teach Bible to children. Both men and women enjoyed and appreciated classes very much. This was so exciting since it worked both ways – to prepare workers to harvest and to grow the harvest (when we work with children we plough, plant and water and this is the most favorable and fertile soil for the seed to be planted).

And the last group that came was from the Dalraida church of Christ, Montgomery, AL. It was a good group of fine young Christians that John Kachelman's son, Johnny, had recruited and brought over. Johnny was the only one in the team that had been to Ukraine before and I loved watching the rest of them get to know Ukraine and fall in love with the country. They were such a joy to be around and refreshment to our souls. Seeing their devotion to God and their willingness to take such a long and draining trip here was a good motivation for us to do better and to walk an extra mile in our labor for God. Together with the group we conducted an evangelistic campaign in Stary Lysets, the same village that had invited our brethren for the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony. I cannot help mentioning that we even had an official permission to conduct lessons from a village that had two Orthodox churches. And Anatoly, the Mayor, spoke and welcomed us at our first lecture.

Is not it amazing that from the total denial by the majority of institutions and governments we now have come to recognition and respect?! Is not it amazing that the group was allowed to teach classes at school in the same village and were able to focus on the main principles that God wants us to follow? Both teachers and students from that school attended those classes





during the day and then children and adults would come to evening classes at the local Palace of Culture where the Bible was taught.

The attendance was **OVERWHELMING!**

Is this not another proof that “the fields are white for the harvest”? Indeed, harvest is plentiful and we pray that He will “send out laborers into his harvest”!

Even though the fields are white and the harvest is plentiful there are still areas that have not been “tilled” and “planted.” There are other places with seed already planted that need proper watering and nurturing with the Word of God. So there is still much work for us there and we cannot relax but rather roll up our sleeves and work harder!

All of these facts explain why we do need a sound Bible Institute in the western part of Ukraine and the timing is just **RIGHT!** The Bible Institute should be a great tool to provide workers that we need badly as it will train ministers to till, plant, water the seed, and then harvest.

I would like to ask you to pray with us asking God to guide us, give us wisdom to set everything up in proper way to bring glory to Him and to train ministers that will be great assets for His Kingdom in whatever capacity they labor.

Please, pray for our church’s building that is being under construction. We still need funds to complete the project. However, God has already blessed us so much in amazing ways. This building will not only make us look “real” in the eyes of people brought up in Catholicism and Orthodoxy but will also help “harvest fields that are white” and secure the harvest!

**BIG THANKS** to those that have given towards this project not only money but their prayers, time and hearts.

**BIG THANKS** to David, Howell and Mary, Gary, Ron, Joel and Joy, John Durham, Johnny Kachelman and his team, namely Scott, Billie, Nick, Danyel and Malory for all the sacrifices they made to come here and to do such a great job of teaching and preaching.

**BIG THANKS** to all who helped make it possible for these fine brethren to come and work and be good refreshment to us.

Again, **SPECIAL** thanks to those that have been supporting John Kachelman’s trips to Ukraine for all these years.

I cannot but greet and thank my heroic warehouse friends for their tireless labor and all other who help collect, sort and ship humanitarian aid. Because it is through your work and support that we have been able to gain such strong credibility with people here. **BIG THANKS** to you!

**BIG THANKS** to all of you for being such a great source of strength and encouragement to us. Your Christ-like attitude motivates us to be better servants so that together we “grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from Whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

And at the end I would like to quote the Apostle Paul again, “Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible” (Ephesians 6:23, 24).

—Teitana Zozulina

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## *IVAN SKOLEBA REPORTS FROM IVANO-FRANKIVSK!*

Dear John! Dear brothers and sisters!

November is over and winter has already set in with precipitation and temperatures going up and down. We have already had 20 cm (about 8 inches) of snow, which is melting now. Strong wind has blown but this last Sunday was nice and quiet.

The whole congregation has been a little sad upon the completion of the campaign that our brethren from America conducted. We had to say good-byes too soon.

We thank you for your willingness to help us with both words and actions. The more you come to Ukraine the more people hear about the Gospel brought into this world by Jesus Christ. It makes you bewildered to realize there are so many people that have no clue as for Lord's power that saves us even today through His word and water baptism.

Since you left, dear brothers and sisters, we have had various meetings with people and questions about the Bible, faith, about reasons why church of Christ helps people so much and free of charge. People thank you for the rice that you send to Ukraine. We have given it to many institutions and individuals, and everybody is very grateful. And two families admitted that after they had paid utilities, there was no money left to buy food so they survived on that food.

The situation in villages is even worse. Families that have lost their breadwinners, fathers or sons, give in to despair. We met and talked with people every day and even if we cannot meet face-to-face we use Skype and Viber. And we know that the Word of God is never wasted but rather sprouts and brings forth fruit.

We pray for two souls that are thinking about being baptized, which are Olga and Valentine. When Olga came to worship assembly after the campaign she said she had a feeling as if she were in a different world filled with kindness and peace. Valentine reads the Bible and comes to services.

There was a newspaper article about the meeting the Dalraida group had at the Medical Institute during October's visit.

After our visit to the children's shelter, we purchased washing detergents, dish wash, floor and toilet wash, and besides, each child received hygiene supplies, such as shampoo, tooth paste, and soap. We ordered a rug for their playroom and hope to have it put in by New Year's.

The kindergarten where our grandson Timothy attends is very warm now. Thanks to the money donated we were able to have two bad windows replaced. Now there's no draft coming from the windows in the bathroom and hall. All teachers, the headmaster as well as all parents are sending you, John III, and the whole team their heartfelt greetings and thanks for help. It is wonderful to hear everybody in Ivano-Frankivsk talk about our church with gratitude. Tima tells everybody in the kindergarten that "his uncle John came and now there is no draft coming from the windows anymore!"

Thank you for wonderful lectures and children's classes you taught in Stary Lysets. God's blessing was outpoured on the village through His Work



## CHILDREN...

### Bela Tservka

*“My wife Veronica really likes working with children in Sunday school. Together with other sisters of the Church they do a great job of teaching the younger generation of the Church in Bila Tserkva.”*



### Ivano-Frankivsk

*“Joy had prepared and presented amazing classes for women on different methods to teach Bible to children. This was so exciting since it worked both ways – to prepare workers to harvest and to grow the harvest (when we work with children we plough, plant and water and this is the most favorable and fertile soil for the seed to be planted).”*

and His ambassadors.

We continue with our ministry on Wednesdays and Sundays. Friday is a day of prayer. We are getting ready for the Bible Institute. We are in the process of putting together our library. And we need to get more whole Bibles as well as children’s Bibles.

Sisters are getting ready for New Years’ in order to invite more people.

Children learn verses and songs.

While having a study with our sister Inna last night, she told us that Svyatoslav would not go to bed without reading his Bible and saying a prayer, while not so long ago, he did not want to be in Bible classes. And now he prays in children’s classes and at home with his mom. He knows Bible stories and enjoys telling them. Inna said that this year had been a watershed year for her as well. She reconceptualized her life completely setting up right priorities. She says, “Had it not been for the Lord and His Church, I would have been ruined together with my son.” But instead of that she praises the Lord and talks about Him to her relatives about salvation.

Little Eva had a mishap getting out of her swing and broke her arm. Doctors put it together and put a cast on it as it was a displaced fracture.

We look forward to receiving the container with warm clothes because both children’s shelter and people out in the country are in need of those and can’t wait to get them.

Our construction is going on. Our young brothers do a lot of work there, despite freezing weather and wind.

All members are sending their heartfelt greetings.

In Christian love,

Ivan and Svetlana

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## VOLODYA DIDUKH SENDS NEWS OF HIS WORK FOR THE LORD!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I am happy to send you greetings from Western Ukraine, from Ivano-Frankivsk Region. I greet you on behalf of my family as well.

Another month of our lives has flown by and I would like to share with you some news concerning our life, ministry and work as well as plans for future.

The greater part of the month, about two weeks, was spent at the Bible Institute where I was enrolled in Master’s program (the city of Bila Tserkva). I had opportunity to study the Word of God, to fellowship with the brethren, and to gain much needed knowledge. We were offered two classes and now there is some time allowed for us to do our written papers. I thank God for such an opportunity to study His Word and ask Him to give me strength and wisdom to apply this knowledge so that the time spent studying would bring forth good fruit.

Winter has already set in this month and has brought freezing weather with snowstorms. In the middle of the month (when I was on my way back home) Western Ukraine received a monthly amount of precipitation in the



A situation has developed in Toretsk (formerly Dzerzhinsk). The town is without water due to shelling by Russian backed Separatist.

This is a very serious emergency that is threatening the lives of hundreds if not thousands of the residents in Toretsk. A large pipe that carries water from Horlivka to Toretsk has been damaged extensively by artillery fire from the rebel-held city of Horlivka. This pipeline - about 36" in diameter - supplies the entire city of Toretsk with drinkable water. Laborers who went to the site to repair the pipe were driven away by gunfire. No one knows when/if the crews will be allowed to do their work.

There will be a domino effect if the water supply is not immediately restored. Without water, the central heating must be shut down. Most residents are dependent on the central sources of steam and hot water for heating. Officials have said that if the heating sources shut down it is unlikely that heating can resume this winter. (By the way, the official forecast is for sub-freezing temperatures day and night for the next 10 days.)

(William L. "Bill" Wharton,  
Evangelist)

form of snow, which caused transportation problems and nearly stopped completely all traffic throughout the country for about a week. The city as well as the whole country, has a shortage of road and sidewalk cleaning vehicles and machines and many people were injured where streets had not been cleaned on time. Some of them asked us for canes and crutches. And, thank God, we were able to help those that turned to us for help. We thank you for your tireless efforts to collect and ship humanitarian aid here.

Snowfalls added more physical work to shovel the snow, and especially did we have to work hard to clean our construction site where our church building is being built. But God blessed us with good strength to shovel all the driveways and to clean the space for construction material storage in just two days. We have started working on the dividing wall that will divide our temporary meeting place from the warehouse. We have brought in all the materials and have begun working on it. At times this work is a real challenge when temperatures stay below freezing. We plan to purchase an air heating unit to improve our working conditions. Besides, we could use that unit later on to heat the building we are working on now. We trust that God will bless these plans. Thank you for such great help that you give us collecting funds needed for this construction. We thank God, Who blesses us with opportunities to labor in His vineyard and to build up His Kingdom together.

We have started giving away rice that you sent us. It is a great means to help and is especially welcome by the needy stratum of the population as well as institutions that provide social aid. We have given a great amount of relief items to hospitals, orphanages, hospices and the like all over the region. We have also given away rice to members that want it. Everybody is very thankful for such help. We thank you for supporting our society when we are facing difficult times. Lord is sure to make it up for you with blessings that you share with us.

I continue visiting Stary Lysets and keeping in touch with people there. I pray and ask God to give me wisdom to set up children's classes there. Please, pray with me for this. I know that nothing is too difficult for God to take care of and I give glory to Him for everything.

We continue getting ready for Bible Institute in Ivano-Frankivsk and are in the process of putting together our library, looking for teaching materials and praying to God to give us energy for this work.

Our preacher Ivan is undergoing medical treatments now and I am encharged with more responsibilities as far as Bible classes and worship services go. I thank God for our brothers as all of them take part conducting worship services which enlightens preacher's burden greatly. Please, pray for our spiritual growth and for brother Ivan's health. He was diagnosed with several health issues and the doctor told him he could not do without treatments. We express our hope to God to restore his health and to give him energy to work in His vineyard again.

Big thanks to you for prayers on behalf of my family and my dad who at times goes on a drinking spree. Your prayers help him pull himself together and stay away from the booze which is a source of great joy to me and my mom. Thank you for prayers. We thank God for the unity we have with you and for opportunities to work together in His vineyard.

With love, Your brother in Christ Volodya Didukh  
З любов'ю ваш барт у Христі Володя Дідух

*BIG THANKS to all of you for being such a great source of strength and encouragement to us. Your Christ-like attitude motivates us to be better servants so that together we "grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from Whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."*

(Tetiana Zozulina)

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## PAVAL TUZNICHENKO REPORTS ON THE LORD'S WORK!

Peace and grace to you. I am happy to greet you again with much love, my dear brothers and sisters.

I always thank our Lord who opened your hearts to support us and pray for us all the time with such love, understanding and sympathy.

I always pray to the Lord on your behalf asking Him to bless you for your support of churches of Christ in Ukraine and all over the world. If it were not for your love and care the churches of Christ in Ukraine would not find encouragement and would not strive for maturity as strongly as we do.

I would like to report to you on the work I have done within this month.

I continue my ministry in God's vineyard in Ivano-Frankivsk. I help teach Bible classes, I take part in the life of the Church here which is filled with activities. I continue to visit people and am also involved in distribution of humanitarian aid. The distribution of humanitarian aid is the cause for which people are so thankful to you. They thank God for working through us (His Church) on this earth.

I continue working to recover the desks, for which many schools already thank you as they cannot afford buying them. This month we also brought in construction materials to put together a dividing wall for the assembly hall where in the future we will worship our Lord. This dividing wall will separate the storage part of the building from the part in which brothers and sisters will gather to worship, study God's Word, find refreshing fellowship and provide a visible location to the community.

And as usual, my dear brothers and sisters, I would like to ask you to pray with me for my family, for growth of the Church in Ivano-Frankivsk and all over Ukraine. Especially do I ask prayers for those congregations that assemble in the war zone.

Please pray fervently for those people that have not chosen the right way to follow Christ yet but want to do so seeking to find the Almighty God in their lives. And, please pray for peace in this country.

We pray for all of you and your families. We wish you good health and abundance of God's love. We ask God to repay you a hundredfold for your gracious hearts.

With much love, Pavel, your brother in Christ

С огромной любовью ваш брат во Христе Павел

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## ANDREW ZHURAVLYOV SENDS NEWS OF HIS WORK FOR THE LORD!

Hello, dear brothers and sisters, families.

If one would try to describe our ministry during this month in one word, this word would be "running." Having returned from the occupied region I went to participate in the work of the evangelism campaign in Kremenchuk. From there I went to Poltava. After returning to Bila Tserkva I had eight days left to be prepared to teach a new course to the students in the Bible Institute in Bila Tserkva. After teaching this course our family went to visit the Poltava



## THE COMPASSION OF THE LORD...

*"We have started giving away rice that you sent us. It is a great means to help and is especially welcome by the needy of the population. We have given a great amount of relief items to hospitals, orphanages, hospices all over the region. Everybody is very thankful for such help. We thank you for supporting when we are facing difficult times."*



Church of Christ. Right after we returned from Poltava I left for the Church in Lvov the next day. I thank our Lord for giving me strength and opportunities to teach the sound doctrine of Christ in many regions of Ukraine.

Now I would like to present the details.

The situation in Gorlovka is still very difficult. During the month of November the war actions first almost stopped then started again. All the dwellers of this region are looking forward to the complete cease fire and the establishment of peace. But, as we read in some sources, the war would last for one or two years. Every day I call the Christians there and try to encourage them. As I did before, every Sunday I "connect" them to our worship services by means of the mobile phones. We really miss each other, and we always look forward to every new meeting.

After my return from the trip to Lvov and teach a course to the students in the Bible Institute Veronica and I plan to go to Gorlovka and serve the Lord there during the last two weeks of 2016. We chose this time because the biggest and the most awaited holiday in Ukraine is the New Year. This is a wonderful family holiday, when friends and family gather together to have a great time around the festive table. We want to go to Gorlovka during this time to be with our spiritual family which is so dear to our hearts. Every trip to that region entails many risks and dangers, but every time while being among Gorlovka Christians I begin to treat this as something small and unimportant.

The preacher of the Church in Bila Tserkva has serious health problems and has been undergoing a medical treatment in the hospital for three months. For this reason together with other local brothers I was actively involved in the work of the local Church. My wife Veronica really likes working with children in Sunday school. Together with other sisters of the Church they do a great job of teaching the younger generation of the Church in Bila Tserkva.

Also during this month I had two trips to Poltava, where I had the opportunity to preach the word of God to the congregation, and also spend some time in fellowship with my brothers and sisters there. They are very good Christians, well grounded in the Bible truths, including the matter of marriage, divorce and remarriage. They also have interesting plans concerning their work in the future.

According to the program of the Institute, the first week of the month was allocated for the preaching of the gospel in different cities of Ukraine. Together with one of the students of the Institute, Alexander Reviakin, we went to Kremenchuk for the evangelism work. In November 1-3 in the first half of the day we were coming up to the people in the street, telling them about Christ and distributing Christian literature. In the district with mostly private houses we put the invitations and brochures in the mailboxes. The most encouraging part of our work was with children in the orphanage, abandoned by their parents. We taught classes to the older children using the book "Character training," we sang Christian songs, prayed, played games and had quizzes. It is encouraging to note that the teachers of the orphanage reacted to our efforts in a very positive way, and this gives us the opportunity to work with them also. Soon two of the graduates will go to Kremenchuk with their families to start a new congregation there.

November 14-23 I taught Christian Evidences to the students of the

*"We pray for two souls that are thinking about being baptized, which are Olga and Valentine. When Olga came to worship assembly after the campaign she said she had a feeling as if she were in a different world filled with kindness and peace. Valentine reads the Bible and comes to services."*

Institute. The aim of the course is to reveal the historicity of the person of Jesus Christ, to confirm the authenticity of the New Testament, and the rational character of the faith in Christ in the efforts to oppose the attacks of the enemies of Christianity. To make sure that the students had learned the material well I gave them quizzes every day, and also some verses to memorize. The students, on their part, demonstrated a keen interest to the course and good academic performance.

Together with my family, we express our deep gratitude to all those who read my reports and shows interest to the work we are doing. We thank all Christians who sacrifice their money to support our work. You all are in our hearts and prayers.

In His service, Andrew

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## NEWS FROM DENNIS SOPELNIK IN BELA TSERKVA

Hello, dear brethren, families, and congregations.

There is a Christian hymn that goes like this, "Standing on the promises of Christ, the King." Every day we are looking forward to Jesus' coming because in comparison to earthly kingdoms His kingdom will be of different kind. Unfortunately, the war conflict continues in the east of our country. There are no big battles as such and the warfare is localized to a few places there. However, we ask you to keep praying for Ukraine and the Lord's Church in this country.

Everything is well with the Bible Institute. This month one more student has joined the program. His name is Michael Troyan. He has been a member of the church of Christ for a long time. When the war first started, he moved out to his relatives in Russia. So as of now we have 17 students and we are very happy about it. We see that the Lord blesses us abundantly in Bela Tserkva and gives us means and opportunities to train ministers.

In the beginning of November, we had Masters classes that lasted for two weeks. We have six students in Masters' program. They are preachers from Dnepr, Lviv, Kiev, Ivano-Frankivsk. Not too long ago they were in our Bachelors' program but now they are serving as preachers in their local congregations and get training to become future Instructors of our Institute. I can see that little by little the Church in Ukraine is progressing. We still must do so much, we still financially dependent and our plans are to grow to become financially independent congregations that will have their own eldership, their own budget and plans for growth and establishment of the new congregations. Next year our Bible Institute will celebrate its 20th Anniversary of its faithful work in Ukraine. Our Ukrainian extension had to deal with a lot of difficulties and changes. However, we have managed to never stop teaching and training new preachers. We also plan a 3-days long seminar about "Independent church of Christ in Ukraine: plans and prospects." We will welcome everybody.

While the Masters' course was in session, our students had a chance to take part in evangelism. Our students helped congregations in Slavyansk, Bela Tserkva, Skvira, Kremenchug and Lviv. We had some positive results. In some cities people who had been approached in the streets came to the Sunday services and listened to the preaching. I do not have much knowledge of how it works in other countries but it is extremely difficult to

**“Is not it  
amazing that  
from the total  
denial by the  
majority of  
institutions  
and  
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respect?!”**

find contacts and built relationships with people who have no connections with the church in Ukraine.

In November, we had a very successful one-day seminar in Kharkiv on “Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage.” The preachers and leaders of many churches of Christ in Ukraine were in attendance. We use this platform for the spread of the sound doctrine as well an opportunity to fellowship and work more closely with the local congregations and their leadership. That day we had six speakers, most of them were our Instructors.

We are also very active in recruiting the new students for the next year. This month brother Aleksey Mitskutis visited a congregation in Zhitomyr. We had no prior knowledge of this congregation and had never made a presentation about our Institute in the city. Now we have established some contacts and we will try to worship with them occasionally. This month I preached in Kharkiv and Bela Tserkva congregations. We had a very productive business meeting with other brothers. We visited a few people who had stopped attending and started a new program of home Bible studies. For December, we made plans to have an activity for the families of our members. I hope it will bring good fruit. We always want to do more for the Lord and not always sure which methods of work will be more productive.

Respectfully, Dennis Sopolnik

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## **NEWS FROM BROTHER IMMADI IN INDIA**

My dear loving brother David and sister Gennie,

Greetings in the merciful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Sir, I and the preachers here thank you again for your love and kind alms. Because of you, the work is growing in India. I send you the picture of widow with glasses in few days. Kindly convey our thanks to brother Ernie. Widows are conveying their thanks.

Because of our prime minister’s decision, we are facing lot of problems for money. There is no money in the banks.

Sir, there are many preachers in Andhra especially from Prakasham district, who write letters to every foreign contact for the sake of money. They go to the web sites and try to find someone for help. Please ignore them. They have only paper work. Not real work...

Kindly convey our greetings and thanks to bro. John Kachelman.

We once again thank you for your love. We are daily praying for you.

Thanks a lot for your prayers.

Closing with love,

Yours Immadi