



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE—17 June 2018

Here is the most recent update on the construction of the Ivano-Frankivsk Church building. I was sent the below email yesterday. I have compiled a report (attached) on the quick updates that were received over the last several weeks.

Please pass this along to others you know who are interested and able to help complete the construction. This will provide the Church with the recognition of legitimacy plus provide the space and position in the community for greater works for the Lord's Cause.

Methods for sending donations are listed at the end of the attached report.

THANK YOU!
John

From: Ivan Skoleba <skoleba1962@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2018 8:16 AM
To: John Kachelman, Jr. <john@kachelman.com>
Subject: Re: Стены

Greetings, dear brother! Our worship service went well and there were 32 adults and 10 children in attendance. A man from Starry Lysets by the name of Volodya came to worship today. He has two children. They believe in God, but they are part of denomination. Volodya, the father, told me that he doesn't agree with what is taught at that church and wanted to see our worship. Volodya would like to know the difference in the teaching and structure of church of Christ and Bible. We hope that if he is seeking God sincerely the Lord will help him find what he is looking for.

And now for news on construction. Together with the brethren we prayed a lot today thanking God for His mercy to us and for our American brethren. We prayed for the construction of our church building and rejoiced together over what had already been accomplished.

After services, men talked about construction and funds that we still need to finish walls.

Here is a breakdown of the amount we need to finish walls. We discussed this today with the men. This is how it looks as of today:

1. There's still \$17 K needed to finish the walls. But to finish walls we need intermediate floor slabs.

2. The amount of those slabs, installation and price is \$22 K, that is why the total amount needed to finish is \$39,000.

3. Andrew says that all prices have increased by 15%.

Earlier I gave you old prices we were given by the company that makes intermediate floors. We had thought about letting workers pour out floor but this would have been 120,000.00 gr more. That's why we have decided to use slabs.

This was what the men discussed today and consulted the engineer in charge of construction. These are prices as of today (17 June 2018). Members have contributed 1,950.00 gr. more towards construction this week. We do what we can. If we could do more we sure would do all we could.

Thank you, dear brethren, for your help. May the Lord give back a hundredfold to you, your children and grandchildren.

In Christian love,
Ivan, Andrew, Ruslan and Pavel

Construction Update 15 June 2018



IN THE PHOTO IS A PART OF THE MEMBERS ON THE IVANO-FRANKIVSK CHURCH OF CHRIST THAT CAME TO THE CONSTRUCTION SITE ON A RECENT SATURDAY AND HELPED CLEAN UP CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS AND DO OTHER TASKS THAT ALLOWED CONSTRUCTION TO PROCEED QUICKLY. THE WHEELBARROW WAS SENT BY KATHY CADDEN & JOE THOMPSON IN A RECENT SHIPMENT FROM COLUMBUS, MS.

The progress on the construction of the meetinghouse in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine has really leapt forward! The bricks for the walls was purchased in December/January before prices increased. In the later part of May, the first bricks were laid. A month's construction effort has now seen the walls continually rise up!

The project continues on a "pay-go" basis. We are not borrowing any funds so there is no building debt! What has been done is because of the amazing generosity of donors and the hard work of the brethren in the Ivano-Frankivsk congregation. The members do contribute financially as they can but their greatest contribution is to the "sweat equity" in the construction. Members have scavenged to find the best prices for quality materials and purchased the materials directly avoiding the "middleman mark up." Members have worked in the labor force without pay as a contribution to the project (literally they "have given themselves"). By Ivan's calculations this "donation" from the congregation has contributed \$20,000 of the costs for the progress of the walls thus far.

Recently the construction site needed cleaned up and a congregational workforce turned out to work and enjoyed the fellowship, hard work and enjoyed a meal afterwards. Such activity and involvement results in the bond of fellowship becoming even stronger!

In this report I have interspersed comments from the brethren on the photos sent. I have also included excerpts of Tanya's comments on the construction from her last report.

"As you know, we are building our own meeting place, which will be a great tool to evangelize and draw more people to the Lord. As said above, this area has very strong, deeply rooted Greek Catholic—Orthodox traditions believing that church is a fancy building, anything less than that is viewed with suspicion and reservations. So, it is quite a challenge to impress on people that Lord's Church is not a place but an assembly of people and wherever a group is gathered in the name of the Lord, there His Church is. But you do not change such traditions overnight. And our own assembly place will play a very important role helping people that are open and interested to feel better about coming to Church; and an assembly place like we are building will be a proof for them and their families, relatives, friends that we are not some kind of cult trying to trap them out and scam them for everything they have. Such fears are very evident here as traditional churches impress that on people as a method for controlling the members."



Today we have poured the concrete beams for the doors!



American tools are more durable than Ukrainian. Thanks for the barrow!

“It is hard to change traditional beliefs that are firmly imprinted in people’s subconsciousness. But we ask God to guide us and help us find best ways to reach out to people. I strongly believe that our own assembly place will be one of those efficient tools. I want to thank you, dear brethren, for your great help with this project, for all the funds that you have collected to help us see the project through.”



We took Bill and Luba to the construction site after worship today. They rejoiced together with us. Here they are standing in the auditorium! Thank you, brethren, for your support and prayers.

“I have been reading through Ezra and Nehemiah these days and it has been so exciting to see so many parallels with our construction. Just like Israel, it took us awhile to begin the construction. Just as Israel, we faced a lot of opposition, open threats and slandering reports. And just like Nehemiah and his people we have “a mind to work.” Our men are at the construction site every day, doing different jobs, monitoring how the Lord’s money is spent, when construction materials are bought and doing what they can to lessen expenses. There is not much that women can do there at this point but we pray and encourage our men. Soon many opportunities will come for us to be a ‘working’ part of the construction when we clean, decorate, put things in order, set up classrooms, do landscaping, etc. And I cannot wait for this time to come.”

According to our construction rules the walls are thick and will endure the harsh winters. Inside these walls will be warmth from fellowship among those who love the Lord God!



“We had a cleanup at the site. And as we join in together to work for the Lord and for the good of His Church we will rejoice and thank God who has opened up many doors for us to preach and to serve Him, His Church and community, to draw people to Him and to show what true Christianity is. And my prayer is that just like with Nehemiah and his group God will guide us, protect us and give us wisdom. Please, continue praying to God on our behalf.”

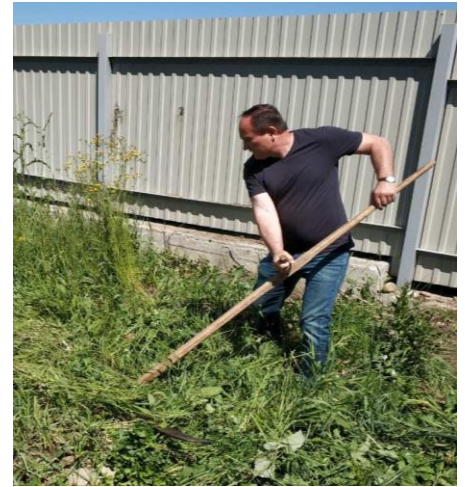


After our cleanup work we shared a meal together and talked about the work completed and the dreams of future impact of the Lord upon our community.





Cutting grass as our fathers and grandfathers did!



We ordered more bricks and they were delivered today!



Walls as of 12 June



“There is still a lot to do and a great amount of funds to raise but we trust and believe the Lord will provide, and we pray asking Him to take care of things and thanking Him for blessing us in amazing ways. We thank Him for you, for your big kind hearts that are open wide onto us, for helping us bear our burdens, for being a refreshment to our souls, and just for being our beloved brethren in Christ!!! May the Lord guide you, protect you, take care of you, strengthen you, outpour His love and mercy abundantly on you and may His light always shine in your lives!!!”





This is the baptistry in development!



"Thank you, dear brethren for your prayers and help!"

"Dear brethren, we need your support badly so that the work won't be suspended and we won't lose our workers. We have saved almost \$20,000.00 on our efforts. This is all that we could do, it is still necessary to put half a meter of brick around the perimeter, make concrete lintels above the windows and put the slabs of the first floor. To finish this stage, we need \$39,000 (\$17,000 to finish walls. But to finish walls we need intermediate floor slabs. Price for this is \$22,000). Then we'll put the roof. We try to do everything we can to make construction cheaper, we help builders. With brothers we bring and unload cement, wood, rebar. Now prices have risen again. Andrew says that all prices have increased by 15%. It's good we bought bricks for the entire building. Brothers and sisters, please pray for us that the Lord would help us finish the construction of the church building and we could move to a new building. Thank you for your help and unity in Christ. Big thanks to all of you. May we always bring glory to our Lord with our deeds and faith."



This day has ended and we are even closer to the goal!



If you can help the Ivano-Frankivsk brethren build this building please contribute!

WILL YOU HELP YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN IVANO-FRANKIVSK, UKRAINE TO BUILD? PLEASE DONATE SO WE CAN HAVE THE MONEY TO CONTINUE CONSTRUCTION. YOU CAN DONATE BY TWO METHODS:

Send a check to UKRAINE MISSIONS, Dalraida church of Christ, 4039 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36109 put "for Construction." **OR...**



Click on this PayPal link: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=RJP3T55RKXKZW