



# UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWS

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

December 2018

## IN THIS ISSUE

- End of the year thoughts from Ukraine
- Gratitude from Ghana



*Ivan and Andrew wear the hardhats that were sent for emergency services but Ukraine's government thought they should be commercial goods. We FINALLY were able to start distribution of the container that was loaded from Montgomery in August!*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## ***“BIBLE STUDIES PURIFY OUR SOULS AND THOUGHTS AND URGE US TO CONTINUE LEARNING THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.”***

Amazing! Another year has passed as quickly as noted by Job, *“My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle”* (7:6). This newsletter contains reports from your brothers and sisters in Ivano-Frankivsk and Ghana. As you look back on the monthly newsletters on 2018 and then add the trip reports and the extra email communications you are astonished at the scope and volume of our joint-efforts for the Lord.

In 2018 we began receiving pleas for help from a number of nations. Previously our efforts had focused on Ukraine and we did not know how we could respond to all pleas coming. But then the government of Ukraine’s “Task Group” basically shut down our benevolent efforts in Ukraine and that opened up the way to assist other nations. In 2018 we sent benevolence to: Ghana, Guinea, Moldova, Nigeria, Republic of Georgia, Tanzania, Uganda, and Ukraine. The visual of how Ukraine’s evil has halted benevolence to its poor, widowed, orphaned, and war-wounded is seen in the stat that in 2017 we shipped 27 containers into Ukraine but in 2018 we were only able to ship 12 and that number will be 0 in 2019 unless the evil “Task Group” is eliminated. In this newsletter you will see some photos of the church sorting clothes sent. We still have a container of new shoes that is held hostage by this Task Group.

Read the following reports and rejoice in the great good that is being accomplished in the Name of the Lord!

Thank you for your support and encouragement in 2018. As the New Year has begun, I am eager to see what astonishing events await us!

—John L. Kachelman, Jr.

## YEAR END GREETINGS FROM IVANO-FRANKIVSK ...

Good evening! I am writing you on behalf of my family—Ruslan, Timothy and myself. We find joy in reporting that many good and interesting things have happened to us. I went back to work at the bank at the end of November, where I had worked for many years. It was difficult to adjust as there were a lot of new things, which I did not know since I had not worked there for some time and banking in Ukraine has greatly developed in this time. At this point things are working out and Ruslan has been of great help.

Besides, in November we found out that we have a hope to have another child added to our family Everything is in Lord's hands. As for us, we try to keep His commandments. Ruslan has taken upon himself many responsibilities, which is a great help to me.

My family sends you their greetings, my grandmother in particular.

With love, Maria, Ruslan and Timothy Skoleba

## DISTRIBUTION NEWS...

“Thank you brother for the prayers and your letters to the government of Ukraine. Four times we had filed documents and each time group asked us ridiculous things. They wanted to take part of the humanitarian aid for themselves that had been sent to help people. We again and again experienced stress and frustration in our weak power. We had only prayer but that was stronger than government’s evil.”



Dear brothers and sisters! Happy New Year! We wish you joy, wisdom and abundant blessings from the Lord! We are sending big thanks to the church for support that you provide for this congregation and Ukraine. We pray and ask the Lord to bless richly all those that take part in this work. Your support enables us to help both members and needy people of Ivano-Frankivsk and the region.

The orphanage needs couches for children because old ones are worn out. You gave money to buy disinfecting autoclave for dishes. But some benevolent fund bought that autoclave for them and now they really need couches for children. We need your approval to purchase couches instead of autoclave for dishes.

Thank you very much! Svitlana Skoleba



2018 was a remarkable year in my Christian life. My Bible knowledge deepened and improved considerably, especially of the books Matthew and John’s Revelation.

At church, we studied profoundly such topics as freedom, sin, and power (brother Skoleba Ivan presented these lessons).

All that motivated me to think and meditate upon the life of men on earth, their calling and opportunities, and their responsibility to the Almighty.

Our American brother, our dear Bill Wharton, taught a very interesting class on studying the Bible from the beginning to the end (October 20, 2018).

Big thanks to brother John Kachelman for the sermon he taught on October 3, 2018 – it was profound and interesting (as usual with him). I love for him to continue coming to Ivano-Frankivsk to share his Bible knowledge with us.

Bible studies purify our souls and thoughts and urge us to continue learning the Holy Scripture.

Valentina, December 26, 2018

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## IVAN’S REPORT AT THE END OF 2018...

Greetings, dear brothers and sisters! We hope that the Lord will bless us with opportunities and strength to serve Him and preach the Holy Gospel to people in the New Year. We thank God for all of you that helped us through 2018. Ukrainians are in a great need of your help and prayers. And we are so thankful to God for all of you and for our common cause in Christ Jesus.

2018 was full of interesting events. We look back and see that a lot was done in Ivano-Frankivsk for the people to learn more about church of Christ. With your support more people started coming to worship services. We had four baptisms, many people received Bibles and relief items. Hospitals, educational institutions, children’s home, villages, families and IDP’s receive aid from church of Christ on a regular basis. Regional television channel produced a video talking about the work of the church of Christ and American missionaries.

The hearts of people in our community were stricken by Christian love and concern shown by the brethren from the Dalraida church of Christ that came



“Big thanks to all the brethren for help. It is a big support to Ukrainians. We spent the whole day at the warehouse today putting together records of buckets for people. We also brought from the countryside some food for the members and IDPs. We are going to the warehouse tomorrow morning. Sisters will help. It is very cold and freezing here.”

“We did not give helmets to the State. Church has control of helmets. They have been cleared by Customs and will be given to the Emergency Control Department and used in rescue operations in our Region!”



here and visited many groups and families with us. People from other cities and districts of this region invited us as well but we did not have time to visit everybody. Mayor Lubov said that she saw true Christian love as our American brothers and sisters taught children’s classes and classes for adults in Ugornyky. We rejoice saying even Orthodox priests brought their children to Bible classes and fellowship events!

We are able to report that church of Christ gradually changes lives of people. The more people come the more needs arise. But with humanitarian aid that you ship here we can support those in need till they find jobs and are able to provide themselves with food and lodging.

Big thanks to brother John Kachelman and those brethren that help him carry out his humanitarian projects. There are still people in Ukrainian government who want to hinder our work and stall Customs clearance for different reasons. We were denied the right to distribute our latest relief shipment for two months. But the letter that brother John Kachelman wrote addressing the Ukrainian government helped us solve the problem. We went to the White House several times and showed that letter urging them to resolve the situation because there was absolutely no legal ground for such a delay. They implied that there would be no problem if we paid them. We were turned down three times and the fourth letter finally gained approved.

We continue our congregational life in Christ and, on Sunday, January 7, we will have men’s meeting after worship service to plan out our work in 2019.

May the Lord help you, dear brothers and sisters, to draw nearer to the Creator and His work in us. May He let us do many more good deeds and reach maturity in Christ. Ephesians 3:18-21.

In Christian love, Ivan and Svitlana

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## ***PAVAL REPORTS FROM IVANO-FRANKIVSK, UKRAINE...***

Love and greetings to you, my dear brothers and sisters. As I pray, I thank the Lord for your hearts that are open to support and pray for us with such love, understanding and sympathy all the time. I also ask the Lord to bless you always for your support of churches of Christ all over the world. I am sending you Christmas and New Year’s greetings.

A lot happened here and there within the last year. Some of the events were good and some of them were not that good. The most joyful thing was to see many new people to come and listen to the Word of God, but, unfortunately, many have not repented of their sins and have not had biblical baptism yet. I hope the Lord will open their hearts to do that.

A lot of projects set up at the beginning of the year were accomplished. A great breakthrough in the construction of the church building was made. We distributed a good amount of humanitarian aid (medical supplies, medical equipment, clothes, shoes, food, etc.). My head starts spinning when I think of all the aid given out to the needy last year. And my heart overflows with joy to see God’s children show their love and care. Indeed, we know that we should gather our treasures in heaven.

Besides, I would like to thank you for evangelistic campaigns held last year when you came to Ukraine. Great lessons were taught, which motivated many to find out about church of Christ. I hope that you will make many more trips to Ukraine so we could be of good encouragement to one another. Thank you





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once again for your part in our joint work. I pray that your holiday season overflows with God’s blessings and love.

I continue teaching correspondence Bible classes to those who would like to be enrolled in the World Bible Institute but cannot attend for certain reasons. Such studies are, on one hand, convenient for students but, on the other hand, require a lot of time to teach since students have different schedules. However, we continue to proceed with our studies.

Dear brethren, please, pray for the Lord to give me more wisdom and patience to teach truth to the students without twisting it. I would like to have more students enrolled next year so that more and more will know the Word of God and apply it in their lives.

Happy holiday season once again. May God’s love and blessings be with you.

In Christian love, Brother Pavel

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## ***MEDICAL SEMINAR IVANO-FRANKIVSK, UKRAINE...***

**HELP MOTHERLAND INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONFERENCE**

**APRIL 7-17. 2019**

**IVANO-FRANKIVSK, UKRAINE (HOTEL STANISLAV)**

**THEME: MAKING A GREAT PHYSICIAN — THE HEART FACTOR**

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## ***A WORD FROM EMMANUEL...***

Hello Dear brother John, greetings from Ivano-Frankivsk!

Thank you so much for what you and my brothers and sisters have done already and willing to do again to support the Lord’s Church again in Ghana. You are very right, it shall indeed be a harmony for the Church.

Our congregation in Ghana is over 40 years old and still battling electing Elders. I have been praying fervently for God to help the new preacher and dedicated leaders to be able to elect Elders so that upon my completion of my medical training in Ukraine I will return home to render a holistic service under a Missionary Ministry. I established such outreach in the Church since 2016 inspired by your work and the examples of other brethren from States. This will operate within Ghana and nearby countries. This plan is to enable use of my medical knowledge/skills to draw people to Christ and His Church, and most importantly, encourage and inspiring them with God’s Word to be more “Heavenly Minded” and Eternal Salvation Focus than the crazy worldly love for fame, possession, power and money in the exchange of God’s Righteousness for eternal hell.

I want to emulate the great work for the Lord and His Church as well as humanity that you, Gary, Ron, John, Jerry and other brethren have shown. This is the core motivator and inspiration for my seven years journey in Ukraine’s medical university to endure pains, loneliness, and the financial challenges I and my family have to sacrifice especially the challenges my wife, kids, my younger brothers have to sacrifice furthering their education for the sake of me are the reasons I am able to wake up every day feeling more thankful and grateful to God for His Providence and never to give up on their great sacrifices.

“Will also send you pics of sorting clothes. But there was little room and I really couldn't take a good pic of sorters.”



The initial stage of all the difficulties I encountered almost lead me to throwing in the towel but God's Providence as you wrote about me some years ago continues to inspire me and encourages me to find solace in God's Words through your many books you gifted me freely.

Thank you for that great article you wrote and sent. I downloaded it and read it often to feed my faith in God through the assurance of His Son Jesus Christ. For knowing there are faithful Brethren in Ghana, Ukraine and USA who pray, encourage, inspire, support my childhood dream of becoming MD as "a vessel for Christ to use to bring Healing, Comfort, Joy and Hope to all my Clients and the World at large".

Glory be to His name as He has always with me even when at times my faith weighed me down.

Thank you dearly for your continuous inspiration towards the path of righteousness based on your faith but most importantly your deeds. My prayers and thoughts are always with you, your family and all the saints.

In His service, Emmanuel Kwaku Nimoh

## THANK YOU FROM GHANA...



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Dear Brethren In Christ,

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION OF DONATION.**

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; through whom we have redemption and grace in abundance. We want to thank you greatly for the generous heart and great gifts you sent to us. It has helped us and upgraded our school in terms of furniture and office equipment.

We owe you a debt and will pay it in working tirelessly for the Lord. We pray God to multiply all the effort you have made on our behalf and reward you in kind as you spread His goodness throughout the world.

We hope our relationship will go beyond this to bring the gospel to all as we spread his good tidings to all.

Yours In His Service, Emmanuel Dawutey, evangelist

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