

Ukraine Missions

a ministry of Dalraida church of Christ



Above Photo: This is church of Christ in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine after the worship assembly on April 6, 2019.

Here is the April 2019 UKRAINE MISSIONS Newsletter!

The April 2019 newsletter highlights selected reports that I have received over the month of April. There are so many encouraging events occurring and I wish I had space to pass on all the reports to you. In April, in addition to the actions reported in this newsletter, we have been involved in these nations: Armenia, Ghana, Kazakhstan, Liberia, The Republic of Georgia, and Tanzania! Not all goes smoothly and at times we are in “war” and it is exhausting. But the encouragement received when we fulfil a mission is rewarding.

I asked Ivan Skoleba to give a brief history of the Lord’s Church in Ivano-Frankivsk. He did a good job in condensing a massive amount of history into a brief report. Here is a part of his report that I find very encouraging...

“(I)n 2008, the Lord brought a great flood in Ivano-Frankivsk region, people were destroyed at home, there was no food and clothing, seventeen people died fleeing. The government was not able to help people because the bureaucratic machine was so complicated that they could not get help from other countries...The Lord blessed us that our help came and many people received temporary shelter, clothing and shoes. We were able to clear twelve containers with humanitarian aid in three days and for two weeks from morning till evening we distributed it to people and said that it was from Christians from America from the Churches of Christ...People were surprised that the Churches of Christ provided so much help...The Church of Christ is known not only in Ivano-Frankivsk itself, but also in the Region and the neighboring villages. We have received many thanks for the work and have the reputation of being the most active Church in this area.”

Read the April 2019 UKRAINE MISSIONS Newsletter and rejoice in the good news that has occurred!





UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWS

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

April 2019

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The children of the Ivano-Frankivsk church of Christ say hello and love to everyone.

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“WE HAVE RECEIVED MANY THANKS FOR THE WORK AND HAVE THE REPUTATION OF BEING THE MOST ACTIVE CHURCH IN THIS AREA.”

Here is the 2019 April UKRAINE MISSIONS Newsletter! During April I was in-country for half of the month. As usual this mission trip was very rewarding and much good was accomplished. I am especially thankful to those who are strong encouragers in this mission effort. Many regularly contribute funds that allow us to be involved in such amazing ways. On this mission trip I want to thank these brethren for their special donation that helped cover about three-fourths of the mission trip’s expenses: *the Knob Creek Church of Christ, Fulton, KY and Harold and Jean Bridges, Judsonia, AR!* Below is a brief report on this mission trip. If you were unable to read the reports sent back while in-country please go online and read them to get the daily specifics (<https://www.kachelman.com/ukraine/blog/>). I have received the final financial report on this trip and will be mailing it to supporters soon.

I want to THANK YOU to all who continue to be generous supporters of the Lord’s mission efforts in which I am privileged to work. As I look at the list of those who financially support my efforts I am reminded of Paul’s expressed sentiments, “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your partnership in the gospel” (Philippians 1:3-5).

The construction on the Ivano-Frankovsk’s meeting house is now in the phase that will get it “dried-in” and allow the brethren to finish the interior work. Completing this “drying-in” phase has become urgent as opposition from the Orthodox and Greek-Catholic priests has intensified. Because of their pressure the rent in the current rooms has increased by 20% and Ivan, Sveta and Anya have been attacked with false criminal accusations. *The legal registration* of the Church is secure and cannot be taken away. *The legal security* of the land is unquestioned. The construction efforts are at a point where the congregation should be able to begin meeting in a large room as the members finish the interior. This move will grant the congregation a visual legitimacy in the community. We hope to have this possible before winter arrives!

Read below this month’s reports of the amazing opportunities that God presented and that faithful brethren seized in their labors for the Lord!

—John L. Kachelman, Jr.

2019 SPRING MISSION TRIP...

The Spring mission trip was from 24 March to 21 April. I began with a visit to Kherson where I met with the Governor and then visited a number of locations where our benevolent commodities had been distributed. Of those



Good afternoon, brothers and sisters,
We hope you are all right. Our assemblies of the Church this week passed in a warm atmosphere of worship and fellowship. We congratulated our eldest brother in the Church Yaroslav Olexiyovych on his birthday. He was thankful to all brothers and sisters for their prayers and support while he was recovering from surgery. His birthday was this month and he and Luba brought two cakes. At the men's meeting, we have taken care of current issues and assigned those that will be responsible for services this week. The men of the congregation are doing preparatory work in the construction site. We do what we can. We hope that with God's help, we will soon continue construction. We pray that the Lord will open people's hearts and we will raise funds needed for this. Thank you for your prayers and work in God's vineyard.
With love in Christ, Your brothers from Ivano-Frankivsk

places visited I remember an orphanage where disabled children were housed and a home for the elderly where over 600 were housed. Many of these had never had a new pair of shoes and the smiles and appreciation from those receiving the shoes were wonderful. The meeting with the Governor went very well and he was very concerned about the way our efforts have been hindered by Kyiv.

The next stop was in Zaporozhe. We assembled with the congregation there on the Lord's Day and were encouraged by the Church meeting in that city. We have shipped a number of containers into Zaporozhe and these have accomplished much good for the Lord.

The majority of time on this trip was spent in Ivano-Frankivsk. The Medical Seminar was being conducted as Gary Jerkins, Ron Swang and John Durham led a large group of medical professionals. The reception to this year's seminar was ever more exuberant than last year. As the Medical Seminar was being conducted I began teaching a series of lessons from the Epistle to the Philippians. I was able to finish chapter one and on the next trip will resume the study with chapter two. I visited a number of locations where our shipments have been distributed and enjoyed spending time with Julia's class where she teaches English by using the Bible (see her report later on in this newsletter).

After leaving Ivano-Frankivsk I spent the final days in Kyiv. I had a number of meetings with officials discussing the impasse that had caused us to suspend shipments into Ukraine. I was promised that the situation was going to change and we can resume shipments to the various locations throughout Ukraine.

The spring trip was another schedule that was crammed full of events and actions. Not all can be recorded but I tried to highlight the most memorable. Please go online and reread the posts made during this tip to refresh your memory of the great good that was accomplished by the Lord.

The fall trip to Ukraine is being planned and thus far I have three others that are committed to going! If you would like to go, please contact me.

THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN IVANO-FRANKIVSK...

Greetings to you dear brothers and sisters.

First of all, we thank God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ for all that we do and can in Jesus Christ and His Holy Church. Our family is grateful to all brothers and sisters for supporting and supporting our ministry in Ivano-Frankivsk for all these years.

You all know how difficult it is for us to get what we have today in western Ukraine but I would like to review the history.

It began in 2006 when my family and I decided to move to Ivano-Frankivsk to found the Church of Christ in the fanatical orthodox region of western Ukraine. We pray for this work for two years, asking God for help. The Lord always hears our prayers if we are to work in His Kingdom. And then we met with John Kachelman in Kiev and talked about our plans and the desire to establish the Church of Christ in a difficult religious area. Tanya translated to us, and we decided to hold the Evangelical Company as far as financial and physical opportunities allowed. We rented a small room, conducted evangelism, and on the first day twenty-seven people came to us, then in

INDIA

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

We prayerfully hope that you are doing well. By the grace of God, we are doing our best in spreading the word of God and strengthening God's work.

Every second Saturday we have meeting for women in Jadcherla. We are arranging Bible class for women in other places also.

Palem is a city 50 miles away from Jadcherla.

Recently we arranged a class there for women. Victoria preached there. Good number attended. At the end of class two women obeyed God. I baptized them. Kindly pray for the spiritual growth of new souls. I am hoping that through them we can reach some more people.

We sincerely thank you. Because of you only we are able to reach many people. Thanks a lot for your kind alms.

Kindly remember us and this work in your valuable prayers.

Closing with love, Immadi

groups of 3-5 people, we held separate meetings of people. They were interested and surprised that you can read the Bible and for this you do not have to ask permission from a priest. So, we had a small group of seven people. Later the group grew to twelve people and in 2008 we had 15-17 people.

The problems started when we wanted to register the Church. Registration was necessary because we did not have the right under the law to freely rent premises. We were constantly hampered in this by the department of religion that looked so that in the region there would be no "dissenters" but only the whole religious movement would occur with the blessing of the Orthodox Church. And in 2008, the Lord brought a great flood in Ivano-Frankivsk region, people were destroyed at home, there was no food and clothing, seventeen people died fleeing. Social services and management were not able to help people because the bureaucratic machine was so complicated that they could not get help from other countries as everyone wanted bribes. At each stage, everything was locked and did not reach people. Then brother John offered help from the USArmy: folding cots, tents, sleeping bags, shoes, and medical assistance for people were injured and needy.

The Lord blessed us that our help came in time and many people received temporary shelter, clothing and shoes. We were able to clear twelve containers with humanitarian aid in three days and for two weeks from morning till evening we distributed it to people and said that it was from Christians from America from the Churches of Christ. This great help served as the beginning when local district authorities turned their attention to us and began to help us and even offered land so that we could build our own building for the Church.

For our work in 2010, the village administration of the village of Ugorniki allocated a plot of land for the Church. Again, the Department of Religion actively began to discourage us as threats against me and my wife increased. The head of the village administration, Lyubov Zinovyevna, was also a victim. She was threatened and negative articles in the newspaper were against her. All this greatly undermined our health. The attacks continued until 2014. We continued to work in the Church. John came and supported us in every way: he read us good lessons, encouraged us.

People were surprised that the Churches of Christ provided so much help. In parallel with these events, the envious persons appeared in the person of individual religious priests and the Department of Religion who in every way prevented our Church from registering so we did not have an official status that would allow us to build and have our own building or the right to television and print in the newspaper. And this war with the Department of Religion lasted from 2008-2014. From 2012 to 2014 we had three court proceedings with the Department of Religion. In two of them there was great pressure on Judges from the Department of Religion and priests to make us lose. But we appealed to the Supreme Court and won. The Department of Religion was forced to register us. But then they used every way to hinder and put pressure on Church members and on my family, so that we would abandon this venture to discover the "new religion" as they called us. In spite of everything, the Lord has given us the strength to persevere. And we are very grateful to John Kachelman for humanitarian and spiritual support. If not for the elders and the mission committees of Dalraida and Hillsboro, we would not have achieved all of this.

*JULIA'S
"SMART FOX"
CLASS*



Greetings to the Christians who support the "Smart Fox" club and those who are reading it!

I want to let you and others know how good God is! Because of Him we have such a great work with children in Ukraine.

I want to start with the good news! We have two more students. It is a brother and a sister, their mom talked to me because she was worried if we are Baptists or Jehovah's Witnesses. I explained to her the goal of our club and what kind of classes we have and that we do not belong to any denominations. She was happy with this news.

During April we had such important topics as Obedience (to God, parents and teachers) and Forgiveness.

During these years of our work, 78 people were baptized in Ivano-Frankivsk. Some left Ivano-Frankivsk and moved to communities in other cities. The Church of Christ is known not only in Ivano-Frankivsk itself, but also in the Region and the neighboring villages. We have received many thanks for the work and have the reputation of being the most active Church in this area. Through these years our family has taken the whole blow of persecution for all these years. We have tried to protect the members of the Church as much as possible. The constant war with evil is exhausting.

Thank you all. Let it be for everything, Glory to God, the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

With love in Christ, Ivan and Svetlana

ANDREW & MARINA SEND YOU NEWS...

Greetings, dear brethren.

We trust that all of you are doing fine. We miss the time we spent together last year.

We hope to see you again. Thank you for your work in Ukraine, especially in Ivano-Frankivsk. We ask the Lord to give desire, opportunities and strength to all of us so that we can continue working for His cause with great joy. Joy in hearts and on faces encourages us.

During this period of time we have visited large families several times and have given them the relief items that we received from you via our brother John Kachelman in the form of family buckets that contained household supplies and food. People are still amazed to see us do that, which presents a good opportunity to share the Good News with them. They send their thanks in short videos. Every family can use such supplies and large families need them even more.

We put together New Year's presents for the kids. Our children enjoyed helping us with it. As we were giving out presents, children from those families could not believe that it was all theirs and each one of them had their own present with sweets and their own toy. They could not believe that they did not have to wait for their brothers/sisters to play first but could rather play together. In the pictures, you can see their faces – filled with joy and astonished at the same time.

Medical nurses from the local out-patient clinic that work with those families help us with this ministry. We have given them medical scrubs and now each of them has their own new scrub. We were told that the administration had had a ceremony six years ago and had given them six lab coats for the whole clinic and since then they had not received anything. Thus, they were very pleased with the presents and thanked us a lot. We used that opportunity to evangelize. Such interaction brings us closer and presents open up hearts. Unfortunately, they all work and do not have enough time for a deeper dialogue. For such a purpose a permanent place and more time are needed so that people can plan meetings. But even such activities together are uplifting as they offer comfort.

We would like to thank you for your part in this work, for your prayers and support. May the Lord bless you!

In Christian love, Andrew and Marina

PASHA TUZNICHENKO'S REPORT...

Also, we had a guest at one of our lessons. His name is John L.

Kachelman, Jr. from Dalraida Church of Christ.

The children had opportunity to practice English and listened to the Story of Good Samaritan. It was a great class and a great time all together.



As you know we still need supplies for children. We would be very thankful, if anyone can donate stickers, craft paper, glitter, beads, hot maze, Bible set crafts etc (just some examples).

I hope we can continue to do the crafts as we plan vacation Bible school at summer. If you have any questions, I would be glad to answer.

In Christ,
Julia Didukh
Lysets, Ukraine

My dear brothers and sisters, love and greetings to you! May peace, love and grace be always with you. I thank the Lord for you and your prayers. I also pray to the Lord asking Him to give us wisdom, love, understanding and ability to be considerate of our neighbors, so that we can be better workers in God's vineyard; gather as many treasures in heaven as possible, and save many more souls that need God, His grace and love so bad.

Special thanks for our brother John Durham. I am thankful to the Lord who gives him strength and energy to be so active in the mission field. Besides, I would like to thank you for supporting our brother John Kachelman, Jr., who works so hard in God's vineyard, who finds time to share his knowledge with us and to encourage us both physically and in spirit.

And here is my report on the work done last month. I took part in the teaching of Bible classes and conducting of Sunday worship services. I was involved in other aspects of Church's life which was very busy. I visited with people trying to encourage them in spirit; helped with humanitarian aid distribution and we distributed a lot of items last month. I try to use all of my God-given talents to serve others. I am still in charge of our correspondence Bible course for those who would like to be enrolled in the WBI but cannot do so for different reasons. We studied James' Epistle and Peter's 1st and 2nd Epistles last month. We dwelt on such topics as: perseverance in faith, how to withstand temptations, being obedient to God's Word, compassion to others, how to overcome hatred, etc. As usual, I ask you to keep these studies and students in your prayers for the Lord to give them physical and spiritual abilities.

Once warm weather sets in we are busy getting the construction ready to resume the work: we brought 5 tons of cement, prepared scaffolding, and cleaned the grounds. Thank you for your financial support of the construction of our church building. And I hope that whenever the work is done, you will join us for the opening ceremony.

As usual, please, pray on behalf of our families, for churches of Christ to grow and mature in Ukraine and all over the world.

I pray to the Lord asking Him to bless you in all you do, to give you good health and build you up in spirit.

I keep all of you in my prayers wishing good health, God's love and grace to you and your families.

In Christian love, Brother Pavlo

