

Ukraine Missions

a ministry of Dalraida church of Christ



Above Photo: A container was loaded from Montgomery, AL on October 29 arriving in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine on January 5. The brethren unloaded it in twenty-degree weather with freezing rain!

DECEMBER 2020 UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWSLETTER!

Pavlo writes these encouraging words: “Sadly, the lockdown threw a wrench into our plans for 2020 but we will try to catch up in 2021. Even with the lockdown’s restrictions we distributed tons of humanitarian aid (medical supplies and equipment, clothes, shoes, food and many other things). If we try to write down all groups and people that have received benevolent help from the Church, the list will turn into a large volume. You should have heard all the words of thanks and encouragement addressed to us and our Lord when we give without charge the items desperately needed. If you heard these words you would have gained a positive emotional charge strong enough to last you many years! As we look back at all that was given to the needy last year our heads are spinning and our soul overflows with joy when we see the love and care shown by God’s children to those in the Region. Indeed, this is how we know that we gather our treasures in heaven.”

In the midst of earth’s trials, tribulations and turmoil it is encouraging to get reports of the positive impact YOU are bringing into the world. I’m working on a construction update and we are pushing to be assembling in the building this year!

THANK YOU to all involved in this amazing work! (“You shall fully open your hand,” Deuteronomy 15:11)
John L. Kachelman, Jr.



UKRAINE MISSIONS NEWS

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

December 2020

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- Encouraging reports from Ukraine!



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“If we try to write down all groups and people that have received benevolent help from the Church, the list will turn into a large volume.”

This newsletter closes 2020! This year will be long remembered in history’s record. As the year closes we take comfort in the absolute truth Habakkuk pondered long ago. He asked why God was so silent when evil was rampant. The prophet’s distress was answered and the closing verses are one of the greatest exclamations of faith and trust in God. The stress of trying to reconcile God’s righteousness permitting an evil society, was a battle for the prophet’s faith. But faith persevered as the Almighty’s assurance of divine justice’s inevitability was accepted. The prophet concluded, *“I must wait quietly for the day of distress, for the people to arise who will attack us.”*

The prophet was consoled by God’s assurance that mankind cannot invalidate the Divine command and control. Evil will be punished. Even nations who rise to rule the world cannot invalidate the Divine commands. The closing verses of the prophecy testify to the faith that overcomes this world. *“Even if the fig tree does not blossom, and there is no fruit of my salvation...the fields produce no food...the flock disappears from the fold...there are no cattle in the stalls, yet I will triumph in the Lord, I will rejoice in the God my strength, and He has made my feet like deer’s feet, and has me walk on my high places”* (Habakkuk 3:16-19).

Mankind can ignore and censor the Divine wrath; he can reword and excuse the Divine commands; he can live a life devoted to selfishness; and, he can exalt worldly wisdom. BUT, he will NOT evade the Divine anger. And so, as this crazy year concludes we cling to the Almighty God’s sovereignty and respect His workings on the earth, even if we cannot understand the “Whys?”

The chaos of 2020 was worldwide, BUT in the midst of this turmoil and fear are a number of wonderful results. This final newsletter contains reports from your brothers and sisters far away. Their words will encourage you. I am also including a year-end summary of our shipments in 2020.

—John L. Kachelman, Jr

IVAN SKOLEBA’S NEWS FOR DECEMBER...

Dear brother and sisters!

Cordial greetings and kind wishes to you for 2021! We wish you perseverance and trust in the Lord in our joint worshipping Him and proclaiming the truth of His Word. May He build up our hope and fill His children with wisdom, health, joy, and peace.

Big thanks to you, our American friends, for your prayers, warm and encouraging support, your love and care that you show through the aid you provide for us here in Ukraine.

“By God’s grace none of the members have been badly ill, though some have contracted the virus. Some members are unable to worship in-person so they join us online. Those who worshipped online with us still join us, none has dropped out. We have one more family now that came from Zhytomyr. Both husband and wife are disabled. Besides, Marina’s aunt Olya and her husband Misha join us online now.”

Our family and the Church here thank God for you in our prayers all the time.

One more month, the month of December, flew by like one day. One more year is almost over and we are coming even closer to eternity.

We continue our ministry at Church, in the city and villages.

Despite of all the attacks on the part of God’s adversary – illnesses, lockdowns, which are canceled and then reinforced again, - we still have our in-person services, following all safety rules.

We studied the Book of Revelation on Sundays where the Lord through John comforts first-century Christians and shows them the wonderful things awaiting those who will remain faithful to the end.

On Wednesdays we studied the Epistle of James.

Friday is a prayer day when we pray for the needs of God’s people.

Saturday is a day of visitations.

After Sunday worship, we go to the village to encourage new Christians. We work with local people there and come back home Monday evening.

Our visiting brother Gif preached a very good and encouraging sermon. Anya translated for him and did a great job.

All brothers are actively involved in different ministries and wait at the Lord’s table.

Ruslan takes care of the needy and elderly members bringing food and medicines to them whenever need be. Together with Andrew, Pavlo and Kolya he helps at the construction site doing minor building works. They look after the storage facility for humanitarian shipments.

Ruslan is the Director of our online Bible School that has 4 students enrolled at this point.

By God’s grace none of the members have been badly ill, though some have contracted the virus. Some members are unable to worship in-person so they join us online. Those who worshipped online with us still join us, none has dropped out. We have one more family now that came from Zhytomyr. Both husband and wife are disabled. Besides, Marina’s aunt Olya and her husband Misha join us online now.

As far as steady numbers in the congregation, we have 50 total that attend when COVID restrictions allow and there are 20 more that are open to the Church. A complete lockdown because of the virus is planned in January – January 8 through 24. We pray for the Lord to protect His children both in Ukraine and America from any deadly harm that this virus presents.

We meet with people, preach to them and give out Bibles to those who are willing to read.

We help needy families in villages, such as large families as well as orphans and poor ones. There are 7 boys in one family. Another family has 5 children, 4 boys, mother passed away. We brought lots of clothes, shoes, toys and food to them. These children live in poor conditions but they don’t murmur at God. They believe and pray. They pray for us and for you, dear brothers and sisters. We told them about you, and the Church in America that loves us even though we are so far away from one another. We read children’s Bible together and talk about the Lord.

A CONTAINER ARRIVES!



“Dear brothers and sisters! Thank you for prayers. We finished unloading the container at 8:00 tonight. I spent the whole day knocking on every door for approval and at 5:00 p.m. we received the permission to unload the shipment. Gif helped us a lot. Thanks to all and glory to God!”

All the members here, all people receiving our benevolence, and our family are sending you our kindest Christian regards.

Sincerely yours with love, Ivan and Svitlana

RUSLAN SKOLEBA SENDS NEWS...

Dear brothers and sisters! I am happy to give you best regards on behalf of the church in Ivano-Frankivsk! 2020 is coming to an end. We have done a lot together with you this year.

Despite all hardships associated with COVID, we continue laboring in God's vineyard asking Him to present more opportunities to us and to free us from this pandemic next year. We know about the Kachelman family being infected with the virus and have prayed for them as well as others needing God's assistance. We hope that nobody is sick now.

We are getting ready to receive and unload a relief container. Big thanks to you not only on our behalf but also on behalf of those receiving the aid and using it. We thank God and you for this work.

We hope to meet and fellowship with many of you personally in 2021. May God keep you and your church safe from all negatives and may He shower you with His blessings. Ruslan and family!

PAVLO TUZNICHENKO'S NEWS...

I am sending you my love, dear brothers and sisters! I always thank our Lord for all of you whose hearts are open to pray for us and support us with such love, understanding and sympathy. I always ask the Lord to bless you for your great input into the growth of churches of Christ all over the world. I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Last year was filled with both good and bad developments in your nation and in Ukraine. The most uplifting thing, to my mind, is that in this bad situation I find a growing number of people willing to listen to the Word of God. But, unfortunately, many have not repented of their sins and have not been baptized according to the Bible. I trust that the Lord will open their hearts to do it. Many looks to God as a superstitious protection relic whose protection does not require them to change their refusal to obey God.

Sadly, the lockdown threw a wrench into our plans for 2020 but we will try to catch up in 2021. Even with the lockdown's restrictions we distributed tons of humanitarian aid (medical supplies and equipment, clothes, shoes, food and many other things). If we try to write down all groups and people that have received benevolent help from the Church, the list will turn into a large volume. You should have heard all the words of thanks and encouragement addressed to us and our Lord when we give without charge the items desperately needed. If you heard these words you would have gained a positive emotional charge strong enough to last you many years! As we look back at all that was given to the needy last year our heads are spinning and our soul overflows with joy when we see the love and care shown by God's children to those in the Region. Indeed, this is how we know that we gather our treasures in heaven.

I hope that next year you will get to come here more often so that we can gain a spiritual charge from one another and there will be no lockdowns to



GIF: “Well we managed to unload the container and let me tell you it almost made me appreciate being on the loading end. 20-degree weather and a freezing rain is not my idea of a good time! We got it all done though.”



hinder our in-person fellowship. Once again, I would like to thank you for your assistance with our work. I hope that your holidays will be filled with God’s grace and love.

I continue teaching correspondence Bible classes to those who cannot attend the Bible School. Brethren, please, pray for the Lord to give me wisdom and patience to teach the Truth in a simple and untwisted method. I would like to have more students the next year so that more will grow to understand the Word of God and apply it in their lives.

Once again, Happy Holidays, God’s Love and Blessings to you!

In Christian love, brother Pavlo

A NOTE FROM GIF...

Hello there! Just wanted to pass along some thoughts and updates from visiting the Church here.

First, yesterday’s worship was a great time and Ivan is doing a good job preaching through Revelation. I spent most of the day after with him and Andrew because they wanted to practice English. Apparently the two of them have been working together on it as a hobby. Ivan is actually getting quite good; he needed Anya to translate some of my responses but for the most part he was able to speak his own sentences. Andrew has improved but is shy to use it. I asked Andrew why he had decided to learn it and he said “I want to talk to my American brothers.” I think that encompasses the heart that he has! It was nice to spend some time with them. Also, after the worship service, Svitislav and Daniel got up and recited Psalms 1 and 23. They did great! Svitislav is quite the English speaker now too and has taken a great interest in learning jokes so he is my new favorite person here. Also, Ruslan gave the thoughts before the Lord’s Supper and the contribution and the comments were really good. Specifically, he said that when it comes to contribution for the church building, we appreciate what Americans have done for us but we need to make this our own and make sacrifices for ourselves, and not be so reliant upon American help. He said several other things along the same vein, and I thought it was very wise and well put.

Today, we went out to the construction site and it has come a long, long way since last year! I was curious as to how they intended for their older/disabled members to make the trip out that far away from the city. Andrew said that there is a bus route now and the city is planning to run a trolley in a few years.

Ivan and Sveta are really quite passionate about Zelena. Every conversation we have had for the last couple of weeks, they bring it up somehow and talk about it at great length. They have been going there almost weekly to conduct studies and classes since the pandemic started. Currently, the Christians there are joining the Ivano-Frankivsk services through phones each week as they have no transportation here and no one there really able to preach.

Please let me know if you need me to do anything else while I am here for the next few days. Supposedly the first container will arrive tomorrow and I am planning to go help unload. Of course, they initially planned on it being here December 23, so...here is hoping someone actually meant January 5 when they wrote that. But anything else you would like done here after that, I am open to it and have a willing translator.



WORLD OF CONNECTIONS
INTERNATIONAL NGO LIAISON SERVICES

All distribution reports can be viewed at: <https://worldofconnections.org/completed-reports>

PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT NUMBER	DONOR ORGANIZATION	DESTINATION COUNTRY	WEIGHT VALUE LBS	CARGO VALUE	LOADING DATE	ARRIVED DATE
2018 TOTAL:	22 CONTAINERS			VALUED AT \$	5,775,907.60	
2019 TOTAL:	35 CONTAINERS	707473 LBS		VALUED AT \$	6,899,326.27	
85/COC01/ODE120	Dalraida COC	Odessa, Ukraine	14841	\$ 187,403.00	1/6/2020	3/5/2020
90/COC01/MOL120	Holly Springs MS	Tiraspol, Moldova	25320	\$ 197,450.00	1/31/2020	3/30/2020
91/COC01/ZIK120	Fort Smith AR	Nigeria	16347	\$ 117,030.00	2/1/2020	3/30/2020
92/COC01/NJ120	Dalraida COC	New Jersey	9000	\$ 150,000.00	4/16/2020	4/18/2020
93/COC02/SP120	Holly Springs MS	SAMARITAN PURSE	16000	\$ 120,000.00	4/27/2020	4/28/2020
94/COC01/CHN120	Dalraida COC	CHINA	1916	\$ 28,000.00	2/24/2020	3/27/2020
95/COC03/SP220	Dalraida COC	SAMARITAN PURSE	40000	\$ 650,000.00	4/28/2020	4/28/2020
96/COC04/ADECA120	World Emergency Relief	ADECA- Alabama's COVID response Unified Command	20000	\$ 78,000.00	4/27//20	4/27/2020
97/COC05/NY120	Dalraida COC	HARLEM HOSPITAL	12000	\$ 125,000.00	4/30/2020	4/30/2020
98/COC01/GUA120	Holly Springs MS	GUATEMALA	30205	\$ 125,440.00	5/19/2020	6/20/2020
99/COC01/HON120	Dalraida COC	HONDURAS	9320	\$ 50,088.28	10/26/2020	11/22/2020
100/COC02/GUA220	JUDSONIA COC	GUATEMALA	22032	\$ 385,610.00	6/25/2020	7/20/2020
101/COC03/GUA320	Dalraida COC	GUATEMALA	27419	\$ 139,330.00	5/18/2020	7/9/2029
102/COC02/MOL220	JUDSONIA COC	Tiraspol, Moldova	21040	\$ 159,850.00	8/11/2020	10/12/2020
103/COC01/TOG120	Fort Smith AR	TOGO	16900	\$ 240,000.00	8/15/2020	10/29/2020
104/COC02/IVAN120	Holly Springs MS	IVANO FRANKIVSK	19590	\$ 228,878.25	9/1/2020	10/23/2020
105/COC06/IVANO420	Dalraida COC	IVANO FRANKIVSK	18260	\$ 68,024.00	11/17/2020	12/23/2020
106/COC03/IVANO220	MONGOMERY AL	IVANO FRANKIVSK	36806	\$ 266,640.00	9/2/2020	10/27/2020
107/COC04/IVANO320	MONGOMERY AL	IVANO FRANKIVSK	23000	\$ 280,761.00	10/29/2020	12/23/2020
108/COC01/NIC120	Holly Springs MS	NICARAGUA	32450	\$ 178,625.00	11/2/2020	12/14/2020
109/COC04/GUA420	Holly Springs MS	GUATEMALA	24319	\$ 193,475.00	11/17/2020	12/21/2020
110/COC05/KHE120	JUDSONIA COC	KHERSON UA	22989	\$ 62,401.00	11/23/2020	1/20/2021
111/COC02/ZIK220	MONGOMERY AL	NIGERIA	20840	\$ 278,785.00	11/17/2020	1/17/2021
112/COC03/ZIK320	MONGOMERY AL	NIGERIA	16960	\$ 193,207.00	12/1/2020	1/24/2021
113/COC07/ODE120	MONGOMERY AL	Odessa, Ukraine	16667	\$ 146,085.00	12/14/2020	1/18/2021
2020 TOTAL:	26 CONTAINERS	514221 LBS		VALUED AT \$	4,650,082.53	

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