



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Planting in Chervona Sloboda

2nd Quarter 2011 Report

April 2011

For the second time, our church was invited to the kindergarten in order to present a Bible lesson for the children. For the moment, we visit the kindergarten only on holidays. The first time was at Christmas; now we have been invited for Easter. Larissa, the director of the kindergarten, in very recent times has been to our church. At first, the parents of children attending kindergarten treated us with apprehension, but now everything has changed; the parents do not mind that we teach children the Bible. Moreover, some of the parents themselves are present during the Bible lessons, which is a great opportunity to witness to them about God.

Our Sunday school teacher Alyona and a few kids from our church prepared a short holiday program. Alyona told those present about Easter, which means Passover for us. The children recited poems and sang songs. The celebration was attended by Valentina, who was recently elected head of the village council. We first met her and introduced ourselves. Valentina was very pleased as we gave the Bible lesson. She, along with Larissa (the kindergarten director) invited us to visit the children more often with Bible lessons. The children in kindergarten were dressed in traditional costumes; they prepared their holiday program, they sang Easter songs and recited poems. At the end of the holiday, all the children were given gifts that are made in our church.



I was invited to the village council, where we chatted with Valentina Nikolaevna, head of the board. She told me that the village council has no money; it cannot even buy paper and stationery. She asked the church for help. We were asked if possible for us to provide a printer and office supplies. I had the opportunity to testify in the village council of God. This is a great blessing for our church that they come to us for help. It is



an opportunity to improve relations with the leadership of the village and thus to communicate to people the Word of God. Please pray about this and find a way to help the village council to buy the paper and stationery. Printers are in the container, and as soon as the container arrives, we hope to give their one to the village council. Our church has even given a subscription to the Christian children's magazine "Pathway" to the kindergarten. Now children can read a magazine and learn more about God. Please pray about it, so the word of God will grow in the hearts of children.

Just this moment, even as I write this letter, I received a call from Sloboda and learned that the head of the village council, Valentina Nikolaevna, has had a stroke. She is home and cannot move. I was asked to pray about it. I ask you, dear brothers and sisters, pray for Valentina that in these circumstances, she will seek God and the Lord will save her, if this His will is healed. Pray for the children of the kindergarten and the leadership of the

village, so they will be saved. Pray for our church. God gives us new opportunities to share God's word with people in our village. Pray that we could use every opportunity to save people.

Thank you, dear brothers and sisters for your prayers, for your financial support. Thanks to you, God's work is done in Chervona Sloboda. Thank you for everything, for your love for us. God bless you and your families and churches. May God meet your needs.

Sincerely,
Vitaly Yurchenko

June 2011

Brother Slava has been in our church since 2004, when he repented and was baptized. He's done a lot of the work in the reconstruction of a house of worship. He graduated from the Kiev Theological Seminary. He preaches during services and is responsible for the business of the church. When men from rehabilitation centers began to attend our services, Slava immediately made friends with these brethren from the rehabilitation center. A month ago, Brother Slava was invited to join in the ministry at the rehabilitation center. Slava has agreed; he prayed about it, and now he is at a rehabilitation center to help people overcome alcohol and drug addictions. Slava continues to serve in the church; he preaches and is responsible for the physical facility of the church.

Recently there have been baptized in 2 people from the rehabilitation centers. Tanya, a former alcoholic, for many years used alcohol in unlimited quantities. Her parents abandoned her, and she had to live wherever she could. Tanya sank to the bottom of a sinful life. There was a time when Tanya decided to withdraw from life, to committ suicide. God is merciful to people. At the same time, Tanya has found an ex-girlfriend, and she took her to a rehabilitation center. Now Tanya enjoys freedom in Christ, and she shows people about God's miraculous deliverance and forgiveness of sins.

Alex, a drug addict, was no longer in any condition to take drugs; he was thin and terrible as death. His veins had no living places left due to all the holes from injections. Sasha asked God questions: "Why did You create me? Kill me! Why do I live?" God heard Sasha; he completely changed his life. At the moment, Alex is recovering, he wants to stay in the center in order to serve others by helping to get rid of alcohol and drug dependence.

Our church was visited by a group of students from Maranatha. They came to help us conduct camps for children in our churches. All of them sang wonderfully. They testified of their conversion to God, they preached the Word of God. We are very grateful for their visit to our churches; it is always encouraging for us.

I thank God for the opportunity to labor in His harvest field. We appreciate the assistance from our brothers and sisters in America, for their prayers. Thank you, thank you to the Maranatha youth, for your hard work and assistance. May God bless all of you and grant the desires of your heart.

Your in Christ,
Vitaly Yurchenko