



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Planting in Chervona Sloboda

1st Quarter 2012 Report

January -February

Greetings from Chervona Sloboda! I want to share the fact that this year has started very blessedly for us. There have been many interesting developments in Chervona Sloboda. First, we had a Christmas worship and performances for children. Our Sunday School prepared a Christmas program, and they performed this program in the kindergarten. The children and their parents came for the holiday, so both children and parents heard what this holiday is and about



the Christ who was born. We gave gifts to the children and a children's Bible. Their parents received Christian pamphlets. Someone suggested giving a Bible to the parents, but it turned out that all homes have a Bible. Pray for the people who listened to the Word of God. We conducted a Christmas service at church. A pleasant surprise was that people whom we were not expecting came. There were also a lot of children. And for this service the Sunday School prepared a program. Adults prepared too. They read poems and sang songs, showed the birth of Jesus in their lives. Julia, the sister

of our brother Sergei, attended and listened attentively. It was evident that something was happening inside her. Afterward she visited the "School of Evangelism," which Igor Balashov conducts. At that lesson, Julia accepted Jesus into her heart. Pray for Julia that she will grow, and be strengthened in the truth.

The youth group from the city of Rivne visited our church. On a Saturday, the youth of the Sloboda church held a fellowship time. This is good testimony for the young people who live without God. They saw that there are other young people who live a full life. At the Sunday worship service, young people were praising God. Somebody testified of his conversion to Christ. Of their older group, Alexander (their Sunday school teacher) preached the Word of God. After the service, lunch was attended by young people from Sloboda, who had already become friends with the visiting Christian youth. Friends exchanged phone numbers, e-mail addresses. Thus was born new friendships, and we hope that the Christian youth will be a blessing to the children of the world. Pray for these young people.



Another blessing in our church is that two people from Sloboda applied to study in the seminary. Sergei has, in recent years begun to experience changes in spiritual growth. He began to actively participate in the Bible studies, and has expanded his knowledge of God. He entered the seminary. Lena has been thinking about schooling for a long time, but could not find the time. The Lord so arranged that she could go to school. Thank God for that. Pray about Sergei and Lena.

I know that you pray for us, and we experience the blessing in the ministry of our Lord.

Thank you, dear friends, for their prayers and material aid. Thanks to you, the work of God extended to us. Pray for us. God bless you.

March

I spent all this month in the United States. I must say that the journey was very long (5 weeks). It was difficult, but very blessed. We visited many churches, we saw a lot of friends, visited many states on the Atlantic coast. Meanwhile, the ministry continued to Sloboda, the church became independent. Previously, we needed help with conducting the ministry, running Sunday school, we were unable to cope. Before when I traveled to America, I asked for help from the "Church of Salvation" in conducting the ministry in Sloboda. Every Sunday and Wednesday, someone would go there to conduct the ministry. Now Slavik has graduated from seminary. He preaches and conducts meetings when I travel. Alyona also finished seminary and is responsible for Sunday school. Three other members of our church went to study at the seminary. Sergei and Sasha attend seminary, and sometimes preached. Lena, too, came to study,



and she began to organize a small choir. They still sing the psalms in unison, but we hope in the future, they will learn and sing choral works. At Christmas, a group from Sloboda went to the "Church of Salvation," and they sang in the church Christmas songs. Brother Yura volunteered to conduct a prayer meeting on Fridays. He visits church members and learns of their prayer needs. Some people are not saved we are asked to pray for them. One young brother, Roman, is preparing for baptism. He learns to play the piano and wants to continue to serve in the church in worship. Roma wants to buy a video projector, and through it to show the words of the songs. This is a request, that Sloboda will be able to get a video projector. It is necessary not only for worship but also for various seminars.

Thank God for His blessings on our Grace Baptist Church in Sloboda. We see well how God's children grow spiritually and serve the Lord. We are very grateful to all the brothers and sisters who support us prayerfully and financially. Thank you! Thanks to your diligence, the work of God is being done in our church. God bless you!

Sincerely,
Vitaly Yurchenko