



## **The Kosyanchuks in Bilogorodka, Ukraine**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, 2020**

#### **April**

It's unusual, but the life of the church and of each member of the congregation was spent in quarantine this month. We can feel very much that there is a lack of ministry, that there's no vibrant fellowship among God's children, and everyone misses each other. Praise God, we still have telephone connections, and the church members are calling each other more often to see how everyone is doing. In general, these are the older generation. But those who are younger are the ones who have computers, and they can conduct services, have fellowship, and study the Word of God through online videoconferences.

At first, we didn't have much opinion of online ministries, but now that we've gotten accustomed to them, we are pleased with them. Families participate, they sing, the Word of God is preached, difficult matters are resolved, and people are supporting one another in various ways, spiritually and otherwise.

Knowing the needs of several church members, especially in the quarantine conditions, other members of the church who were able to take part in taking aid to those with needs. Food parcels were purchased and distributed to their homes. And right away, people in the town started talking about how we in the church care for each other. Praise God that we were able to do this. Prayer groups share their needs by telephone, and while on the line the two people then pray for these needs. Previously, these groups prayed for needs twice a week, but now nearly every day.

We sincerely thank you, too, for your prayers, your support, and help. May the Lord bless you and protect you and help you to get through these difficulties in the name of Christ and for His glory.

#### **May**

In the past month, we adapted to quarantine conditions, and in this month we are perfecting our methods for fellowship and holding services online (via Zoom).

This month, the younger generation has been taking part in both the morning and evening Sunday church services. The teen group holds their fellowship time on Thursday evenings. They have theme-based topics for discussion times. During the quarantine, two other female students started joining them online. They had once come to our church for Sunday school. Last year, they applied to institutions of higher education and stopped coming to church. But, praise God, when they learned that there is such a ministry during the quarantine, they began to participate actively.

In the Kyiv region, there isn't yet a lessening of the quarantine, and older residents are advised not to leave their houses. Therefore, our church recommended that on Sunday mornings, from 10:00 to 12:00, people could read their Bibles and pray, and on Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 to have prayer times at home.

And, praise God, those who do so have been delighted at this decision. We are very grateful to the Lord for saving His church, helping us to endure, and giving spiritual strength to His people to

remain unified. During telephone fellowship with each other, church members express how much they miss one another and how impatiently they look forward to holding services in person.

We pray for you and thank you for your prayers, for your support, and your help. May the Lord preserve you, strengthen you, and reward you a hundred times over.

## June

Despite adverse conditions in connection with the epidemic, the life of the church and its labor is continuing. When the quarantine restrictions eased, while abiding by all the recommendations of the authorities, we were supposed to hold a service inside the church building. However, when the epidemic started growing again, the requirements were strengthened again. We had to forego meeting in the church building and held a service outdoors. Praise God that we are allowed to do at least that much and that there is room in the courtyard of the church, beneath the linden trees that are beginning to blossom. And so, under these trees the children of God praised the Lord while up above bees were buzzing, likewise praising God for the gifts He has sent.

We had been concerned that there would be some discomfort. However, people enjoyed it so much that they were saying, "Let's do this until the end of the quarantine." There were no microphones, but both the sermon and the choir's singing were heard just fine. People who were walking past the church to the river stopped and listened, and this encouraged the choir members and the preachers.

It was a great joy to the church that one soul at this service repented. This was a young man who had come to services before, and had even tried to go forward to repent but couldn't get himself to do it. The time came, and his prayer was a sincere appeal to the Lord. This was God's mercy to this soul.

We pray for your country, too, that the Lord will protect you and bless your labor in God's harvest field. And we thank you for your prayers and brotherly help and support. May God bless you all.

Amen.