



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

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, 2021**

#### **May**

Christ left the Great Commission to His disciples after His resurrection. It doesn't have an expiration date. It should be performed "until the end of the age" but before His return to this earth. Praise God that we, despite these times that humanity is going through, times of restrictions and stasis, can be fulfillers of His words!

In these days, our country celebrates Easter, and our First Baptist Church of Bilogorodka likewise conducts holiday services. One of these services was the "Children's Easter Service," which in this year, due to quarantine restrictions, was divided into two—one for younger children and one for older children. Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus, for a long time we had not held any holiday services for children in our local church so we had concerns: "Will children come? How many will there be?" However, our God is living. He cheers us and is active, both in circumstances and in the hearts of people. Despite everything mentioned above, between these two services we had about 60 children, which practically equals the number of children at our Easter services before the quarantine. Furthermore, for many of these children it was their first time to be in one of our services, and therefore possibly their first time to hear the Truth of the Gospel!

With our preparations, there awaited these kids a marvelous, friendly atmosphere, Easter singing, games, and a stage play on the essence of Easter. In the end, as a sign of God's love, each child received a gift along with an invitation to come to Sunday school or to teen fellowship, which are held in our church building for them. After the services, we heard many expressions of appreciation from parents and those who attended.

We, in turn, thank God for this labor that was accomplished, and we want to continue praying for the results, which He is powerful to work in each heart that was present at these services!

We sincerely thank you for your brotherly love.

Amen.

Anatoly Kosyanchuk

## **April**

Conditions change very quickly, both in taking turns for the worse and, by the Lord's grace, changing for the better. Nearly all this month was spent under an intensified quarantine, and we prayed that it would be relaxed soon since the Easter holiday was approaching. On May 2, the Sunday school group and the teen group prepared a celebration service for the children of the town. This is very important, because last year the strict requirements of the quarantine didn't allow us to do this. And this year, children had already been asking whether we would have an Easter service for children.

Praise God, we already have a preliminary announcement from the authorities that there will be a loosening of restrictions by the holiday time, and we can proceed with holiday services.

Also, parents and children who were in the camp last year (even though last year's camp was not so big or well attended as in previous years) already inquire whether we'll be having a camp this year, since they really liked it.

That has given birth to the thought that perhaps, due to the coronavirus, it would be worthwhile for us to hold two separate camps, with fewer children in each. Therefore, we are praying that the Lord will guide us in deciding this matter. In addition, we request prayer that the Lord will bless us in all of this.

We sincerely thank you for your brotherly support and help, which you selflessly provide for us. May the Lord reward you a hundred times over. Amen.

## **June**

We had prayed, and we requested that you uphold us in prayer, that this year we would be able to hold a full-fledged Christian children's camp. And praise God, the Lord didn't leave us without His mercy. For starters, our region's category was changed [by the authorities] to a green zone, which means that it is permissible to hold camps if all the safety standards are followed. Second, children are allowed to be outdoors without masks.

That being the case, we began to distribute invitations to camp that we prepared. Church members distributed them, and so did everyone in the Sunday school. After a Sunday morning service in the church, a group of people gathered on bicycles. These were a Sunday school teacher and children on bicycles. Praise God, in this way we were able to distribute invitations over a large area. What was surprising is that we have held these camps for years, yet a few parents of children declared this was the first time they had heard of them. And these weren't newcomers to the area, but longtime locals.

Because of this, we decided that in the future, if the Lord permits, we will make announcements and pass out invitations earlier. Even though there have been days when children came in during worship services and inquired of church members whether there would be a camp that day.

Great praise and thanks be to the Lord for the fact that, with your assistance and support, we can do this ministry on this side of town. And we ask that you pray that everything will go smoothly in this camp for God's glory. This is a much-needed labor on God's harvest fields.

May God bless and reward you one hundredfold. Amen.

The Kosyanchuks