



## The Fomichovs in Desna, Ukraine

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, 2022

#### April

#### *Ministry*

Dear brothers and sisters, thank you for your prayerful support. God prolongs the days of our lives and through you upholds our ministries in Ukraine. We are taking aid to Desna for people indifferent categories. We deliver groceries and various types of medicines. Our pharmacies are empty, and people cannot get medicine. The war causes people much grief, and I see that God wants to use us as His church to take care of people. And in such difficult circumstances, it gives us the opportunity to tell people about Him and His Son Jesus Christ. We try to support all people who need help.



#### **A home for the elderly**



our Savior. God gave us a great opportunity to tell them the Gospel and to pray together with them. We offered up fervent prayers for their souls.

This home is located 20 kilometers from Desna in the vicinity of the city of Chernihiv. About 25 grandmothers now live there. Most of them do not walk and are bedridden. We understood that it would be difficult to evacuate them from there. They needed food and also diapers. We collected everything and brought these things to them. We also brought what they needed most of all, which is the Good News about

## Those who are in the forest



The war drove many soldiers into the forest, where for many days they did not have much food. First, they do not have the opportunity to leave there; and second, even if they left, they could not buy things. Our brothers and sisters cooked different types of food. These were Ukrainian dumplings in plastic containers. We pasted Bible verses on them, and also took pirozhki. Other brothers from the church and I drove these things through the forests and to various checkpoints. For the military, this was a great testimony.

Many soldiers were surprised that someone would care about them, and we had opportunities to testify about God, as well as to invite them to church after the war. We pray a lot, and the soldiers constantly ask us to pray for them. This is a time when God gives us the opportunity to bear witness of Him.

## Widows and elderly people

Other brethren and I deliver food to homes of people who we know have no food and who have no one to take care of them. There are many different people we can encourage with the Word of God and testify of our Savior, about what God did through Christ for our salvation. Many people wonder why we care about them, why we take steps to help them. Our answer is only that God sent us so we could serve the people and tell everyone about Him.

## The church

Many church members have left. We ourselves helped some people evacuate. But nearly all the elderly people remain, and they need food and medicine. Many have already run out of supplies, and we are so grateful that through you God takes care of our church. We were able to purchase both medicine and food, which will help these people survive for a while. For the last few Sundays, we have been holding services. As expected, few people attend. Nonetheless, people come. A warning siren sounds constantly in Desna, and in the evening you cannot turn on any light. There are many restrictions, but people adapt to live in such conditions.

Pray with us:

- 1) That will God protect us and use us to share the Gospel.
- 2) Pray that this horrible war will end.

With respect,  
Igor Fomichov



## May

### *Time*

Since the twenty-fourth of February, time has been running like this, for all of us, as one day, we all live in the same feelings and thoughts. We began to pray more, and we see how God answers our prayers. God takes care of us and gives us the opportunity to take care of others, and we have a good opportunity to testify about God. Now is a difficult time for the people of our country. Many have lost their jobs and people do not always have enough food, but God, through you, gives us the opportunity to help people and testify about God. There was not a single day that we would not testify about God during these three months. Wherever we were, whether we were in the forests or in different villages, we visited the disabled, brought them help in food and medicine, and talked to them about God. We handed out Bibles to people along with children's Bibles. We helped people who fled their cities and who lost their homes to Russian bombs. Our journey was to different settlements, and together with help we brought news of the Savior and brought His word.



### **Fled from Chernigov**

This family lived in the suburbs of Chernigov, and for the last week, alarms were constantly sounding and shelling of nearby houses began. “We were already tired of hiding and



sitting on chairs in the damp basement. We didn't have strength anymore, and we thought there was nowhere to hide.” The husband said to Marina, “Let's not go to the basement today. Let the children rest and we will rest.” Well, Marina said that they had to go down to the basement, so they did. After a while shelling began, and shells hit their house. They

ran out of the house because it was already on fire. The neighbors' houses were also ablaze. They heard screaming. When they got outside, one neighbor said to run, it was mortars firing. So they and their children ran to a field far from home. In that field they fell and covered their two children with their bodies. Here they lay all night, and in the morning they returned to the village where the 82-year-old grandmother lived. When we heard about them, we visited, taking them

food, clothes, and most importantly, the Word of God and children's Bibles. When we returned home, this woman called and said she had already read ten pages. We've talked with them several times and took clothes and bed linens, toys, and baby food for children. One time we found a doll in a box we had received of humanitarian aid. The doll was the only toy among other things. We were surprised. So we decided to give this doll to the daughter, Nastya, and when we gave it to her, she screamed with joy and said, "I've dreamed of such a doll for a very long time!" I saw in this how God cares about Nastya, that a doll arrived in a box of food, and it brought her such joy.

Pray with us:

1. For God to stop the war in our country
2. So that we can testify about God and people repent and come to God.

With respect,  
Igor Fomichov

## June, Part 1

### *Open doors*

#### **Boarding school for children**

We prayed and asked God to direct us to where there is a need so we could serve people and share the Gospel. And God miraculously began to open doors. We learned about a boarding school where children with various physical problems live, and we wanted to go there and minister to these children. Now, during the war, this boarding school needs help not only in words, but also in food and various things. We collected powdered milk products to take, and we also took children's Bibles.

When we arrived, we were greeted with joy. We unloaded the products and began to hand out Bibles. One teenager said, "I know about this God." This was a great encouragement for us. So our first experience with this boarding school went well, and we decided to go a second time to conduct evangelism and talk with the guys.





We collected gifts and planned to hold various competitions and the entire program that we conduct in children's camps. When we arrived, the children were already waiting for us. Many rolled out in wheelchairs, and part of our team had not expected such a picture. We saw children in various physical conditions, and we understood that God led us to serve them and talk about Him. We gathered and started our program without knowing what to do. Well, our goal was to use a wordless book to explain the Gospel. We talked and became friends. God surprisingly opens doors for us.

### **Home for the elderly**

During the war, we have visited three different nursing homes and provided them with various assistance. We talked about God, prayed, and told them that God loves them and takes care of them. He sent us to testify about Him. When we prayed with them we asked them to pray to God, and many said that they pray every day that the war would end.

One nursing home is located near the Russian border, and the mayor of that town asked for help because there are no medicines, and there is a need for food. And there is a home where there are elderly people. We prayed because it was dangerous to go there. But we prayed and went. People experienced a lot of stress there because the Russians were advancing on Chernihiv through these villages. There are a lot of explosions and a lot of military equipment, there were no groceries. We got there with great difficulty. This is a hard time for everyone. But God gives the church strength and the opportunity to testify about God.



Pray with us:

1. For peace in our country, and for God to use us in preaching the gospel.

P.S. I often repeat that we are having a hard time and we are at war, and we are all in a tense state, and I will explain why. While I was writing this letter to you, I heard an explosion. It turned out that a drone was flying over, and it was shot down not far from our house.

With respect,  
Igor Fomichov

## June, part 2

### *Desna*



Dear brothers and sisters, you have no idea how grateful we are for your prayers. We feel your support, and we see God every day in our lives. This year is the most difficult for our people. We live constantly in expectation of danger. Many times a day we hear air-raid sirens, and we have to shelter in basements and in various reinforced corners of

houses. Our country is turning into a continuous trench. The people of our country understand that the only hope is in God, that He alone can stop this evil.

We have held camps every year, and children have loved this time in every summer. This year, due to the war, it seemed to us that holding a camp was simply not realistic. But God does not take a break from providing situations for preaching the Gospel. It is impossible to hold a camp in Desna because of rocket attacks. A second reason is because many children were taken to outlying villages. But we decided, no matter what, to go around to all the villages near our town, which turned out to be seven villages.

While we visited, we held a program where we talked about our Savior. We used a cube with a story about Jesus Christ. The second topic was about the importance of prayer, and in every village where I asked the children whether they believe in God, everyone unanimously answered, "We believe." Many say they are praying for their parents because most of them are at war.



We did handcrafts with them, did face painting, and tried to distract them from all the horrors that they had seen and heard during three months of war. We understand the importance of the Gospel for a perishing world, and we understand that people need the Savior. Therefore, in these villages there were many children who received gifts, and in each gift was a book that testified about our Savior. There was a lot of reaction, and not understanding why we gathered

children at such a time, because it is dangerous. Well, we had two goals—the first is to testify about our Lord and Savior, and the second is to somehow support the children and make pleasant moments in such a gloomy time.

We are grateful to God and to you for your support. If not for your involvement, this time would be more difficult for us.

Pray with us:

- 1) For peace in our country, so that God would stop this evil.
- 2) That people turn to God for salvation.
- 3) That God will use us to preach the Gospel.

With respect,  
Igor Fomichov