



The Fomichovs in Desna, Ukraine

2nd Quarter Report, 2023

April

Puppet Theater



Dear friends, we thank you for supporting us in your prayers. It is very special for us to see how God is working in our lives and in our church. We prayed that in times of war God would open the door for evangelism even more. We see how God is opening the door. In our area right now, we can't have large meetings because of the constant threat of shelling, but even in these times God gives people the opportunity to witness of Him. Before Easter, we organized a puppet show in two villages so children and their parents could learn about the true meaning of Easter. In the village of Karpilovka, we had our first Easter performance. There were many children and parents there, and we testified to them that Jesus rose from the dead. We prayed and



talked about God, about our country, about how everyone needs God, and that Easter is a testimony that Jesus conquered death.



It is so amazing that in times of war no one argues about whether there is a God or not. Everyone understands that we can't get through this by ourselves without God. It was a special time because both children and adults were excited to go to a puppet show and once again think about God. We had many conversations about praying and seeking God for salvation. And I heard from many people that they are now praying and asking God for His protection and

salvation. That can't help but be encouraging because we see God opening the doors of evangelism. Before the sermon, when I asked the children if they would celebrate Easter on Resurrection Sunday, they all shouted yes.... I asked, if you will be celebrating, does that mean you believe in God? They all shouted yes...yes... I said, then let's pray. We all stood up and prayed, and those prayers were so sincere because we all feel our dependence on God like never before.

Easter service at church

On Sunday there was a room full of people and there wasn't a single seat in the hall. People stood in the hallway, and we could praise the Lord and rejoice in His victory over death together. This was a special time. We had a celebration meal, where people could get to know each other even better and have a good time in church. We prayed and listened to the sermon. God brought new people who could hear about what God has done for us.

Pray with us:

1) That God would open the doors for evangelism and people would sincerely repent and come to God.

Best regards,
Igor Fomichov

May

Dear brothers and sisters, we thank you for your prayers. We would like to share with you with joy how God answers our prayers. We have a rehabilitation ministry for alcoholics and drug addicts at the church, and God blesses this ministry very much. Currently there are twelve men in the rehab center, and each of them has had his life destroyed by sin and now God, through His words, is healing their lives. Many have wandered through life, could not find the meaning of life, and were already desperate and simply waited for death without hoping that their lives could somehow change. And when they were already in such a strong grip, God

knocked on their door. And they have put aside the old way of life and started living a new life. Some change quickly, but others take much longer. I want to tell you about some of them.

Oleg

His sister brought him to our rehabilitation center, and he was very afraid because he did not know what they would do to him at the center. He had conditions, which he voiced to his sister. If he were to call his sister and say the name “Victoria,” then that meant that he needed to be rescued from the rehab center. He imagined that he might be tortured and beaten there; plus, he didn’t know how he would survive the withdrawal symptoms that would begin when he stopped using drugs.

When they brought him to us, he was emaciated and in terrible condition. He could hardly walk. Also, he had a broken toe. His height was not right, and this was because he walked poorly. With the drugs, he had mistreated his body so badly that he was almost destroyed. I remember how he sat at the first prayers, looking at everyone in disbelief. He was very tense. But we read the Word of God, prayed, and God softened his heart. Oleg believed, began to pray sincerely, and God began to reveal Himself to him more and more. Oleg started talking about baptism and we agreed to plan it for August in our church. He has time to grow in God.



Pray with us:

1. For the ministry of the rehab center.
2. For Oleg, so that he would strengthen himself in God and become a good Christian.
3. That God would bless the ministers of our rehab center, Sasha and Denis, that God would give them the strength to do this difficult work.

PS: Oleg is in the photo in a blue sweater. He is now working on construction in the new building for the rehab center.

Sincerely,
Igor Fomichov

June *Humanitarian Aid*

This is a difficult time for all Ukrainians, and we are grateful to you for your help, that you serve our people, which enables us to help people and testify of God. This month we distributed various types of aid, ranging from medicines to food. Many people could not hold back the tears in their eyes because the war is so hard for people. Everything is so expensive, there is constant stress, and there are also problems among the families. People understand that death is prowling around, but there is no way out. And then believers came and shined a ray of



warmth and kindness, and this touched them to the depths of their hearts, that someone needed them. We made a list of those who needed help and walked from home to home, talking to people, inviting them to church. Many agreed to attend church. Elderly people and disabled people agreed to attend church with great joy; only it is difficult for them to get to church. Brothers from our church who have cars have begun a new ministry of transporting elderly and disabled people. And there are fruits from such ministry; these people begin to get to know God and say what they like about the church. They grew up in the communist regime, and they were convinced there is no God. But then, many years later, another message was delivered to them—that there is a God who loves them, that there is eternal life.

And now we have a good opportunity to tell them about God and call them to repentance. We see how God works.

Aunt Valya

My parents used to leave me with a woman I called Aunt Valya when they went to work, and she kept an eye on me. I grew up and we hadn't seen each other for a long time. Then, when we were distributing aid to people, she ended up on our list because she has a difficult situation and lives in Desna. Due to poor health, she sits at home, and only the neighbors help her, because her son drinks and doesn't help at all. When we talked to her, she said, "I want to attend church and would like to learn more about God." She hasn't missed more than one Sunday. She praises God and asks that we pray for her son's family. We hope this is the beginning of an awakening for her family. We understand that God has given us this opportunity to testify about Him. Aunt Valya told her friend about the church, and that other woman happily said, "I want to go to church, too." Thus began a whole "radio" of sorts—these grandmothers began broadcasting to each other about the church, and now there is a whole movement of grandmothers in our church. It's so amazing how God works.

Pray with us:

1. That God would give these women repentance and come to God.
2. Pray that God would use our church in evangelism.

Sincerely,
Igor Fomichov