

November, 15, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from Ukraine! We hope all is well with our church family in America. I'm sure everyone has their own problems and struggles, but the worst for me is if we the church lose our burning fire and desire for God and his kingdom. I pray and hope that as the end comes nearer we will only burn brighter. I pray and ask God that our love grows stronger and we may use it for his glory.

By God's grace, we are pressing on as a church here in Tyachiv. God has blessed our summer with a youth outreach camp. It went well with about 40 non-churched youth coming. It was a lot of fun, and a lot of work. As always it was filled with games, sports, crafts, small Bible groups, and evening praise and worship meetings.

As a church, we have decided we will stop these outreach camps for a time. The amount of time, money, energy, resources, and people needed has not been matching the results we had hoped for. There was so much work and activity involved that no time is left for mentoring and working with the youth one on one. As of now, we will try small group camps, hiking trips, etc. designed around Bible studies, mentoring, and evangelism.

We had our first "trial" trip the end of August right before school started. We, along with another couple, took a 3 day camping and hiking trip with 8 boys ages 9-13.



We were able to gear it especially for them as boys. It was wonderful! We had not only fun together, but lots of time to talk and witness. The highlight of the trip was a 4 hour hike in the rain, not taking the right route, never reaching our destination, and getting ourselves drenched. Altogether we

found this to be a very effective outreach approach so that is the direction we will pursue in the future.



All of our yearly ministries have started. There are 2 children's clubs, one in Tyachiv and one in the village of Tyachivka meaning little Tyachiv. We ask for your continued prayers for these clubs especially for the one in the village. There are continual attacks against us the work being done there. The orthodox priest's wife went to the school and made the kids rip up their invitations we had handed out. The children who do come are continually threatened by her that their families will be excommunicated from the Orthodox Church if they attend our clubs. We started with nearly 45 kids but there are fewer and fewer kids coming, down to 15 kids last week still coming because the others are not allowed to attend. We ask for God's grace to freely work with the people and that there would not be so many hindrances to the sowing of God's word.

Two of the regulars that have been coming to the feeding the hungry program for several years have died from alcohol addiction this year. We are so sad that so few of these addicts have made the decision for Christ. At the same time we see God's grace when even to the end they've been given time to hear the saving message of grace and be saved. Please pray for this ministry as well.

We have written before about the 3 children we would like to adopt. These children are from one family whom we have worked with for a number of years. The process of fostering or adopting takes a while here, especially with having to translate so many papers and statements from America. We have completed everything we needed to and are now waiting. On November 20th the local social workers, judge etc. will meet to make the final decision. We pray we will be able to take the children home from the orphanages. Please be praying for Victor (8), Valaria (4), and Yura (1). We will most likely be fostering with the goal of adopting in the future. Pray for emotional and physical healing for these little ones, and that they will be open to receive God's love.

Thank you for the continual love and support for the work being done here in UA. We could not do it without you.

In Christ,

Vasya, Maranda, Natan and Mihae Heytsi

