

Dear brethren, families and churches,

"God, who made the world and everything in it..." These words from the book of Acts often encourage me when we have some difficulties or problems. Our earthly life is fundamentally different from what God has prepared for us in the future. Sadly, now we have to face pain, wars, lamentations. I beseech you to pray for our country and its government. The war conflict is not over and the church in the occupied territory feels persecuted and oppressed. Recently I talked to brother Vasiliy Pavlovich from Zugres and he asked for support of his ministry. They don't have means to keep the building warm. Many people lost their houses. They come and ask for help daily. The situation is the same in Gorlovka and Donetsk as well as other occupied cities.

Bible Institute Ministry.

In the beginning of February we held a seminar about "The Work of the Holy Spirit". Traditionally the Bear Valley Bible Institute and the local congregations of the Church of Christ are in charge of hosting the seminars. This time we had about 100 people present, many leaders of the congregations from different parts of Ukraine were able to attend. For many of us it is the best opportunity to fellowship, study the Word of God and develop relationships based on the sound understanding of the Word of God. The next seminar is scheduled to be held in Dnipro, the topic will be "Sunday Worship". We record the events and post the records on YouTube so that any member of the church can watch it.



Last month we had instructors from the States. The families of the Underwoods, Michael and Janine, as well as Denton Landon were able to come, as well as some Ukrainian instructors Stanislav Kuropyatnikov,

Andrew Zhuravlev (and myself). They were all very helpful to the work process of the Bible Institute. Thanks to their efforts our students obtained additional knowledge of theology. We are especially pleased that some of our graduates who had joined the Masters' program and worked diligently could be added to our faculty. After 20 years of Bible Institute ministry in Ukraine we were able to train a group of qualified instructors who have practical



knowledge of how to preach and work with a local congregation. It's absolutely fantastic! Who thought that after the collapse of the Soviet Union it would become a reality? God has abundantly blessed our country and we have an excellent opportunity to keep up the good work. From time to time I try and give our recent Master's graduates the opportunity to teach a course and try to see how they feel in the capacity of the Instructors. One of our bright young instructors is Stanislav Kuropyatnikov. His zeal and desire to serve the Lord motivated me to add him to our faculty. Right after his graduation he had started helping Albert Bagdasaryan in Slovyansk, later worked in Odessa but two years ago he joined 2 families of our graduates to start a congregation in Lviv. This was a natural way of planting a new congregation and a good example to the brethren who want to spread the Lord's Kingdom.

Central Church of Christ in Bela Tserkva Ministry.

James 1:27 admonishes us to take care of widows and orphans. Of course, it doesn't limit our ministry but this is a kind of work that every congregation of the Lord's Church should do. Last month God has guided a heart of Children's Boarding School's Director to let us have regular Bible classes for orphans and children from dysfunctional families who live there. Some of our students along with the members of their families were very excited to start this ministry. Every Saturday we have a Bible class and spend some time with these children. I am also making arrangements to bring some of these kids to the Sunday services in the Church.



Thank you for your prayers on behalf of our local preacher Kostya Kisilenko. He still gets the necessary therapy but last week he was able to join our Sunday worship and mid-week Bible study. While he was unwell we took turns with the brethren to preach and gave our students a chance to participate in the services. As Paul stated in 2 Cor. 8:14 the help should be reciprocal. Currently the churches from the States demonstrate their generosity and love and I hope when it's our turn we would be able to joyfully respond.

God's blessings,

Your brother and co-worker in the Kingdom of the Lord,

Dennis Sopelnik.