

Feb '04

# O'Brien's Prayers & News

Vol. X, Issue 1

"Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account." Php 4:17

January/February have passed by and the Lord continues to guide, protect and bless His work here in Kharkov, Ukraine. We thank each of you individually for being so very faithful towards Christ in your unending prayers & support of the Gospel. The longer we're on the field, the more we understand the value of your effectual fervent prayers!

**PRAISES:** "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain..." Amen, Christ is worthy of all we give, lets offer all we have to give.

♦ **Salvations:** Valera began attending our church nearly 3 years ago, but after our forced departure from Ukraine & subsequent change of address for the Church registration, we lost contact. The Lord directed us to Valera one day on Evangelism a few months ago, & he's faithfully attended most services when he's not working for the City Municipal Services. The last Sunday of January, he came forward saying: "I want to come to God the Lord's way" & he repented & accepted Jesus by faith as his personal substitutionary sacrifice for his sins! Glory. Pray Valera grows in God's grace & power.

♦ **Evangelism:** We've exhausted our **10K booklets** "The Gospel Message" in this 2 months & praise the Lord for little Lindsey Mapp who was burdened by God to provide the needed printing funds. For March, we've printed an additional 10K copies of "How to Pray for Salvation", sowing seeds in the 2 million barren souls. Waiting impatiently for above-freezing weather, so we can daily do more on the streets.

♦ **Discipleship:** We have **three** folks who're near ending the 50-lesson Chronological Bible Lesson series. Praise Jesus for saints with a *firm foundation!* They'll 'graduate' into the 25 Lesson "ABC's of Christian Growth". Pray for heart growth.

♦ **VISITORS:** We've been 'blessed' recently by the visitation of a few men from the apostate Baptist Union churches, seeking to sow discord, dissention & vain **traditions** amongst the flock. All day Sunday they now stand outside our building attempting to keep folks from entering, offering various free goodies & invitations to their massive temple across the street.

♦ **Poland:** Christ blessed our 4-day R/T drive to Poland to acquire a **single stamp** in our Passports. Great safety He gave us!

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** "Ye have not because ye ask not" - Jesus. "Call unto me and I will answer thee ..."

♦ **Church Property:** Marching forward to acquire property by faith & build, an account at our home church is now open to receive contributions/sacrifices/offerings to construct a house of God here in Kharkov. Projected total cost is \$40,000 for both property & building. Available real estate in Post-Soviet Ukraine is rare & doesn't last long: one property we viewed in February was sold before we arrived 2 hours later. Massive demand - miniscule supply: we need to be financially prepared to act when God opens the door to acquire. Please remain steadfast in devoted prayer & sacrifice for this **need**.

♦ **Co-labourers:** The Mapp Family still target early '05, & will be with us for their Language & Culture study. How blessed it'll be having extra hands during this time. Please keep praying for an "Aaron" or "Timothy" to join alongside too. Amen

**NOTES:** *All* support must be made out to **SUN & SHIELD BAPTIST MISSIONS** & mailed to the address below, please.

♦ Visit [www.missions2ukraine.com](http://www.missions2ukraine.com) to see new pictures, ministry updates and download tracts & booklets.



**Support:** 8811 W. Avra Valley  
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**Cathy's Corner**

**E-Mail:**  
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\*\*\*Secret Sister program I started to teach Christian charity and love towards one another. *Jn 15:12 "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you."* We were not sure how it would be received but after a clumsy start it has matured to produce in their hearts fruit of genuine love & generosity towards one another. The old focus of "me, myself and I", is changing into "Jesus, others, self". Not only in giving encouraging notes & small gifts of love to each other but now in showering others who are not participating with cards & gifts as well. This is a huge change of heart. Fruit being produced by a new Spirit inside the soul, the Holy Spirit! \*\*\*Big plans for this summer! We are planning a conference to reach more youth. Brother Aubrey Mapp & his Pastor Michael Weatherington will be flying over to preach this conference & visit. This will be our first one. We love working with kids & desire to see many come to Christ. Please be in prayer for God's hand upon it. *Mat. 19:14 "But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."* \*\*\*Although in a neckbrace & in pain, God has continued to broaden our work in the ministry here and in addition to the other Bible studies that John teaches, I now have the great honor & privilege in teaching our deaf ladies through a weekly Bible study in our home. The culture lessons are great! \*\*\*After two serious falls, one breaking my left arm and injuring my whole body, then in October some serious neck pain developed & became increasingly worse. I ended up in a neck brace and lots of time on my back in bed. The x-rays have shown a loss of curvature in my neck and the doctors concluded that I slipped a disc in the neck and a nerve is out of place which is pressing on the spinal cord causing pain. No such thing as a "good" night of rest anymore. It's been six long months & although there has been improvement, which I do thank God for, there is still more that needs to heal. I would ask that you would pray on my behalf for healing completely. I've sought out medical help here in Ukraine & have learned that there is none available for the type of injury that I have. Therefore I turn to God to be my Healer & intrust Him to guide me. I only mention this because it has GREATLY hindered my ability to work here with the children's ministry, deaf ministry, and my life as a homekeeper, wife and mother. *Php 4:11 "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."* Thank you for praying. Thanks for being a special part of God's work here. Always by His grace and only for His glory. Amen.

Sun & Shield



Baptist Missions

**Your servants in Christ: John, Cathy, Brittaini, Noelle, John-Steven & Kendon**