

Веселого Рождества и с Новым Годом! (Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!). Year 2002 was a *full* year! 8 new Ukrainian souls were added to Heaven's roster & 9 American while home stateside. Amen. Evangelism saw a high of 18 folks coming out to spread the Good News, our lowest was 13 actively sharing their new faith. Forced out in April, we forfeited our annual Passover Seder (54 confirmed attendees) and also our spring baptismal service for the 16 requesting baptism. Upon our return in October, we were kept busy making repairs to house & microbus, waiting for the Registration & Invitation. Christ has kept us very busy these past 2 months, having had the privilege of hosting 2 young ladies on missions trips and also Bro Aubrey & Cheryl Mapp who came to Kharkov on their field survey as future missionaries to Ukraine. PRAISE THE LORD! **The Mapps** expect to begin deputation in March '03, praying to work with us for their first term during language & culture study. For 7 weeks we were blessed with the fellowship of the missionary **Tim Isbell** family, who while coming for Thanksgiving, blew up their engine & had to stay through New Years waiting for parts. Bro Isbell preached for our church the entire time - God filled His pulpit.

PRAISES: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain..." Amen, Christ is worthy of all we do.

- ◆ **REGISTRATION:** The church is now officially **registered!!** Faith Bible Baptist of Kharkov. A 2-month process took 10, but God did it *all* His way, keeping *all* the glory for Himself. Now if only we could buy a building
- ◆ **Salvation:** While her Dad was laying in the hospital, Miss Luda was able to share the Gospel with his roommate, eventually leading Stepan to the Lord. 2nd generation fruit! Christians making more Christians. Pray for God to place a Bible-believing church in Lutsk, a city of 300,000, where we now have 3 spiritual babies. Who will go?
- ◆ **Deaf Church:** A visitor Vitalik has kept coming & is perfectly innocent of all Bible truths. A fresh field to plow!
- ◆ **Safety:** Teen hooligans threw rocks through all our windows, including 2 air rifle pellet holes, but God protected the entire family each time it happened. Scary! "Be sure your sins will find you out" is definitely true, as our Lord revealed them and the local Militia handled the situation very effectively. Thanks for always praying over us.
- ◆ **Faithful support:** A great big "Thank You" to *ALL* who have so faithfully prayed & supported the work here.

PRAYER REQUESTS: "Ye have not because ye ask not" - Jesus

- ◆ **Invitation & VISAS** - We're hoping to drive to Poland by the end of January for our new visas. Krakow is 900 miles from Kharkov & it's winter. Please continue to pray over our Letter of Invitation and receipt of 3-year visas.
- ◆ **Church building:** We presently rent a large room but need our own location. The floor above us hosts a weekly rock concert disguised as a charismatic church making evening services practically impossible. Even our deaf people can "feel" the thumping, booming confusion & it is quite distracting. Now more than ever we really would ask the Lord to burden some folks/churches to raise a significant amount designated for a new building here.

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

- ◆ Our *new* phone: 1010220-011-38-0577-102718 Remember the time change: +7 hours from EDT.
- ◆ Website: Many new additions to our website, including pictures at: www.missions2ukraine.com

**Support: 8811 W. Avra Valley
Marana, Az 85653**

Cathy's Corner

**E-Mail:
romans44@missions2ukraine.com**

Thank you for all your prayers and support over this past year. God has answered! Our church became fully & officially registered in November. What a victory! Please pray for the next step: Invitation & Religious visas.

In Oct. we were privileged to have Aubrey & Cheryl Mapp with us on a survey trip. They plan to work with us here to get language done and then off to another unreached area of Ukraine. We also hosted Lisa Cooper and Becky Avery who both came over on mission trips. Both girls were a blessing during their time here. God answered our/your prayers for men to stand in the gap while we have waited for our governmental approval to resume work inside the Church here. Missionary Tim Isbell and family were here for seven weeks preaching while they waited for their van to complete it's repairs. We had 12 people living inside one house for seven weeks and to say the least it was exciting at times. Praise God for good fellowship. Slavic, who is a deaf deacon in Bro Van Sant's church down south has been faithful to come once a month to help in our deaf work, preaching and teaching. He is a tremendous blessing and God has used him in the church here to lead two men to the Lord recently! Luda saw some fruit as she read her Bible to her

Dad who was awaiting an operation to have 1/3 of his stomach removed. A roommate of his called out, "I want to hear this too!" Luda spent four hours, starting in Genesis, and at the end of their talk this man called upon Jesus to save him. We sent four youth to a "Faithfulness" conference in Yalta held by Bro Van Sant's church there. It was Lelah's first time to go to a camp. All four youth give testimony of the Lord's working in their lives through the camp. We held a "special time" at our home for New Years and our place was packed with church folks & their relatives & friends. Please enjoy a year in pictures on the backside. These are some who've been reached this year.

Sun & Shield



Baptist Missions

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