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O'Brien's Prayers & News

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YEAR END 2004: Isa 25:1 "O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things". Truly wonderful things the Lord is doing here in Kharkov and 2004 was no exception to His redemptive work to glorify our Lord Jesus. By His majestic grace, Christ saved more sinners this year than any previous in our 5 years of labours with 10 adults and over 30 teens calling upon Jesus as their Lord & Saviour. AMEN! None of the work here can be done without your active involvement in diligent prayer & sacrificial giving, hence the Lord counts these fruits to your reward. May our Father abundantly bless each of you as we partner together in this vast field of 2 million souls.

PRAISES: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain..." Amen, Christ is worthy of all we give, lets offer all we have to give. ◆ Salvations: Miss Luda's brother Sasha finally came to Christ for salvation! For nearly 5 years, she has faithfully witnessed to him and has suffered much persecution for her faith. He was the strongest & most vocally opposed to Calvary in her family, but the Lord sovereignly moved circumstances bringing Sasha to a point where the Gospel of Christ could reach him. The praise continues: Sasha now travels nearly 100 miles each Monday night to an all-night outdoor bazaar where he meets Miss Luda for

Bible lessons; we've introduced him to our Sasha who meets with him there. His wife Ira needs salvation too. ◆ Evangelism: During 2004, Faith Bible Baptist - Kharkov distributed more than 58,000 tracts, maps, and booklets! Plus we distributed already 3,000 pocket calendars in December, each containing the Gospel message and church address. Amazing what the Lord can do with a small group of folks who bravely face bitter cold weather & hearts. We praise Jesus for these Ukrainian believers' desire, constantly reaching out to their friends and neighbours. "He that goeth forth ... bearing precious seed ..." Folks like Igor, who was saved back in July & baptized in October, are living 'sheaves' from this outreach.

◆ Family: John-Steven (13) has surpassed the other kids now as the tallest, just inches shy of Dad. We have them all active in tennis (\$4/week); russian lessons and piano lessons. Each of the 4 play in church, but mostly Brittaini & Noelle, being eldest. All these provide opportunities for culture & language, as well as witnessing. Their tennis teacher came to a church service, as has the language professor (2x, even admitting her lost condition) and now also their piano teacher twice too.

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

• Building Fund: This is our single greatest need in our ministry. Please pray that we can get all the necessary documents done and that the necessary funding will come in so we can construct the first Bible Believing church here. Glory to all who've given already. Thanks so much for yoking with us. When the weather thaws, we want to pour cement and lay bricks!

◆ Co-labourers: The Mapps are preparing their Visas to come over in April to begin working in Faith Bible Baptist, giving us much needed assistance. Their cultural & language learning will consume their first year, but that long process of preparation to reach these souls is very necessary. Culture shock is very real. Pray God to "Jehovah Jireh" all their needs. Hallelujah!

NOTES: All support must be made out to Sun & Shield BAPTIST Missions & mailed to the address below, please.

Visit www.missions2ukraine.com to see new pictures, ministry updates and download tracts & booklets.

Support: 8811 W. Avra Valley Marana, Az 85653

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Jer 9:23-24 "Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD." In Dec. our Sunday School class held a memory verse competition and the kids put their hearts into it. Brittaini and Lelah were able to resight by heart more than 50 verses each! Four others resighted more than 25 by heart. Our special work during this time was our first Christmas play. We had 17 church members cast in the play. We had to make all the costumes and props ourselves. The script was Luke 1 & Mat. 2 with carols incorporated into the play. The Lord sure blessed. We had three new families come just to watch this play. Our church kids have tried so hard to get parents to come to church in the past but to no avail. This Christmas skit was our big attempt to help these kids bring their parents into the House of God. They were so thrilled to have their parents sit and watch them act out Christmas story. We pray furit will come thru these families in the spring now that we've been able to break up some ground and plant some seeds in their hearts. Igor, an adult convert, has battled each week to get his wife, Alla, to allow their boys to come to church with him. We put Igor and all three of his young boys in the play and to Igor's amazement his wife, who is devout Orthodox, came and God was able to open her heart. Pray for her salvation! Please pray also for salvation for Tanya, the mother of Serge (Baseball Conference convert). Thank you to all who sent Christmas cards

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they are a BLESSING! We hope you enjoyed the family photograph we mailed out as our little gift to you. For New Year's we had a prayer, preaching and song fellowship, prayed in the new year at midnight and then a traditional fireworks event. In 2005 we plan to build on the church property and move our meetings there. We are so excited to begin this transistion. We so desire to give the believers here a holy place to worship our Lord Jesus. Thanks to many of you for praying and giving, making it possible to begin. Thank you all for praying during the Ukrainian Presidential elections. What a time to be here! Things are calm now that it's concluded. We are moving to a village outside of the city for now because our support level is low. Pray the commute will not hinder the work. Your servants in Christ.

Baptist Missions