

DEC '03

# O'Brien's Prayers & News

Vol. 9, Issue 6

"Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin," Ex. 34:7

**Веселого Рождества и с Новым Годом** (Merry Christmas & Happy New Years)! 2003 is gone! 104 days of church services, plus special events, meetings, evangelism & witnessing have all passed into history never to be altered. As we look back thru 2003, it provokes us to strive even greater for Christ Jesus in 2004. Though Kharkov is frozen over, Hell yet remains a fire of torment to the hundreds of Ukrainian souls which perish here each week never having had the first chance to hear the name Jesus. Isaiah prayed: "Oh that Thou wouldst rend the heavens, that Thou wouldst come down, that the mountains might flow down at Thy presence." We have some mountains here, & would like to share a few of them with you. Some have been conquered, others still remain awaiting the Lord's work. Kharkov's mountains at a glance:

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

♦ **Salvations:** 3 souls were saved in Nov/Dec, with one obeying Jesus & becoming baptized into church membership. This new member, Ludmila, was an active, practicing JW for the previous 2 years. Rarely have we seen a soul so burdened with sin, broken before the Majesty of our Saviour. Seeking relief from her sins' burdens, she even attended a hyperCharismatic group located 5 floors above us, before our evening service. "I wept & prayed everything they told me. I wanted to feel what they told me to feel - but I left still unchanged" she testified. Praise Jesus the following SundayPM, spending the afternoon with us scouring Scriptures, she repented of her sins and claimed Jesus as her sole hope of redemption and was converted!!

♦ **Evangelism:** 35,000 Russian John/Romans, 10,000 pocket calendars, tracts & maps without number were distributed this year. The Lord blessed in bringing many visitors who sat in church for their very first time listening to the Bible preached. Seven salvations attributed directly to our Street Evangelism efforts here. The Lord seems to be bringing more fruit from these labours: folks back home must be praying more fervently, & we thank you! Continue to join us on your knees for souls.

♦ **Discipleship:** Miss Luda & Cathy continue to teach Fridays the Chronological Bible Lessons to our Deaf. Cathy remains steadfast in her ministries to the Youth & the Deaf. The 'Secret Sisters' she started has really proven a blessing to the ladies.

♦ **VISITORS:** They are coming! Variety of motives, but they hear the pure Gospel of Grace and see the love of our Christ.

**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 realestate in Post-Soviet Ukraine is still rare & doesn't last long. Praise Jesus that Larissa - our deaf translator - is also a realtor and will keep us from getting scalped! Amazing how God adds to the Body!

♦ **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  
Marana, Az 85653**

**Cathy's Corner**

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

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!** Our prayers are for your prosperity, health, fruitfulness, faithfulness and glory to God our Father. We do appreciate all your prayers & support through 2003, it was not in vain! For New Years the whole church met at our house where we prayed, ate, sang and rang in the new year with prayer. This is the first Christmas that Luda L., Vasili S., Lena M., Alla Z., Luda G., Luda K., Evan B., Ruslan F., Slavic K., Natasha L., will celebrate as children of the King of Kings. 11 others where saved this year, through our internet ministry, a Baptist chat room: 7 baptized, 1 into a supporting church! 16 souls that have been saved here in Ukraine through our ministry were baptized into membership this year. Praise to Jesus for all the stumbling blocks He had to overcome to make all this possible. It has truly been a blessed year! Fruit to your account: In November we saw the salvation of Luda K. & her NOVEMBER baptism in the freezing water. She had studied with the JW's for two years but paused when it came time to submit to their baptism. She had received a tract, "God says please don't go to Hell!", (evangelism works!) & the question of Hell raised in her mind stopped her from submitting herself to the JW membership. She came to hear the gospel & within a few weeks was truly a "broken vessel" in need of the REAL Savior. She found Jesus to be all that she had been searching for but previously never found. She is such a joy & blessing & her lips are filled with praise for her Savior each time the church doors are open. Now she & several others are faithfully attending discipleship lessons each week. How blessed to see them growing roots. Ivan, a gentlemen of approx. 60 years old also was saved in November. His wife is protestant of sorts, he frequented a rainbow of 'churches' trying to find relief from sin. After a preaching service on hell & Calvary, Ivan came forward saying "I am here," (pointing to the path of life that leads to hell) "& what I want you to explain to ME is how do 'I' get to there?" (pointing to a line that intercepts our life line & leads us to Calvary & eternal life). "CAN YOU TELL ME HOW TO GET TO THERE?" After careful explanations, he then found Jesus & took him to be his personal Savior. Lastly little 10 year old Ruslan whose father is in prison and who's mother died two years ago came to live with his aunt Larisa (our deaf translator). On his mind was the question, what really happens after death? On Dec. 27th he cried out for salvation & all fear is now gone thru Jesus! Thank you for reaching Ukraine with us.

Sun & Shield



Baptist Missions

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

# 2003 - Definitely ...



... a year ...



... of growth!



**Salvations!  
Baptisms!  
Weddings!  
Births!  
Youth  
Conferences!  
Graduates!**

**THANK YOU** for the privilege of serving here in Kharkov, Ukraine another blessed year!

