

June '06

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# O'Brien's Prayers & News

"By the word of truth, by the power of God" (2Cor.4:7)

"When [John & Cathy] had preached the gospel to that city [Kharkov], and had taught many, they returned again to [America] ... from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled. And when they were come, and had gathered the church[es] together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how He had opened the door of faith unto the [Ukrainians]. And there [the O'Briens] abode long time with the disciples." (Acts 14:21-28). We are thrilled to announce that we are standing on American soil writing this Prayer Letter to you dear & blessed saints! The past few months have been hectic in preparation for our 14-month furlough, hindering us from getting this letter out to you. But now we're Stateside & are coordinating schedules so we can come see you & "rehearse all that God has done" in Kharkov!

**PRAISES:** "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain." Christ is truly worthy of all we have.

◆ **Evangelism:** 6-week Youth Group evangelism marathon matched our Teens with our adults to make faithful watchmen. Great time of growth for all who participated.

◆ **Salvations:** Over the past 3 months, Jesus saved **11 souls** & we had 2 baptismal services. Ever a blessing to administer that blessed Ordinance of the local church.

◆ **Ministry:** The LORD has been opening up doors of opportunity for us regarding a Prison Ministry. Pictured here is Miss Luda who handles all the correspondence which comes in from 6 different Prisons across Ukraine! Sending Bibles or socks, inkpens or Gospel literature, each month we rejoice in seeing God working in these men's lives.



Amazing to read the precious letters written back & we have invitations to preach in these prisons. We also have Discipleship lessons going out to 3 different cities.

◆ **Expansion:** It seems the Lord is expanding our work out into the villages, as doors are being opened & souls saved. We want to thank Pastors Steve Griffith (MtnView BC) & Fidel Hughes (East Mesa BC) for providing the bulk of the necessary funds to purchase a long-time needed 4x4. Upon our return to Kharkov in August 2007, we will resume these new village ministries fulltime believing that our next church-plant will be amongst those tens of thousands of unreached souls surrounding Kharkov.

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

◆ **Building Fund:** A primary objective of our furlough is to petition our supporting team of churches regarding a building for Faith Bible Baptist in Kharkov. Please fast & pray, seeking the Lord's face in this matter. We would like to see a building team return with us in mid-late 2007 to construct the house of God. The eternal value is unspeakable, bringing many to hear of Jesus.

◆ **Support:** Another primary objective for this furlough is the seeking of much-needed additional support. Please help us present our 7+ year ministry in Kharkov to missions-minded churches. We're praying for the Lord to use you in helping get some doors opened for us. Please beseech our Saviour on behalf of the untold thousands in Kharkov yet to hear of Jesus Christ.

◆ **Mission Homes:** We need long-term housing while on furlough. Our contact info: 520.777.9392 home or 757.560.7208 cell  
**Support needs to be made out to PEOPLES BAPTIST CHURCH and mailed to the address below. Thanks so much.**

**Mail support to: 1200 Cedar Rd  
Chesapeake, Va 23322**

**Cathy's Corner**

**NEW E-Mail:  
furlough@missions2ukraine.com**

Eze 33:7 "I have set thee a watchman unto (Ukraine); therefore thou shalt hear the word at My mouth, and warn them from Me." Our Sunday School began it's Watchman Marathon after weeks of preparation. Each Teen was paired with an adult member of the church. The teams' assignments were to hold person-to-person contacts in giving a sinner the gospel. The unsaved soul was asked specific questions & were to write down to record WHAT it is that they understood thru this witness. Our goal was to be faithful witnesses - Watchmen, able to stand before God as Paul did & say by the end of the Marathon "I am pure from the blood of all men." The salvation of the souls we were leaving entirely up to God who alone must give the increase. We did not want the teams racing to get professions out of people just for the Marathon who might not truly understand the gospel. So points were only giving for witnessing, but not for any resulting professions. That way, if a salvation did result, we could be sure it was a true profession produced from conviction by God's Word and not any other reason. The teams went out every Saturday, some of them even met on Friday nights to go over Bible verses & practice witnessing. Immediately the Lord showed His hand upon it. Our first day out two souls repented before God calling upon Christ for salvation after hearing the gospel! As each week progressed, many friends & neighbors of our church members were hearing the gospel for the first time. By the end of the Marathon, **178** recorded person-to-person gospel witnesses had been given to souls in our city! As we did our part in giving the gospel, God was faithful to bring the increase as the following souls repented of their sins turning to Christ by faith for salvation:

Valeria (Mar 11), Ludmila (Mar 11), Irina (Mar 18), Ekaterina (Mar18), Larissa (Mar 18), Lidia (Mar 25), Evgenia (Apr 1), Yuri (Apr 29), Zoya (Apr 29), Elena (Apr 29). Others recorded that they understood the gospel and believed in it but were unclear whether or not they were actually making a sincere decision to accept Christ. So we will be following up on these: Tolataya, Arthur, Natalia, Evgenii, Irina, Lubov. Please pray as we disciple these new believers & as we visit again those who are on the edge of salvation. Special note: Evgenia was the young lady who almost died in the car wreck last year! **CONGRATULATIONS!** Our eldest daughter Brittaini turned 18 May 6th and graduated on May 19. We were blessed to have 3



BIMI missionary families travel to Kharkov to participate in her commencement ceremony. Well done, Brit!

*Cathy*

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