

Mar-April

2025

# O'Brien's Prayers & News

Email address: [faithkharkov@yahoo.com](mailto:faithkharkov@yahoo.com)

"as many as were willing hearted" - Ex. 35:22

March - Between doctors visits & tests, I was able to visit supporting churches & help Sergei gather needed support for his ministry in Ukraine including a flight to Texas which the Lord greatly blessed Neurosurgeon! God has given me a specialist **surgeon** who agreed to immediately perform my neck surgery, replacing a bad disk with a new prosthetic one so not to lose any range of motion! Cathy arrived super late the night before my surgery and was so grateful to have her by my side. The surgery was very successful and I now have far less nervous system issues, though not completely resolved. April - Recovery process begins and we saw the Lord immediately intervene when while we were in Georgia both Cathy & I **slipped** & fell on dimly lit stairs at a church. In extreme pain we immediately went to the ER for scans and then a 10hr trip home to Charlotte to meet my neurosurgeon the following Monday for more scans. Verdict? Nothing damaged! Miracle! He even cleared me to leave for Ukraine. So we began the process of packing & preparing to return home to Kharkov finally. We spent our final Sunday at our home church and said all of our "Goodbyes" to so many. Cathy then left for Arizona to visit her family while I returned to Kharkov to begin submitting documents for our annual Religious **Visa** renewal. Please pray for this process, for approvals and the continued work which the Lord has given us here. The **war** continues inching closer & closer daily. Though I can't pick up anything until July 1st, I've been able to continue Bible Lessons with refugees and church members, visiting shut-ins and starting to get the church property back in shape after a long difficult Ukrainian winter. Please pray for the needed **finances** for all that has transpired: travel, lodging, living, medical expense especially. May the Lord bless & recompense unto each who keeps us before His throne of grace, and for those who give so sacrificially to help us here in our needs.

## Cathy's Corner

Humbly sent by:  
FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH  
Charlotte, N.C.  
Pastor Rick Baker

**Support: CMC**

P.O. Box 219228 Houston, Texas 77218



TopLeft Clockwise: My neurosurgeon!! Cathy arrives from Ukraine before my surgery. Praying with my pastor at surgery March 26th. April 15th cleared to return to Ukraine, Cathy goes to visit family in Arizona. X-Ray you can see the prosthetic disk. Welcome back to Kharkov! Russia bombing apartments & homes day & night. Grateful to be back, Cathy arrives in Kharkov in May on Mother's Day. Please pray for the souls of Ukraine.

Your missionaries in Ukraine - John and Cathy O'Brien

# Special Needs

The past 3 months have been extremely challenging financially on us personally and in the ministry, including finally getting the wrecked Hilux repaired, airline tickets & travel \$6k as well as numerous medical expenses which are still rolling in, which is the burden we bear not having had access to quality healthcare for 26 years here in Ukraine. The costs of being State-side for travel & lodging & living expenses, combined with maintaining the ministries in Ukraine far exceed our ability alone to cover. We needed to ship 5 bags of supplies back to Ukraine including medicines & items which we can't get here. That comes in around \$700. We are personally asking our supporting churches & individuals to prayerfully consider partnering with us in sharing these tremendous expenses. Either a designated gift regarding one of these areas or a general offering would be tremendously appreciated.

Please send these gifts to our home church:

Faith Baptist Church

Attn: Adam

6840 Wilson Grove Rd

Charlotte, NC 28227

Just include a note what the designated funds are for.

Greatly appreciate your many years of prayer & support & love for the Gospel here in Ukraine.

John & Cathy O'Brien