

Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Colossians 4:5

As we enter a new decade with anticipation and expectation as to the blessings of God on the “seed sown” praying for the salvation of souls. Also as we look back on 2019 it is with a deep sense of gratefulness and thankfulness to a loving and faithful God.

We are deeply thankful for the salvation of Dimitrii last year and for his interest and growth in the things of God in the last 6 months. Although only a teenager he was very willing to help in the distribution of the Gospel calendars and is always present at the assembly meetings. We would ask you to pray for his grandmother, Katia not so well in recent months and his grandfather who is not saved. Dimitrii lives with them. Also we continue to rejoice when Uri was added to the fellowship last December and is very faithful in his contribution at the Lord’s Supper also speaking in the Gospel and to the children. His desire inspires us all bearing in mind he has the awful disability of blindness.

Our sister Lilia who married Rene from Canada last summer visited us in Lviv in December and had all the assembly to their apartment for dinner one Wednesday afternoon before the assembly mid week meeting when Rene gave us enriching ministry from the life of Moses.

Every other Thursday, Dan and Dima travel from Ivano to Lviv to help us with the Question and Answer informal gathering in a coffee shop in the city centre. These times have been a blessing with up to 17 believers and unbelievers discussing the many different related subjects from the Bible regarding life and death, the God head, baptism, need of salvation, authority of God’s Word and end times. Daria who was saved a few years ago has had her parents, aunt and a cousin at the Q & A session with many interesting questions from the Bible. Please pray that as a result of her contacts hearing the Gospel that they will come to faith and accept Christ as personal Saviour.

We are very thankful to God for the many opportunities to witness personally to the many staff of the 8 different orphanages we visit very often. Over the past 10 years we have built up a healthy rapport and relationship with the men and women as we share the Gospel and answer any questions from the Bible. We have noticed over the past few years a great interest in spiritual matters from the staff at Birki, especially the Director and the accountant. Our prayer is for blessing in salvation and that the gracious Holy Spirit would convict and convert lives for God’s glory.

With the mild winter in Ukraine during January and February it has allowed us to visit more frequently the villages of the Carpathian Mountains. Our goal remains steadfast to bring the Gospel to these people who are both materially and spiritually extremely poor. At the end of January we packed the van with 8 large boxes of clothes from the assemblies in Canada and USA. We also were laden with lots of food, calendars and literature, and of course some treats for the children. With a covering of snow, zero degrees and a Siberian wind we shared the Gospel with over 30 folk in the open air taking as our text *“the preaching of the cross”* - this brought us much joy.

In mid February we visited a family in the mountains, Ivan, his wife Yaraslava and daughter Maria . Approximately 15 years ago our late sister Flo Kancir (Canada) was driving in the mountains with brother Ruslan and this couple had broken down in their motor-bike with side car. Ruslan stopped and was able to help. The friendship developed with Flora, who we worked with for 2 years and was an excellent personal witness for Christ and after many visits to their home with practical help and

presenting Christ as Saviour, Yaraslava was gloriously saved. Unfortunately to date her husband remains an unbeliever. However on our last visit after they provided for us a good meal, we opened the Scriptures and when encouraging Yaraslava with the promises of the Lord we spoke of the Lord Jesus Christ and His death and resurrection and the power to forgive sins, and impart eternal life. We leave the results with God.

We wish to thank all for their prayers and practical support. We feel our need more than ever and value very much your prayers for God to guide and sustain us as we serve Him.

With warm Christian love

Edmund and Agnes

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! Psalm 139:17