

## *Greeting From Kremenchuk!*

How are you doing? I am fine, thank you! June 1<sup>st</sup> is the first day of Summer in Ukraine. In this newsletter I am going to be talking about what has been and what will be, if it is God's will that our plans are carried out according to his glory. I have a lot of good news to share with you this time. There new blessings to be seen where-ever you look! ***I cannot keep the best news to myself! I had the privilege of baptizing Kostya Koost into Christ in the Dniپر River on Saturday, May 22! On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Yulia Kalnyk was baptized into Christ!*** I will give you more on Yulia's baptism next newsletter.

## *Acting Out Our Plans for God*

The greatest thing that we have planned for the spring and summer is the coming of MAP team from York College, in York, NE. Through God answering your prayers and ours, we have Christian from Universities in NE, OK, and TX coming this year. They are all working under the program of MAP out of the East Hill Church of Christ in York, NE.

Before these US students arrived my students went to their schools' directors and asked if they could bring American students to their schools. The American students would talk about themselves, visit classes and invite their pupils to come to our Bible classes. We wanted to get into 12 different schools, including a village school as well. We were thankful that we were able to get into 8 schools.

On Friday, May 14, three of my students went with me to the airport to pick up Kyle Gustafson, Kelli Lovelady, Justin White and Kelli Himebough. On Saturday we had a welcome devotional and party for them with 29 people in attendance. The first week that they were here we were able to hand out about 2000 invitation to pupils of these 8 schools! On Saturday we had another devotional and we had 32 students plus our Americans at my apartment! After Church on Sunday, May 23, I took three of my students with me to the airport to welcome my daughter, Jenise, to Ukraine to work with us! On Monday we started teaching classes with our first week averaging 15 in the younger classes and 25 in the older classes. This was the last week of school and it was very difficult to even get classroom space to teach, but again God provided the way. School ends this week. The school conflicts will be a lot less the next three weeks. We are all confident we will have more students coming to our lessons than we do now.

It is now the end of the first two weeks of our American students being here. We have 6 weeks left to strive to carry out a very great service for God! Time is absolutely flying by! We have three weeks of class lessons left to teach. Next weekend, we are all going to the airport to greet our 6<sup>th</sup> worker, Arlyn Brantley from OK and then go and spend a day in Kiev. Arlyn is a

graduate art education teacher and I know that he will be a real blessing to our team as well! Then on June 20<sup>th</sup> the last two members of our team, Anya Koslova (a native of Kremenchuk, but now a student at York College) and Matt Turvey will join us for our summer Bible Camp. They have been here before. On the evening of June 25<sup>th</sup>, we will take 35 pupils to the sea along with 10 workers, including the American students. Last year our camp was for 10 days including travel, this year we will have a full 13 days at the Black Sea! Our American students will then leave Ukraine on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

On July 10<sup>th</sup> we will have 6 more Americans from Fayetteville, TN coming to join us to conduct personal Bible studies for a week. The weekend that they arrive will be a time of greetings to them and a time of goodbyes for our students that have been here for 8 weeks. The Fayetteville team will leave on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

My days start early in the morning and ends late at night! I have been "working" 14 to 16 hour days that are full of joy! This will continue for at least the next 7 weeks. Yes, I will be ready for a rest after that, but I also will miss all our fine workers, very, very much!

## *People Profiles*

I want you to meet Kostya Koost, our new brother in Christ. Yes, Kostya is in a wheelchair and has been since he and his father were in a car accident in 1996 when he was 10 years old. He is now 18 and has learned to deal very well with his handicap. In this picture we are at the river beach with him and he is reading a statement of his spiritual journey and confession of Christ in English. He is not good in English, but did this for us! He said that he had a very long journey to come to faith and commitment to Christ, but was very happy that he could now become a child of God! Our weather had been cold, but God warmed this day up to 82F for this river baptism. I and Justin carried Kostya out into the river and there I baptized him into Christ! What a joyous and wonderful day!

Kostya's father was killed in the car accident that permanently took away the use of Kostya's legs. His mother and two sisters have done a very loving job of taking care of their older brother. Kostya is not helpless by any means. He has won 8 national handicapped swimming championships over the years! He lives on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of an apartment building with no elevator and often comes up three flights of stairs to my apartment by himself by pulling himself up backwards in his wheelchair on the railings of these stairs! Kostya is a young man of more than physical strength. He has written a book of poetry. He is finishing his first year of University study here in Kremenchuk. He is a person of love, compassion, courage and most of all, faithfulness to Christ! Please keep Kostya in your prayers!

## *Personal Information*

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## *Appreciation and Thank You*

Every day I realize what a blessing it is to be working for God here in Kremenchuk and how you, as my supporters are the way for me to be here. Thank you!!

## *A Call for Workers*

Jesus says in Matthew 9:37, 38 "*The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.*" Please don't grow tired of hearing this, but if we had more full time workers here, more schools could be reached, more people could be taught, more souls could be saved and God could change Ukraine faster for His Kingdom! Will you hear Jesus' call to go into the entire world and preach to every one? The great majority of Kremenchuk doesn't even realize that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is being preached in their city. I want everyone to hear and to know!!

## *A Reminder of Prayer Needs*

1. Our evangelistic efforts with the team of Arlyn, Kelli, Kellie, Kyle, Jenise and Justin that is here now and their work here, including our Bible Camp later on.
2. Our Fayetteville, TN team that will come for a week in July to conduct personal Bible Studies.
3. That many new hearts would be opened to the gospel of Christ through these efforts.
4. That many of my present students will come to Christ this summer and God will move their hearts to love and obedience of Him.
5. That God will move the hearts of men and women to come here and work full time with me in this work.
6. That God will provide capable native workers to join with me in reaching out to the lost of both youth and adults.
7. That I will be strengthened in Christ's service to be a true servant like Jesus was. That I would take on His nature and character as I reach and teach the lost and the saved to greater glory for our God and Father in Heaven.
8. For my language learning.
9. For these young Christians to grow in the faith and remain strong in Christ: Igor, Zhenya, Anya, Ksusha, Kostya and Yulia.
10. For these that I study with: Anton, Max, Natasha, Alina, Anya O., Vladimir, Tanya, Natalie, Sasha, and Artem. Also pray for, Ola, Oksana, Lilya, Ura, Ann, Anna, Inna and so many more!! Please pray every day!!