

Dear brothers and sisters,

I'd like to share with you some events that happened last month.

In the beginning of the month my family had a wonderful opportunity to go to the Christian camp in Dnipro. It's a wonderful time when a lot of Christian families get together. Big thanks to Jeff Abrams' team and all people who were actively involved.

Last month was very fruitful for many congregations and about 20 people were baptized. Seven of them were baptized during the camp, young family of two were immersed in Bila Tserkva, and two young ladies - in Dnipro. It's just amazing because we can see our graduates and students in action. I'm very happy to have this productive team of workers in the Lord's Vineyard who had studied with us and now became the workers in the local congregations or qualified to teach the new generation of students. They're Vitaly Rodichev and Vladimir Pazyi from Kramatorsk, Albert Bagdasaryan from Slovyansk, Stanislav Kuropyatnikov from Lviv and Andrew Zhuravlev and Viktor Semikoz from Brovary. I'm happy to be a part of the team.



*New brother in Christ*

We are done with recruitment for the next school year. We had a lot of applications and did some testing to select the best. A lot of factors were considered, like the letter of recommendation from the local congregations' leaders, active participation in the church life and desire to study the Word. I think those who were not accepted will wait for the next school year. So currently we have 7 new students, ready to start the new year. I hope their dreams and aspirations will come true. One of them decided he can afford to be self-supported but we are still fundraising to provide the opportunity of full time studies for the rest of them. The monthly cost of expenses for one student is \$200, lodging and food including. If you happen to have means to make only a one time contribution and even if it's smaller than one month need of a student it's also greatly appreciated it because you are investing in the future of the Church of Christ in Ukraine.



*Students glue invitations*

Our students are still busy with their practice in summertime. A lot of them work in the camps as teachers and leaders. Practical skills of working with people are necessary for the future ministry. Not everyone was successful at the first try. I still see that some students have fear of public speaking before teaching a class or preaching. That is why it's a part of the studies to get practical skills of public speaking and involvement.

This year Bear Valley Bible Institute will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of our work in Ukraine. 20 years ago the program has been started in Kramatorsk and now, one fifth of the

century later, we are still true to our mission and try to carry out Jesus' Great Commandment. We are planning on inviting Bear Valley Bible Institute President Denny Petrillo, the Director of all Foreign

Extensions Keith Kasarjan and the coordinator of the Ukrainian extension Terry Harmon. We'll conduct a seminar "Seasoned Church" and have celebrating activities. It's planned for October 11-13. We'd like to request your prayers for their safe travels and our productive fellowship.

Also big thanks to the brethren from South East Church of Christ, as well as Terry Harmon and Keith Kasarjan. They are raising funds to update our Institute's minivan. It'll be a great blessing to have a new vehicle and save time and money on repairs of the old one.

We are very thankful to all the congregations and individual sponsors of the Bible Institute program. It enables our mission of training future leaders of the Church. All students and instructors send their greetings.

Your brother and co-worker,

Dennis Sopelnik.