



## Bear Valley Bible Institute - Ukraine (BVBIU)

### July 2020

Greetings once again!

We pray that you are all doing well, but surely many would say that this year has been a most challenging one. Of course, the coronavirus brought many of the world's actions to a halt and continues to interfere with many plans. The riots exploded from one very sad police incident in Minnesota, still causing havoc in places. Additionally, different countries are now at odds with one another, primarily China with many nations. My personal opinion is that politics is at the heart of all of these situations right now, especially since our own Presidential election is less than four months away, but one thing we as Christians must remember, "this world is not my home, I'm just a'passin through."

While there are plenty of bad events one can focus on, it should be the good that we seek and which will keep us inspired. Here in Rapid City, I currently am preaching on the theme of Living By Faith (Hebrews 11). As for BVBIU, even though activities had to be altered for a while, studies continued online until the last week of May. For a period of time, the government shut Ukraine down pretty tight, but then a window opened and a great day occurred on June 13th, which was the graduation of seven of our students.

Every graduation represents hundreds of hours invested in teaching, many who travel from within Ukraine and others come from America. The students put in many hours of studying, writing, reading, and memorization. It is a very challenging work! This year however was unique

in that, when CV-19 appeared, we never before had all of the classes online with all the students in their hometowns. The Director, Dennis Sopelnik, did a wonderful job of keeping everything and everyone organized. It was no easy task for him to coordinate the program during this very unusual time. I personally am very proud of this dear brother and friend of mine. He has proven himself over and over, during multiple difficulties throughout the years.

I would like to take a moment to **thank all of you** for your diligence and efforts in supporting this work. **NONE** of this could have happened without your belief in this great work and your dedication, spiritually and financially. We must also take a moment to express the realities of the effects of CV-19. Ukraine was hit hard by the coronavirus and therefore it is most likely that we will not have an intake of students this coming Fall, since Ukraine is likely to be in shutdown mode again. Traveling will be very difficult for everyone. As a result, Dennis will continue to work with the four who will be second year students, so that they will, Lord willing graduate next year. It is our desire to then take in a larger class when conditions are better to study. We pray that you may be able to continue to help financially during this time, as it will help us to build the necessary funds when we are able to take in more students and begin operating again as usual.

I am attaching Dennis' latest newsletter so that you can read more information about the graduates.

May God bless you all! Terry



