



Bear Valley Bible Institute - Ukraine (BVBIU)

September 2020

Hello dear brethren,

I sincerely pray that you are all doing as well as possible! We are living in challenging times, but Jesus is still the Lord of Lords and Kings of Kings (Rev. 19:16). While we want this earth to be perfect (or at least good), I think we all know deep down it will not be so. Let us therefore, *"...seek those things which are above... setting [y]our minds on things above, not on things on the earth"* Colossians 3:1-2.

Speaking of the things which are good and help keep us looking in an upward direction, another Camp Amerikraïne was able to take place in Ukraine recently at the end of August (see above picture). While this is not an official BVBIU event (Brother Jeff Abrams has been organizing the camp for many years), it is attended by all of the teachers and students of the BVBIU program and our instructors are the primary teachers of the classes. Obviously, there were many obstacles in having everyone meet this year, but God provided, and a great gathering occurred.

So many good things have taken place in the past with this gathering of Christians at Camp Amerikraïne and it continued this year as well. Some 300 Christians came together and the brethren encouraged one another greatly. Additionally, five made the decision to become Christians (see pictures of four of them)! One of these (Natasha) is from the town of Skvyra, where a graduate of BVBIU, Taras Danilenko, works. He has been focusing on

the young people at this congregation for a couple of years and especially has been working with Natasha due to a special injury she had as a child.

At just two years old, Natasha was trapped in a fire and had extreme burns to her feet, legs, and arms. Taras sought support to help Natasha with a special operation to help from the terrible scarring that occurred from those burns. That special operation took place last year. Thankfully, the congregation here in Rapid City was able to help assist in this matter, but we hadn't heard how she was progressing for a good while, so it was great to see that Natasha looked so good and has now become a Christian! It is these types of things that help us to keep our minds on the things above!

At this time, attention has now been turned to beginning the new academic year at BVBIU. Although we thought a couple of months ago that we would have to begin the year online, it has turned out that the students are able to meet at the Bible Institute in Bila Tserkva. Due to the coronavirus, we have four at this time, but a few have been invited to join the program next year. We pray that there will be more interested as the year goes on. As for me, I am looking forward to begin teaching online this coming Wednesday (9/9). It is such a joy knowing that we are all involved in helping the Kingdom grow in various places.

May God bless you all!

Terry



- Three new sisters in Christ - Dasha, Emma and another Dasha



- Natasha and Taras



- Some of the brethren from the Brovary church of Christ



- Andrei, Veronica, and Illusha Zhuralev with Jeff Abrams