

# Kremenchuk, Ukraine Newsletter

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## Hello from Kremenchuk, the Black Sea and the USA!

It is that time of year again when we are traveling around Ukraine. Yes as I send my love and greetings to you, I am in the USA, more specifically in Fayetteville, TN. As is usual when I am in the US, I will travel a lot here, too. If you would like to call me while I am in the US, you can call me on my US cell phone at: **931-625-4514**. I am going to be telling you in this letter about the rest of our summer classes and Black Sea Bible Camp. Also I will update you on my travels here in the USA. To finish the Newsletter I will hopefully draw up a clearer picture of what the future will hold for the work in Kremenchuk and Ukraine.

## Summer Bible Classes

The teachers we had this summer for our Bible Classes consisted of new and old workers. As I told you in my last report, we have Jared, Frankie and James that have come to work with us for over a year! Then we had returning workers in Kelli Himebaugh, Kellie Lovelady, Arlyn Brantley and Kyle Gustifson. The last 4 workers came for 5 to 8 weeks to help with the classes and Bible Camp. The classes went well this year. The younger class of 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders averaged 25 in class and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade through University age averaged 20. Our lessons theme was the answering of false ideas that people have about God, the Bible, Jesus, etc. One of the real great things about our classes this summer is that we were able to take 15 of our younger kids to camp with us as the most that went with us in the past was 7.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Black Sea Bible Camp

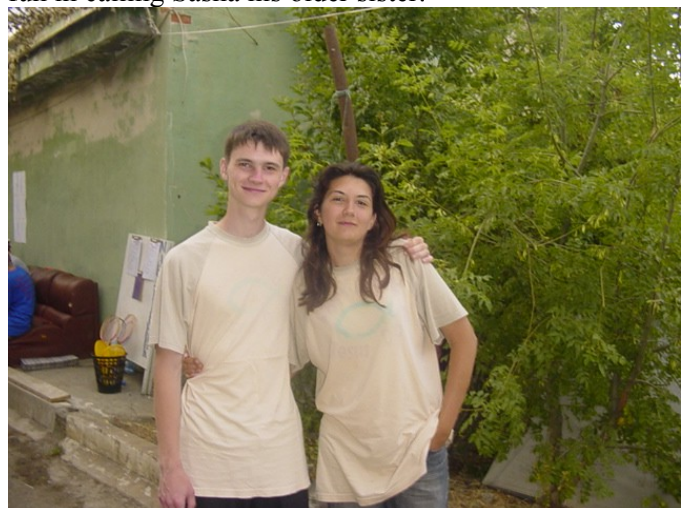
There are so many challenges in getting our camp off the ground to making it work. We have to get a travel agent to arrange a camp for us, with travel, food, lodging and excursions worked into an over all price. We have yet to find one that is completely honest with us in what is offered and what we get! There is getting all the planning done with most of our teachers and workers ½ way around the world. There is the thrill of walking by faith in funding the camp, because we don't know if we will have enough or not to get it all done. There is ordering places for (in this year's case) for 50 people when you don't know if you will have more or less (we took 50 people this year!). The amazing thing is watching how God works it all out, no matter what the problems might be! We had an amazing camp again this year with 36 campers and 14 leaders. We had campers from ages 8 to 27 years old. We had leaders from



Team #1 with Kelli Himebaugh on the upper right

The picture is at a castle on the Black Sea with the Black Sea and mountains in the background. We divide our camp into 6 teams that work, study and play together. We have found this to work very well in developing closer relationships between all the ages of our camp.

We had two baptisms this year at camp. The first was a girl Sasha, who is 12. Sasha was baptized into Christ on July 4<sup>th</sup> and when we told her what July 4<sup>th</sup> was in the US, she said, "Now I have been set free, too!" Then on July 7<sup>th</sup> Ura who is 17, was baptized into Christ. Both are very happy and excited to be Children of God! Ura had a lot of fun in calling Sasha his older sister.



Anton and Anya: 1<sup>st</sup> Yr. best campers now 3<sup>rd</sup> yr

## Team Leaders and doing great in Christ!!

Our daily themes and Bible classes for all camp came from the book of James this year. James is such a great book on daily Christian living, that I felt it was just perfect for our studies this year. I wrote all the outlines for the classes and then the teachers took them and made it fit for

the ages of kids that they were teaching. We had three different ages groups of classes: younger (5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grades), middle (8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grades) and older (10<sup>th</sup> grades and older).



### All together on the last day of camp

Camp draws us all closer together and helps us to see what the family on earth is supposed to be and a glimpse of what heaven will some day be like!

## Some Updates

**Permanent Workers:** James, Jared and Frankie are really doing a great job and I am really proud of them! They did a good job both in our classes and at camp. Now they are working hard while I am in the US. What a difference extra workers are making!

**Faithful Christians:** I wish I could tell you that 100% of those that have been baptized into Christ are still faithful to the Lord, but 17 of the 19 are – that's 89%!

**Fund Raising** The reason that I have been fund raising is because Bell Trust's commitment to us of \$400 a month is coming to an end this fall. I have been speaking about this work the last 2 weeks to both supporting Churches and new Churches of Christ. I will do this for another week in TN and then on the rest of my travels I will speak to 4 or 5 other Churches of Christ as well.

## A Picture of the Future

- Frankie, Jared and James will live in Kremenchuk and work with me for the next year to year and half.
- We will begin working in 2 new schools in Kremenchuk this year, a total of exposure to 2, 200 new students.
- We will expand our work in School #9.
- We are going to add 2 new Bible Clubs this year for a total of 4.
- In May of 2006 we will have our 2<sup>nd</sup> permanent team of workers that will also come for 14 months to 2 years to work with us.
- In June of 2006 we will start Ukraine's (as far as I know) first ever country wide summer Bible

Camp with a possibility of 150 students in the camp.

- In July of 2006 we will have 2 campaigns in 2 cities.
  - One will be in Komosomlsk (100,000 people) where we have a new young Church.
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> will be in Sevetlavolsk (100,000 people) where there is no Church of Christ. We will have workers come from the US and also from Ukraine to join us in these campaigns. Do you want to come?

## God is growing His work in Central

### Ukraine – Thank You for being apart!

Thank you that have been financial supporters of this work from the beginning and stayed with us! You have been such a blessing to me and the many souls that are being taught the message of Jesus Christ and His Church.

Thank you for those of you that have chosen in the last several months to also join hands with us in this work.

I can begin to physically see it, but especially I see through the eyes of faith the potential for explosive growth over the next few years. So many things are coming together and more and more doors are opening up for us. This means that we have the opportunity to teach additional precious souls about Jesus.

### How can you be part of this work?

- ❖ Your prayers are critical to God's working.
- ❖ If you are supporting us financially, please continue. **IF** it is possible, consider increasing your support to whatever you think would work for you.
- ❖ If you are not yet a financial supporter of this work, consider joining our family of co-workers in monthly support of this ministry.
- ❖ Consider contacting the West Fayetteville Church of Christ and joining in our campaigns next summer by coming to Ukraine for 2 weeks or more!

## Contact Information

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