



JUNE-JULY 2014

My dear praying friends,

We live less than 150 miles west from the epicenter of the fierce fighting in eastern Ukraine - the cities of Lugansk and Donetsk. Almost every day we have four-five war helicopters hover over our home in both directions heading east and sometimes in the evening news we hear of some of them being downed. Every day there are reports of dozens of our soldiers killed. Many wounded are brought to Dnepropetrovsk Central Hospital. Doctors say that some of the wounds these soldiers have they've only seen in medical manuals while in college and many soldiers arrive in such a state they can't remember or say their names. (Remembering these are not your regular troops, just common folk after month's training). During these times I have made two trips with our van to the fighting border picking up refugee families, taking them to Dnepropetrovsk, feeding them and putting on the night train sending them off to a Christian camp in Zhitomir (western Ukraine). Olga, in turn, works two days a week as a volunteer at a Refugee Center here. Twice we had humanitarian transport vehicles carrying bulletproof vests, military helmets and just food and toiletries park at our place for the night on their way to the war zone. (There is a risk of being deemed as 'collaborators' with consequences should the mercenaries invade here). **However, as much as we can we make ourselves available to the various needs and people using it all as a witness for our Lord. Countless conversations directing people to Christ were made, many tracts and pieces of literature handed out and we pray God uses this witness down the road to accept these in the Beloved.**

I once heard an investor use a term 'risk tolerance.' Sometimes it is so great that he would refrain from investing. Many people here, even in a relatively safe Dnepropetrovsk, let alone eastern troubled zone, flee the area not able to tolerate the risk of being killed. Several hundred thousand Ukrainians have relocated since three months ago and still leaving their homes to find refuge. **Yet our Family is investing our lives and efforts into God's ministry and Christian testimony regardless of the risk and we ask you to continue praying for us here, for our safety, health, unstopped ministry and the ability to tolerate all the risks in the process. Special thanks go out to all those church families, ladies groups, prayer circles and individual believers who sent us cards, e-mails, phone calls and money gifts. It truly means a lot!**

In the month of June Eastern Gate Baptist church had a baptismal service - two were baptized. Two more most likely will also be baptized at the end of the summer. The church grows little by little. I preach there once a month and conduct mens' meetings.

Almost two months into the summer I've participated in one village tent revival and one youth camp. So far two more similar events are scheduled for the end of July (youth conference and a tent meeting). The war in our country makes people look for God and may be due to this fact the attendance has been very good. Local pastors report several saved as a result of these endeavors and I am praying to be able to lead folks to Christ in the upcoming meetings.

It has been a while since I've last printed new Jewish gospel tracts and since I ran out of the previous stock I've ordered and printed several thousand of two great quality tracts - "I am Jewish and I am not interested" and "Where was God during the Holocaust." It really is fun to give these out as it draws the attention of the Jews a 100%. As soon as they stick their hand out protesting I say: "Oh, you're Jewish and you're not interested, right?! Then it's for you!" They take it when they see the cover and the title. The religious ones give a fuss but at least they are engaged by then in a conversation that you would not have been able to start otherwise. I made these tracts also available for free to local churches and other missionaries in Ukraine. If you or your church want/need the same tracts in English - they are available for free from our ministry in USA, just call Dr. Benach at (706)937-5369.



Street gospel tracts distribution is ongoing. Visiting Jewish contacts is a regular thing (I like these particularly as I often get fed during such visits). Taking all of our kids to different VBS and camps in town and speak to the kids and youth there. Summer is not that hot which is a blessing. Olga and younger children plan to spend a week at Azov sea at the end of July while the oldest are in a Bible Camp. Then the first week of August, while the youngest will be with their grandparents, Olga and I will take the oldest kids and we all go to the city of Lviv, western Ukraine, for a getaway and sightseeing. Everybody is healthy and doing just fine, celebrating our birthdays that are all in the summer.

**And we want to thank you so much for all your prayers especially during these hard times, for all your financial support and love shown to us. Please, be assured of our gratitude and prayers for you and your country. Let the Lord bless you, your families and churches as you live and serve for Him!**

Your Ambassadors in the Ukraine,

  
Eugene and Family  
Acts 20:21