



# Ferguson Report



Vol. 3 No. 10

*“Go ye unto all the world”*

October 2006

## Back From Ukraine

When one of the elders of North Jackson, Paul Norris asked if I would be interested in going to the Ukraine with him my initial answer was unhesitatingly “yes” because I love mission work. Being back home now after two weeks my feelings about that work is unchanged although my perspective is quite different as it naturally would be after experiencing any new work. I’ve never visited any new mission point where I didn’t fall in love with the people. Ukraine is no exception.



*Visiting in the home of Terry & Marina Harmon with son Timothy in Kramatorsk. Paul Norris and Denton Landon in center back.*

As I expressed in a previous newsletter this visit to Ukraine had two basic purposes. The first extension school of Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver was established in Kramatorsk several years ago. Terry Harmon serves that school as director and academic dean. While we were not able to remain in Kramatorsk long, we visited with Terry and the school and I was able to speak in two chapel services to tell the students about other world mission works such as the Chimala Bible College in Tanzania. Denton Landon was also there winding up a master’s course he came to teach. Terry was of great benefit in logistics coordinating our arrival and offering their assistance for future evangelistic efforts in Krasny Luch. He also arranged for my translator and our transportation to that city.

Our second purpose for visiting Ukraine was to

visit the church in Krasny Luch and conduct a small-scale campaign. We conducted Bible studies during the day and had preaching each evening. I did most of the preaching and two Ukrainian men each preached one night. The background of the Lord’s church in this historic eastern Ukrainian city began when the Campbell St. congregation conducted a campaign in 1993 resulting in the baptism of 12 people. In 1994 Frances (Sullivan) Jones went on a second campaign finding only 5 or 6 faithful Christians. Yet, as a result of that campaign 14 more were baptized. But, the success was short-lived; Campbell St. ran into political problems and decided not to return to Krasny Luch. Frances kept up with the faithful few over the next several years. For a time, they met in their homes and then worshiped out in a village. Later, they began coming together to worship in a rented room downtown. A preacher was secured from a preaching school in Donetsk, Sergey who is working even to the present. Frances supported him personally until the North Jackson congregation became involved in the work. A building was later purchased serving as a place for the church to meet as well as to provide a place for Sergey’s family to live. The Krasny Luch church, however, has struggled to keep their numbers up. Isolation as well as internal problems has continually dogged the Lord’s church in this city.

Paul, Frances and I made this trip as part of a yearly campaign effort to encourage the church and



*Good use is made of a bed and side table in a Krasny Luch hospital shipped by the North Jackson church of Christ.*

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***“Ferguson Mission”***

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donations still needed

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A work of the Bear Valley Church of  
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try to assess its progress and needs. In conjunction with the evangelistic efforts two containers filled with hospital beds and medical supplies had been collected, loaded and shipped to be distributed to local hospitals under the name of the Krasny Luch congregation by the coordination of John Kackleman and the U.S. State Department. In our visit to one of the larger hospitals we were told over and over again how much they appreciated these shipments. We were also given a tour to see these supplies being used. As a result, the Krasny Luch church has a special place in the hearts of the hospitals and their patients. We pray that God can use this labor of love provided by a large number of concerned and hardworking Christians to bring Him glory and saved souls into His kingdom.

Brethren, people around the world in Ukraine, Russia, Africa, Europe, India, China, and South America—everywhere people are in desperate need of the gospel. While our efforts are subject to Satan’s resistance, people will respond to pure and sound teaching, where experience and skill are demonstrated daily that we genuinely care about them. It will develop faithful men, who can in turn develop other faithful men to win the world for Christ. If it is the Lord’s will I hope to have another opportunity to visit Ukraine again and “water” the seed God allowed us to sow this year.

Howell

## Chimala News

Before I left for Ukraine, I corresponded with Heath Stapleton about a couple of matters involving the Chimala Bible College. First, due to Bernard Kulanga’s resignation as director of CBC during my last visit in September, I had to put a temporary director in place before I left—Salick Ghambi. After a lot of soul-searching, Bernard decided he did not want to give up working with the hospital and primary school. He knew the CBC directorship would become increasingly more demanding leaving little time for other pursuits. This seemed to be his real concern.

Second, we discovered we now have on hand about 20 applications for new students at CBC. According to Heath, they will be ready to begin in January 2007. That will give us around 34 – 35 new students. As a result, Heath and I will need to raise about \$2,000 a month to cover these 20 or so new students. I knew this day would come and it is now here. That means **I need your help**. It takes money to make the BVBID extension schools operate so we can train students to take the gospel to their native people. As you know, these students have nothing and leave jobs and family to come and become trained in the Bible and church leadership. **Can you support a student for \$100 a month for 2 years?** Howell