



SGA Leadership Support

MINISTRY REPORT FORM

NAME: Ruslan Verbytskyj

DATE: October 2023

COUNTRY: Ukraine

CITY/TOWN or VILLAGE: Rogatyn town

Greetings to you, dear brothers and sisters

Answers to prayer:

- As for now, whole my family is fine. The children, my wife and I are all healthy. We also have everything we need.
- The ministry in Rogatyn town is slowly but moving forward. Thanks to your (and many others) prayerful support, we managed to rent a small room where we opened a boys' workshop called the "Wise Carpenter".
- Unfortunately, our team is not growing at the moment. My wife is my only assistant in the ministry.
- My father-in-law, that I asked you to pray for, has started studying the Bible and reading Christian books. I see the Lord is working on his life.

Ministry Overview:

In March, we found a room to rent for holding meetings with IDPs, local people in need, and teenagers. The Lord blessed us with the funds to rent this room. Although it is small (only 25 square meters room with a 12-square-meter storage room), but it is enough for us at the moment.

The weekly events we have include:

Bible study and fellowship every Thursday. Almost every time my wife bakes something delicious and we share what has happened in the lives of everyone during the last week, and discuss the Bible readings with a cup of tea. Usually, we have 7-12 people for this small Bible study group – mostly IDPs and some of locals.





- Every Friday we meet with teenagers who do not have a father or whose parents are divorced. Some of them have fathers serving at the war. I invite them to our “Wise Carpenter” workshop. Here we can talk and learn to work with men's carpentry tools. Each meeting helps the boys to become more open in communication and become more skilled in making woodwork. So, 5-7 boys come to us on a regular basis. After the teen camp held at the end of June we started to gather teenagers for meetings every Saturday. We discuss interesting Bible topics with them and play volleyball. There are about 8-12 teenagers coming to each of such meetings.



We also hold a special Sunday meeting every other week, where we preach the Gospel and distribute humanitarian aid to the displaced and the needy. A food package once a month and hygiene package two weeks later.



In addition, we held two summer camps. And we also had an outing meeting with our church members and visitors in order to get to know each other better.

Usually, the best encouragement is to see the fruit of what we do. In our case, it is too early to talk about any fruits. However, it is nice and encouraging to see someone stay after the meeting or small Bible study group to talk. We had people asking how to pray properly and sharing their problems and needs with us, and then we pray together with them. Some people are coming to deal with their past traumas and resentments. For example, one day I invited the whole Bible study group to my house for dinner. After the dinner, we were discussing the text we read, and almost everyone witnessed they met God after starting to visit such meetings.

After the camp, I spoke with one lady, mother of a boy called Mykyta. Her husband (Mykyta's father) is at war and when he returns, it is hard for the whole family. Due to lot of stress his father suffered at the front, even when he is comes home for a week to see his family, it is difficult for him to return to a normal family lifestyle. This severely affects him, his wife and his son Mykyta. His father now is not as he used to be. It became hard for them to find a common language, and it is hard for them to be together as father and son. Mykyta waits for his father to return, and when his father is home, the boy waits for him to leave again. That is because his father brings the war home with him. Apparently, this is a common problem for many people today. But Mykyta's mother said that after our Workshop for Boys meetings, her son feels better. According to her, he feels like himself with us. So please, pray for this guy's family. He still comes to our workshop. He made a key holder last Saturday.

The biggest need and difficulty is the absence of a team or another family. I need a little bit more communication with my brothers and sisters.

We plan to:

- Continue to do the Bible study.
- Continue to meet with the boys at the workshop.
- Continue to provide social ministry and Sunday worship meetings.
- To visit children at the boarding school.
- Also, we are planning yet another outing with the IDPs to the countryside.

Family News:

The family is fine. My daughter went to the third grade. My son started first grade this year. My wife helps in the church with accounting.

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Prayer Needs:

For ministry in our town to continue and grow.

For the people we are preaching the Word of God. And for their repentance.

For the health of the family: me, children and wife.

For the future ministers who will take the baton after us.

For my wife's parents who remained in the occupied territories and for the repentance of my father-in-law Vasyl.

Many thanks to your mission for the support of our family by prayers and financially. It helps us to devote more quality time to serving others and addressing their needs.

