



the Holmes family

serving the Lord in the country of

UKRAINE



Dear Prayer Partners:

April - May 2021

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are privileged to have the opportunity to update you again on how things are going in our “neck of the woods”. For all of you who are interested, Brittani’s pregnancy is progressing well, praise the Lord! She is now in her 5th month and has a baby bump. We found out not too long ago that **we are to be expecting another boy!** Lord willing, Kaleb Scott Holmes will be born in the beginning of October!

We had another funeral and our first wedding! In April, we had a couple get married in our village group. Brother Vasya (in his 50s) married a sweet Christian lady, Ludmila. Because they were older they didn’t want to have anything grandiose, just a simple service before God and their church. It was a really cool time for our group as this marks another first for them. It was interesting to watch as all of the young women were looking with great anticipation the whole service. Lord willing, we will have another wedding in July. A young couple who is striving to serve the Lord plans to get married soon. Monica and Artur are a young gypsy (Roma) couple who are saving themselves for marriage and actively serving the Lord. Monica got saved and baptized almost 2 years ago. Artur gives a solid testimony of salvation and seeks to follow the Lord in Scriptural baptism very soon. We are really excited about this because they are setting a wonderful example for all of the other gypsy young people (and non-gypsy) in our village. Outside of Christian gypsies, I do not know of any gypsy couples that are married, even most professing Christian gypsy couples do not get married, they just start living together.

The funeral was for Shonik, a member of our group that was saved and baptized 2 years ago. He has had poor health for the last year because of his liver failure. He went home in April. That was the third funeral that I have done in the last few months. Before that, I had never done any! His family still faithfully attends our church. Please pray for the salvation of his wife, Olya, and older children: Lola, Samir, Angelika, and Sveta, that regularly attend services.

We have also had a couple of salvations recently! Yulia and Lena (both in the village) made professions of faith in consecutive weeks! They both have been coming for a while and the messages were very evangelistic, calling to repentance and faith. Praise the Lord for His work in their lives!

We have a small building project going on right now. We have a space issue in our village work. We have trouble fitting all attendees into our “auditorium”. We even had one service, were we just had to move everyone outside, because there was just no way that all would fit! We are building a porch that we can meet under for the warm time, and to also have the wedding under in July. After the porch is built, we will remove the large Russian oven in the back of the “auditorium” and knock down the back interior wall to give us much more space.

The city work is also moving along. We had a time when we were also struggling fitting everyone into our auditorium and then I started preaching on church doctrine. Needless to say, we had people get upset and leave. On top of that, I started hearing from other people that “I preach too long”, and “the messages are much too deep for us” and haven’t seen those families since. I also heard that “doctrine divides”, and it would be better to just preach on the love of Christ and love for others. Despite all of this, we are striving to please God rather than men. And we believe that the Lord is using this to help us move forward as a mission work, towards doctrinal unity-the foundation of every healthy, Biblical church.

We have a lot going on during the summer that we will be updating about. Just these two months we have a VBS planned, I plan on going back to the war zone for evangelism, my family (father, mother, youngest sister and grandmother) will arrive and be with us for a couple of weeks, we have a building project, a wedding, a baptism with 5 new converts joining the mission work, all besides the regular Bible studies and services that we conduct.

We really appreciate your prayers as we strive to be faithful to the One who has called us out of the kingdom of darkness, to the kingdom of His dear Son! Please be in prayer for the men that we are working with. My goal is to reproduce myself in these men, teach them doctrine and ministry, so that they will reach their own people and take full responsibility for their own church, so that the ministry will last and not revolve around one man. *Until next month!*

By His Grace and for His Glory!
Daniel Holmes
I Cor 15:58

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LIBERTY BAPTIST TEMPLE

821 GIBSON ST, MUSKOGEE, OK 74403
918-682-9999 www.lbtemple.com

PASTOR BILL DONALDSON
justifiedbyfaith1978@yahoo.com

Prayer Requests:

- City Ministry
- Village Ministry
- Regular Evangelism and Outreaches
- Spiritual Growth of New Converts
- God’s Wisdom in Making Decisions

EMAIL:

holmesnukraine@gmail.com

CELL: 918-913-0539

MAILING ADDRESS:

Daniel Holmes

SHASTLIVA 2 POGREBY, BROVARSKOY RAION,