

October 31, 2019

Peace be with you, our dear co-workers in the field of God, relatives and friends! We hope that this letter finds you well, both physically and spiritually.



Two more months of our life in Moldova have passed. For us, they were noted mainly by active treatment for my disease. I want to thank everyone who prayed for my recovery during this time. I am glad to report that my health is now much better than at the beginning of the treatment process, which still ongoing. We hope that it results in my full recovery!

Due to my current state of health, my ability to actively participate in the ministry was limited. Nevertheless, I managed to take part in a few ministries.

Firstly, the ministry in which I took part was, of course, teaching at the university. It was a blessings for me to meet with students both in and out of the classroom. In this semester, I am teaching *Missiology* course to second year students. I already know them, because I taught them the *Cross-Cultural Relations* course last semester. Now, having met these same students after the summer holidays, I was glad to hear their testimonies of how the Lord used them in missionary service during the summer. Some of them worked in Lebanon, some in Jordan, some in Ukraine, and some in Latvia. This opportunity of practical service enriched them with personal experience of God's blessings, His protection and guidance in difficult situations. Undoubtedly, missionary



practice during the summer creates excellent conditions for spiritual growth and the formation of the personality of students and prepares them for practical service after graduation.

A pleasant event was our participation with Nina in the service dedicated to the harvest festival, which was held on September 29th in the church of *Nadezhda* in the village of *Choresku*. This is a small congregation. The pastoral service is performed by brother Ion Miron, Executive Secretary of the Baptist Union of Moldova. At his invitation, I took part in this service by preaching the Word of God. Brother Miron makes every effort to reach as many inhabitants in this village as possible with the gospel. The harvest festival was intended as an evangelistic ministry. Many residents received invitation cards. Those who responded did not regret coming. It was joyful to see the repentance of one of the women present at the end of this festive service. After the service, according to tradition, a rich festive dinner was offered in the courtyard of the church.



Baptism is always a special event. The annual baptism of those who repented and were



prepared for baptism in our church *Bethany* took place on October 13th. Eight people made a covenant with the Lord through holy water baptism. Nina and I were especially pleased to see, among the baptized, sister Evgenia, whose conversion to the Lord and spiritual growth took place before our eyes and with a certain amount of our participation. A husband and wife, who repented several months ago, also received baptism. They have no believers in their family and are the first evangelical Christians among their relatives. Their main concern now is how to lead their parents to the Lord.



The main sermon during this joyful service was delivered by Sergey Sannikov, who, together with his wife Tatyana Vasilyevna, visited our church. He came to Chisinau to



attend a meeting of members of the *Euro-Asian Accreditation Association*. For Nina and I, it was a great blessing to meet our old friends and co-workers in the field of God.

An important event that took place on the campus of the university in October was a meeting of the leaders of those Christian educational institutions that are members of the *Euro-Asian Accreditation Association*, the founder and long-term leader of which was Dr. Sergey Sannikov. Such a meeting takes place once every two years. This time Moldova was chosen as the meeting place. Our university hosted guests from various republics of the former Soviet Union. This meeting lasted from October 14 to October



18. It was nice to meet old friends, as well as meet those who attended for the first time. It was especially pleasant to meet with Pyotr Mitskevich, President of the *Moscow Theological Seminary* and President of the Union Baptist of Russia. The seminary is

going through difficult times, under great pressure from the authorities. Active efforts are being made to close this institution. Brother Mitskevich urged all those present to continue to pray for the situation in which the Seminary is in right now.



It was a surprise for us to meet a man from Fresno, from the city where we lived for 25 years. Steven Eckart, Executive Director of a missionary organization in Fresno, was one of the participants in the conference.

In conclusion, I want to thank you again for the prayers for my health and our ministry. Please continue to pray for us in the future. Our prayer is for the Lord to abundantly bless each of you.

May the text of Scripture recorded in 2 Chronicles 16:9 be an encouragement for all of us: ***“For the eyes of the Lord look upon the whole earth to support those whose hearts are fully devoted to Him.”*** May God help us to be among such people!

Be blessed!

With love in Christ and prayer,

Vyacheslav and Nina Tsvirinko

