

August 2011

Dear Pastors and Churches,

I just got back from The Central University of Donetsk. I was able to give my testimony to the director there, who, as it happens, will be my teacher. She is an older lady whose name is Galina. I'll start the 13th of this month, and we'll be meeting 3 times a week for a couple of hours each lesson. Please pray that God will bless this teacher and I, so that I may rapidly advance in my "new tongue" (ha ha).

Dima, a friend of Andre (who I mentioned last time I wrote), wanted to be a member of our church, so we voted him in with unanimous approval. He has character and a soft element that's a real strength. He told us all that the Lord showed him a way to help the church here. He plans on going to work in Poland (a neighboring country) and send back money to help with the church building.

Andre got a call from the mechanic, whose name is Vitalic. We have used Vitalic twice already. The first time was a few months ago, when we actually stayed a night there in the van, and a second night in an apartment nearby. We prayed for Vitalic those days we were there at his shop, and then we saw him, again, last week. When he called Andre he said he wants to talk about God. We are supposed to see him Monday or Tuesday. It is interesting that there was a JW couple at his shop this last time, who were going on their 9th night there...but he wanted to ask *us* about God--praise the Lord! Please pray that Vitalic will come to know the Lord as his personal Saviour soon!

On another note, I receive prayer letters/newsletters from my mission board and got a real delight the other day when I found out a friend of mine, Brother Donald Trump, is now on deputation. Brother Trump was out every time on visitation when we were in school, and in my opinion has a real gift with languages. He's headed to the field of Germany. And while I'm talking about it, I also know a real good brother and friend named Matthew Mooberry. He and his family are headed to Brazil on deputation right now. He's a soul winner, too, and knows the Bible well. And, lastly (but not least), my old roommate and friend Marcus Zenahlik is on furlough for support and prayers. He and his family love the Lord and he has a real zeal for souls...the Lord has called them to Paraguay.

These men are good, so I ask you to pray for them, and if you're a pastor, I recommend you consider having them in for a meeting and supporting them. Please contact our mission board about their contact information. The apostle Paul recommended his brothers and sisters in the work of the ministry. I have tried to do the same, here, in closing. Thank you very much for all of your prayers and support.

Yours for Christ,
Rick, Joanna, Silas and Paul