

“Uzhnoya”

First Church Plant of Odessa Initiative



People gather for prayer during the first crusade in Uzhnoya which will be the location of the first church plant of the 2010 Odessa Initiative.



More In This Issue

1. 2010 dates for our yearly banquets have been set plus special updates and a wonderful praise report (See page 3).
2. Great reports on the Odessa Initiative (Pages 4-5).
3. Crusade report from the Chernigov region and much more.

Letter From The Founders

DEAR CO-LABORERS:

Are we living in the time of the Laodicean Church? The answer is Yes! Does that mean we are doomed to its dictates? Absolutely not! A majority will but it does not have to mean *us* as individuals.

We are supposed to be the light of the world. How can we be the light if we have been dimmed by compromise?

As a young Christian I was told by a friend that someone he talked to said this: "*Peter Mehl needs his wings clipped.*" They were alluding to the zeal I was showing to live according to the Bible...to be a Bible Man. To be bold. In your face. People around me were feeling uncomfortable.

Instead, leaders should have been pouring Holy Ghost gas on me and setting me aflame for God. They should have screamed into my ears "***Burn bright for Jesus!***"

I (Peter) for one refuse to be stifled. I refuse to have my wings clipped. I was born again to soar like the eagles. Friends, so were you. Soar high and finish your race full throttle!

We are too near the end to quit now. This is a special time. A time for believers



to shine. To overcome. To conquer.

Yes, we see the forces of evil at work everywhere. Spiritual and moral decline is rampant. The world economy is crumbling. Yet, this in a time to be full of joy. It is time to be proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom at an increased rate. It is our day...our hour!

We can hasten the return of the Lord. How? Preach the Gospel to all nations--- then the end shall come! (Matthew 24:14).

We are living in both dangerous days and also glorious days. Days of tremendous opportunity to reach thousands for Jesus Christ.

As we enter 2010 let's treat this year as if it is our last. Let's focus on this year being the best soul-winning year ever.

Jesus told us to: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Friends, Jill and I are asking that you stand with us in 2010 like never before. That you pray more for us. That you invest into soul winning as if it's our last opportunity.

We are in a season of great change and it's not the change that 'you know who'

talked about! I am talking about change in preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. For His faithful people, it is change for the better.

We are praying daily for every RHM supporter. We are serious about it too. We are praying that God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

Jill and I are dedicating 2010 to be "***The Year of Prayer.***" We will be praying more than we ever have, setting aside whole days. The war is on and we must be doers of the Word and cover *the doing* with serious prayer.

The reports in this newsletter, as always, are a testament to everyone who supports this ministry. We can report because of you. The reports are your victories. The salvations are being recorded in heaven in your name.

You are making history. Your giving is establishing a memorial for you before the Throne of God. Better yet, it's not something the government can tax or confiscate. It's untouchable!

Radical For Jesus!
Peter & Jill

Short Reports & Updates



Baby Dedication!

Peter Mehl oversees the baby dedication for Dima and Ira. Their little girl's name is Veranika which stands for "Faith & Victory." This is the couple that oversees our RHM Family Orphanage. Ira was told that she would never be able to have children after hospital workers failed to properly treat her when she lost her first child during birth. God had other plans and now they have their *miracle baby*, Veranika!



Praise report!

We reported an urgent need last month concerning a \$5,000 repair needed to get one of our vans back into commission after an accident. Well, the funds came in and we are in the process of repairing it!

Left: Soon this van will no longer look like this because of a generous gift from a ministry supporter.

2010 Ministry Banquets Scheduled

Same locations as last year. More information coming in the next newsletter. Please mark your calendars.

Fargo Victory Banquet: Tuesday, April 27 at 6:30 PM

Minneapolis Victory Banquet: Friday April 30 at 6:30 PM

Men's Rehab Center Update

As reported last month the center is under a serious attack by socialist government agencies. They are trying to shut us down by way of government regulations. We do not have any new news - good or bad - to report. We stand in faith however for this situation to turn in our favor.

Please stand with us and believe for the enemy to be crushed and that God's favor reign supreme.



UZHNOYA CRUSADE A SUCCESS!

UZHNOYA WILL BE THE FIRST CHURCH PLANT of the Odessa Initiative. We have held our first outreach there with great success and have already sent a married couple there to oversee the new work. This couple are seasoned believers, have been trained up in Russian Harvest Ministries, and ready for the task. Uzhnoya is not a village but a seaport town on the Black Sea. It is a key location and our success here will allow us to be able to have a base of operation to reach the entire county.



People come forward for prayer. Many are healed and testify of the goodness of God. Others receive deliverance.

Already 16 people have made confessions of faith! These people are dedicated and serious about the things of God. A home group has been launched and soon we will be renting a hall and holding more crusades. We know that this town has a destiny that will only be found through a powerful New testament church.

“I am really excited about the potential that we have in Uzhnoya” said Evangelist Kaaren Zelfinyam. He went on to say, *“The devil has fought us for years over this town but now with Peter Mehl and his teams helping we will be able to build a great work for the Lord.”*

We are planning to return in February for another crusade with the intent on breakthrough. We have the devil and his cohorts on the defensive. Our objective is to seek out and destroy. Taking prisoners is not in the rule Book (The Bible). Pray for the success of this great work in Uzhnoya.

Our next crusade in Uzhnoya will be February 5-6.



Woman being set free from demonic attacks as other women take authority.

“So many women are oppressed in this town and only the power of God can set them free” said Pastor Olga (Standing and to the right of the woman being prayed for). Olga shared of her excitement of partnering with RHM in 2010. She was saved in an RHM meeting over 15 years ago. Now after all these years we are helping Olga and her husband pioneer a church in Uzhnoya. Wow!



Woman comes forward to testify of being saved and set free from oppression of the devil. *“I am so grateful that you came to Uzhnoya to preach the truth to us and especially me”* she said. It is hard to see but she had a tissue in her left hand and would periodically wipe her tears. It was a special moment.



Mirnipolia and *The Sisters!*

(Mirnipolia is in the Odessa region and part of this years Odessa Initiative crusades.)

“We plan to make a significant difference in the tiny village of Mirnipolia,” said the three women affectionately called *The Sisters*. There are just three of them there now but they are serious about Jesus. They are there because of RHM. Yes, they all came to the Lord because of partners helping us evangelize over 120 villages in that area in the 90s. Now we are back and by God’s grace we will help these three women reach their village for the Master.



The Sister!

Maria (Center in photo) shared, *“Since your team was here recently we had a great victory, we led someone at the Invalid Center to Jesus! It was the joy of our week. We had shared the Lord with her week after week. She was an atheist and always told us so. She was proud of it. Then God got abhold of her heart!”*

The Sisters face constant opposition. They face persecution. Often they are ridiculed because of their faith and in this culture the men are especially hard on them. Yet, they keep the Holy Spirit fires burning in this tiny village. They meet Sundays and Wednesdays plus have a ministry to the local Center for Invalids.

Before this newsletter was to go to print we received word from the *Sisters* that another woman repented. Maria told us, *“She was in prison and then sent here to the Invalid Home. She was dehumanized, rejected and had no hope. We shared the Good News of the Lord with her and it took root. God touched her heart too and she is now in the faith! We are so excited”*

Maria’s daughter, Galya has served as an RHM missionary for over 11 years. She was married last year to Igor Daviduk, another RHM missionary and they both serve as pastors in Nezhin where we have a local church, a day rehab center and other outreaches. Maria and her granddaughter Ira along with her mother came to the Lord at an RHM conference back in the mid 90s. All three are serving the Lord! Maria is the rock of her family and a wonderful example to them all.

Please remember to lift up our miracle need to match the \$50,000 Foursquare Foundation grant.

Every dollar given towards the Odessa Initiative is matched!



25 COME TO JESUS IN POPIVSHINA!

CHERNIGOV REGION CRUSADES ARE ALREADY BEARING FRUIT as 25 people make confessions of faith in Popivshina! *"It was well below zero but people still came"* said Pastor Dimchinko. Everyone that came walked in subzero weather to attend the meetings. Once inside they all sat wrapped in winter coats, hats and gloves since heaters are set to minimum just to keep pipes from freezing.

Weekly home groups are already taking place and people in the village are excited about what is happening. As one woman, with near frozen tears, said to us, *"Me and my friends are so excited about the possibility of having our own church. It is like a dream come true."*



After committing their lives to the Lord everyone came to the book table to receive New Testaments and discipleship materials.



Young boy walks away with his hands full of new believers materials.

Sponsorships Needed

Sponsor a Correspondence Bible School student through the entire 3 book 12 test course: **\$75**

Sponsor a student through 12 months of our Leadership Institute: **\$250**

Sponsor one person through the entire year at our Drug & Alcohol Rehab Center: **\$1,000**

Help sponsor an RHM missionary on a monthly basis for just **\$30** per month.

(Use PayPal for automatic monthly payments)

Winter Heating Needs

1. Gift to help missionaries with winter heating bills (8 more sponsors needed): **\$100** each
2. Gift towards the women's rehab center heating. **\$500** is needed. (Men's rehab donates wood.)
3. We have 6 houses and a meeting hall at the Men's rehab center. The men spend the summer cutting wood which covers most of the heating needs but we still need to buy coal. **\$900 more** needed.



Testimony From Priluki

My name is Olga and I was born in Priluki. My father died when I was ten months old so my sister and I were raised by our mom. When I was six years old a stepfather came into my life. He drank a lot and this made life terrible for me and my sister, but that was not the worst of it. He would curse me calling me all sorts of terrible names. He would say that I was ugly and say vulgar sexual things to me. He would mock me all the time until I was in tears. It would be so bad I had to cover my ears and run out of the room or outside just to be free of the torment. I learned to hate that man.



I felt helpless, alone, humiliated. I felt ugly and useless. To be honest - I wanted to die and escape the ugly world that I was trapped in. When I got older and had an opportunity I tried drinking vodka. I hated the taste but when I drank it I seemed to leave this world and enter another. I felt bold and for the first time I stood up to my stepfather. I guess I was fighting fire with fire.

I found friends to hang around with that also drank. You know how that is, birds of a feather flock together. My life began to spin out of control. I used vodka as an escape but all along I was getting bound.

At first chance I got married just so I could get out of my house. This did not help matters since I was drinking a lot and so was my husband. Soon I was in

deep depression and vodka became closer to me than my husband and baby.

I was hooked...I was a drunk and for the first time suicide was a very real option. Before I thought about it but now I was planning it.

This is when my older sister had a transformation in her life. She became a believer. I noticed a dramatic change and could not deny it. She would tell me about Jesus and say *"I am praying for you."* She never looked down at me either. She encouraged me and said that she loved me. That's all I ever wanted. To be

loved...not used.

Then one day she came to me and took me to church with her. There I heard a wonderful message about the Living God and that day I repented of my sin and accepted Jesus into my heart!

That was a miracle but there were more. I was set free from alcohol addiction! My family was restored and I am falling more in love with Jesus! I am serving the Lord at "Salvation Church" in Priluki and am praying for my husband to open his heart too. I thank Pastor Volodya and his wife Oxsana because they are helping me so much.

Because of ministry supporters Olga was reached for Christ and set free from depression and alcohol addiction!





Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the success of the first Odessa Project church plant in Uzhnoya. The groundwork is being established and is looking good! Another crusade is set for the first week of February.
2. With the financial miracle provision to repair our van please pray the repairs are completed fast. Finding parts is our main problem.
3. Leadership training for missionaries and pastors is being held in Crimea, Chernigov and Odessa regions. Pray for many missionaries, evangelists and pastors to come out of our efforts.
4. As we work in three separate states of Ukraine hundreds of miles apart and now also North Dakota Ablaze, pray for safety and health. The extended travels need extended prayer.
5. Pray for funds to match the \$50,000 grant.

Reaching Nations for Jesus!

Fargo Prayer Meeting

Next Meeting:

February 13 @ 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Amerclnn in Fargo along Interstate 29 and west of Cash Wise.

We meet in room 100 near the front desk.

RussianHarvestMinistries.org

NDablaze.org

PeterMehl.com

RussianHarvest@aol.com

Office: 218-331-2379