



...a prayer letter from John and Jackie  
see our children and grandchildren on page 2

December 21, 2010

Dear friends,  
*Merry Christmas and here comes 2011!*

I (John) returned home a few days ago from Ukraine, and want to thank those who prayed and those who gave to this trip. The travel itself was uneventful, meaning it was blessed. The time in Krivoy Rog was also blessed. Preaching, teaching, and praying for people who came to give their lives to Jesus was all a great privilege as always. Pastor Gregory and I spent much time with ministers, and he and I were able to spend considerable time together as well, unlike many trips where lots of events sometime keep us from extended personal conversations.

Such conversations are important at this time, with a new wave of church planting in motion. Nearly 40 church plants have begun since August.

You need to understand that finding leaders among the Churches of Praise who want to open new churches is not a problem. Many are ready and trained to do this. But it takes the joint effort of the existing churches and others, and even with help it takes faith to move into what looks impossible. *What an honor it is to be with these pioneers who have that sparkle in their eyes that only comes from being on an adventure with God!*

The existing churches are doing well. Many have grown, yet with no permanent place to meet. It is not easy to find a place for a church. One meeting a week at the beginning is not so hard, but as the church becomes busy all week, it is harder to find space. *It is best to own a building.*

Among the 185 Churches of Praise (not counting the 40 new church plants), 36 now have their own building. Every building is a miracle.

In the villages, the best thing for a church to do is to buy a house with land. The house is then gutted and remodeled. Having some land gives room for expansion later.

In the city, this is sometimes a good plan as well, if the church is not large, and meets in a neighborhood where smaller houses can be purchased. (The majority of people live in apartment buildings.) The cost for a house and land is consider-

ably higher in the city, however. For these small churches, whether in the village or the city, these costs are beyond their reach.

Below are 15 Churches of Praise that are more than ready for their own building. In each case, the need is urgent and immediate, and properties are available for purchase, ranging from \$4,000 to \$15,000, depending on the location of the church. Some of the churches have saved money for a long time towards a new building

These buildings will allow each church to more than double in size, have a permanent home, and have space for developing the various ministries needed in a local church.

*The cost listed is the highest expected price for the building purchase, minus the amount the church has saved from their own offerings.*

**15 opportunities for prayer and giving:**

Pastor Shkarin Anatoliy

- 1) Village Behteri \$5,000
- 2) Village Dobropolie \$4,000

Pastor Vadim Ignatenko

- 3) City Tsarichanska \$10,000
- 4) Town Lohvitsa \$6,000

Pastor Dennis Eliseev

- 5) Village Valyava \$5,000
- 6) Village Starosilie \$5,000
- 7) Village Kosari \$5,000
- 8) Village Truzskoe \$4,000
- 9) Town Smolina \$7,000

Krivoy Rog Churches

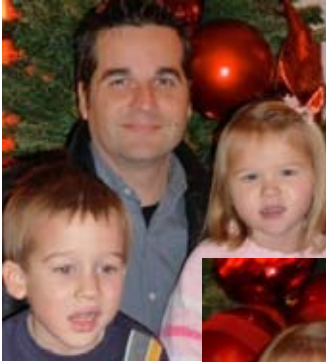
- 10) Pastor Nichiporuk (village church) \$5,000
- 11) Pastor Dima (city church) \$15,000
- 12) Pastor Yuriy (city church) \$11,000
- 13) Pastor Ira (village church) \$5,000
- 14) Pastor Lida (city church) \$10,000

Vanadzor, Armenia

- 15) Pastor Varoos (a city church)
  - a. Buy the land \$4,000
  - b. Build new building \$15,000

With deep appreciation for your friendship,  
**John and Jackie**

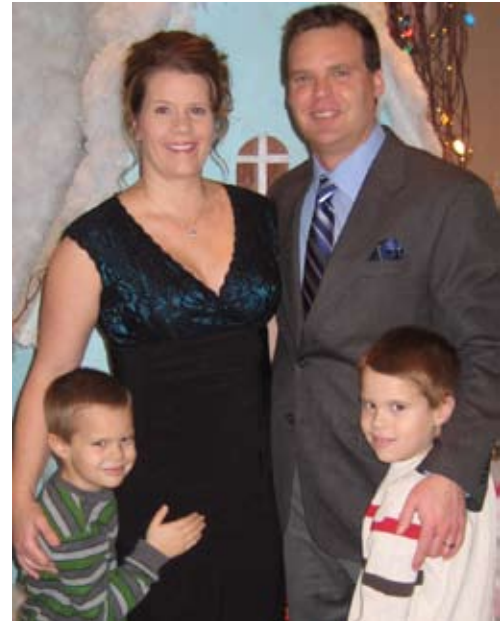
# Our Children and their families



Jeff and Jermaine Matthews  
Jaden and Jenna (one Jenna in two pictures)



Lana and Jay Matthews, Eric and Jonathan



Scott and Jennifer Blair, Zachary and Anna.

