



ukrainian center education

building **faith** by meeting education **needs**

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Dear friends:

God was very gracious to the UEC in 2004! Through your support and prayers, we were able to minister to literally thousands of people by meeting education needs in Ukraine. Our library grew substantially and we finished the year financially with all balances positive

Find in this report a summary of our work last year, our 2005 budget, and a brief look at our future plans. Also, we hope you will enjoy reading about three people who came to Christ this past year and the role the UEC plays in their lives.

The UEC staff and board are thankful for your support. We believe we are impacting hundreds of young lives, people who will play a vital role in building a new Ukraine, a Ukraine we pray that will find its hope in Jesus Christ. To God be all the glory!

Sincerely,

Chris Lovingood
UEC Kyiv Director

Three Stories

By Valeria Cherednichenko

Sasha Tolmachov is a second-year student at Kyiv International University. His older sister, Nastya, has been a member of Nivky Church of Christ for about six years, and last August, we had the honor to share the celebration of her biological brother becoming her brother in Christ. Sasha first came to the Ukrainian Education Center in the fall of 1999 to visit his sister. At that time, the Center did not yet have the building it has now, but just like today, it hosted Saturday nights for university students. As he puts it, Sasha was greatly surprised to see and be a part of the kind of communication and time spending among the youth that he was not used to in his hometown, Lugansk. Since that day, every time that Sasha came to visit Nastya, the usual program for the day was visiting the Center and spending time with Christian young people.

In the fall of 2003, Sasha entered Kyiv International University and moved to an apartment just across the street from the UEC. Naturally, visits to the Center became a regular part of his life. The library helped with his studies while activities like student and movie nights, Study Center classes, church home group meetings, holiday celebrations, and concerts hosted by the UEC filled his free time.

Only a year later, in August 2004, about twenty five young people who participated in our church's annual



conference in Cherkassy (a city about three hours from Kyiv) joyfully applauded Sasha's decision to give his life to Christ. In spite of the rainy weather and strangely cold water, Sasha confidently walked into the Dnipro River and was baptized by his

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Redesigned the UEC website www.uecenter.org and initiated the UEC USA and Kyiv e-mail lists. The Kyiv e-list has over 1,200 subscribers. Added an on-line donation system and received two on-line donations.
- Hired **Lera Cherednichenko** as the library acquisitions manager, our second full-time position.
- Increased use of volunteers including **Lena Morozova** as the circulation manager.
- Hosted three Book Trades which resulted in new additions to the library and culled the collection of redundant materials.
- Recruited **Anton Tayanovsky** who designed a library search engine which was also posted on-line.
- Thanks to **Kenneth Kirby** and his LAMP, we completely automated the check-out system and bar-coded every library item.
- Renegotiated the security contract for a 50% savings while maintaining the same level of protection.
- Purchased one work station, an additional bar code scanner, a replacement vacuum cleaner, a replacement CD player, a DVD player, a replacement patron card laminator, and two stools.
- Moved the library and computer center downstairs and added nine shelving units which increased our holdings capacity by 60%. Refurbished the former library.

MINISTRY

- ★ Distributed more than 100 English Bibles to ICU first-year students.
- ★ Distributed hundreds of Russian Bibles and Bible study materials from Eastern European Missions.
- ★ Weekly hosted several church small groups.
- ★ Hosted Nivky Church of Christ's student outreach.
- ★ Provided Bible study materials to members of five Churches of Christ and 50 other churches in Kyiv.
- ★ Hosted six Study Center courses and provided resources for those courses.
- ★ Helped several students come to Christ in baptism.
- ★ Hosted several special outreach events organized by local and US churches (concerts, LST parties).

2004 Annual Report

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

PATRONS

	2002	2003	2004
New patrons	1,169	652	574

Total registered patrons: 2,395

Total active patrons: 1,326

DONATIONS

	2003	2004
Items	1,168	1,887
Donors	48	47

Library items as of Dec. 31, 2004: 8,283

TRAFFIC

	2002	2003	2004*
Items checked out:	14,035	19,673	18,677
Items checked in:	14,003	18,847	18,537
Item return rate:	99.8%	96%	99.25%
Patron visits	N/A	33,321	28,680
Average visits per day:	N/A	119	111
Hours of room use	N/A	8,182	6,813
Hours of computer use	N/A	5,012	5,346

INTERNSHIP

Jonathan Shaub completed his internship in June 2004 and made a major contribution to the Center's life. He led our Harvest of Books campaign, donated hundreds of items himself, worked daily in the Center, designed the library page on our website, redesigned the internship webpage, and donated \$970 to the operations fund. **Amanda Plummer** served as a summer intern and assisted in various capacities.

* Contributing Factors to 2004 Traffic Reduction:

The UEC was closed one extra week in August for renovation and activity came to a halt during the political crisis in late November and December, a time the UEC is normally packed. We also did not have an intern serving with us in the fall. In addition, Monica Moreland was in the US for 2004.

Operations Fund Expenditures	2003	2004	2005
Salaries and Taxes	\$12,875.13	\$13,977.93	\$15,600
Security, Phone, Apt. Tax, Internet	\$2,598.89	\$2,719.88	\$3,350
Supplies	\$1,414.21	\$355.23	\$400
Kitchen Supplies	\$530.91	\$473.78	\$480
Library/Computer Center Supplies	\$2,550.62	\$1,771.05	\$2,640
Legal Expenses	\$78.65	\$754.91	\$840
Insurance	\$936.90	\$522.81	\$520
Maintenance	\$515.82	\$2,042.71	\$2,400
Equipment/Furniture	\$1,742.71	\$424.74	\$600
Bank Fees	\$172.00	\$173	\$235
Exchange Rate Difference	\$294.81	\$0	\$0
Kyiv Donations Expenditures	\$3,199.33	\$792.28	\$792.28
Security Debt Payment		\$600	--
Renovation Project		\$8,976.05	\$1,698.95
Shaub Book Fund		\$809.28	\$160.72
Total:	\$26,909.98	\$34,393.65	\$29,716.95
US Deposits	\$23,269.99	\$38,295.00	
Kyiv Donations/Library Fund	\$3,429.72	\$792.28	
Total:	\$26,699.71	\$39,087.28	
Total Income	\$26,699.71	\$38,295.00	
Total Expenditures	(\$26,909.98)	(\$34,393.65)	
Security Company Debt	(\$600.00)		
END OF THE YEAR BALANCE	(\$810.27)	\$3,901.35	

2005 Development

Building Faith

- ★ Develop computer-based Christian and Bible study resources in English, Russian, and Ukrainian
- ★ Provide a Bible in the language of choice to all new patrons
- ★ Acquire monthly funds for religious materials in Russian and Ukrainian

Education Needs

We continue to need faster access to the Internet to download virus protection and software updates and to maintain our websites. Through our current phone service provider, we can install high-speed access for initial set-up costs of \$1000 and about \$95 for monthly access. At the same time, our phone service costs will be reduced about \$20 per month thanks to a new way the company will begin billing us. The UEC board in January 2005 agreed to pay for initial set-up, installation equipment including a firewall, and the remaining access costs. Kenneth and Victoria Kirby have agreed to provide \$50 a month to cover much of the access costs. Supporters are needed to help fund these remaining expenses.

Partnerships

In 2005, we hope to continue to partner with American resources to further enhance the UEC as a place for ministry and outreach. Our staff also plans to encourage more church use of the Center's facility. As a part of this effort, we plan to advertise the Center more among local churches of Christ.

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friend Vitaly while all of us sang songs praising God for our new brother.

Sasha says it was the people he met and the community that welcomed him that God used to change his life. I can now say that through his active participation in church meetings, student nights, and Saturday frisbee games, Sasha now reflects the light for others who don't know God yet.

Jenya Titova

We came to know Jenya last year as one of the International Christian University first-year students who were interested in Christianity or confused about the meaning of life. About ten came to the Soup Group organized every Friday at the Ukrainian Education Center by Jonathan Shaub and Chris Lovingood. A good friend of Jenya's and a faithful member of Nivky church, Dima Zhyvov, advised her to participate. While enjoying some filling, hot soup during cold winter days, Zhenya was finding the answers to her questions as well as learning more about God.

Jenya comes from a Buddhist family and grew up in a Buddhist surrounding. By the time she left her home town Chernihiv to study at International Christian University, she started feeling that something was lacking in the system of belief she was used to. Nevertheless, it was rather hard to figure out what exactly was wrong. The Soup Group and her long talks with UEC intern Jonathan Shaub throughout the spring semester of 2004 opened her eyes to what it was that was missing in her life: the grace of God.

Some of us were nicely surprised to see a new face at the church Sunday assembly, but Jenya did not doubt her decision while she was away the whole summer. She desired to learn still more about Christianity as she started meeting with Chris Lovingood to go through a "beginner's" question-and-answer course called Six Meetings. Jenya also joined one of the church home groups. And before her group members learned more about her than just her name, she already had become a blessing for everyone through opening up her heart, thoughts, and love to us. Jenya's baptism was a great encouragement to every member of the church who came to share the joy of her true birthday, for we all felt honored by accepting a sister like her to our family.



Natasha Kostenko

While the Ukraine's Orange Revolution was in full swing and everyone around was concerned with the alarming rumors--that the authorities might use military force to crack down on the massive protests--the church building seemed to us a hiding place as about 35 Christians, weary from protesting, came to witness the greatest gift God has prepared for all of us as Natasha was baptized into Christ.

We first met Natasha as one of nearly a hundred International Christian University first-year students who came to the UEC in 2002 to get a free Bible.

"The behavior of the UEC staff and the attention they were giving to me and my friends encouraged me to come to the UEC over and over again," Natasha noted.

From helping to find a computer reservation time that would suit her schedule to asking how she was doing when she was sick, the welcoming attitude of UEC staff members

Sergiy, Anya, and Artyom always amazed her. This special attention to the visitors' needs in general and specifically her needs caused Natasha to ponder what drives this behavior. Soon after her first visit to the UEC, she started coming to student nights and then to the church assemblies.

Natasha was recently hired as a UEC employee. As both UEC staff members and members of the same church, I have a privilege to witness how every day she gives up some part of her life in her service to the church and to the Center.