

Bishkek, 8 August 2007

Dear Holy Trinity

Due to the hot temperatures it seems that the church attendance has significantly decreased.

Our church accountant was diagnosed breast cancer last month and so we are were all praying for her healing. The same evening we prayed for her in church she could not feel the growth anymore. She had an operation anyway and there was a growth but significantly less. The diagnosis was that it was cut out in an early enough stage so that further operation was not needed. She will receive chemotherapy in a couple of weeks. She was so thankful to God and glorified him last Sunday Service. Like typically for local culture she wrote up a small poem, thanking God for this healing.

Our Pastor is pretty stressed out. His mother in law is living in Moscow but could not handle her adopted son as he was running away from home frequently. She requested that our Pastor's family would take him back to Bishkek. But there the same happens, he runs away from home. That puts huge stress on this family. Last time he stole money from them and ran away for three weeks. Now they did not know what to do with him and put him in a psychological hospital for 2 months. That boy (12) definately needs our prayers and attention.

A group of people have been trying to **threaten our church**. They were complaining to the local city administration as to why this church has received permission to built in this area etc. etc. We found out that the real reason seems to be some criminal elements trying to take over the building for using it as a café or so. But nothing really has happened besides threats and rumours. So we find ourselves in good company with Nehemiah when he was building the wall around Jerusalem.

But we also hear positive comments and reactions. Last night the Pastor's family and our family were invited by one of our local (still non believing) friend. He is working in the "White" house and used to attend one intensive bible study in our house. His wife is a very good friend of our pastor's wife. Now they are even working together in a small pharmacy trading business. This family is open to the gospel but due to strong family ties they have never been really making the move towards Christ. They know about the church and are interested in how the work there is going. They have been saying that they would like to send their young boy to Sunday School. It never happened so far but we hope for that.

How are you doing? Do you have a youth pastor by now?

In Christ.