



Summer-fall 2017  
Submitted January 2018

**Oleksandr Dudik, Ark Church,  
Novovolynsk, Volyn Region,  
Ukraine  
(24)**



**Greetings!**

We are always grateful to God for leading our church for 17 years. The Lord gave us various ministries, through which we reached many souls for Jesus. Thank you your precious part in this ministry. We would like to share with you a short overview of the church's work today.

[▶ WEBSITE](#)

This summer 110 kids were the participants of a church camp. Every child entering the camp base received the status of a junior scientific coworker on the experimental base "Ark". They were involved in researching activities and helped a professor to repair the time-traveling machine. This is how the Biblical heroes were introduced to the kids. They also had a chance to be a part of Jesus last journey (Via Dolorosa). During 11 days of camping, besides resting kids could learn something new, visit craft lessons, participate in sport competitions and solve life-based problems.



During 11 days of camping, besides resting kids could learn something new, visit craft lessons, participate in sport competitions and solve life-based problems.

This year the Children Sanatorium Center "Ark" (orphanage) was celebrating its 14th birthday. During these years, 124 children became dwellers of this house. Many of them spent their childhood and youth here. 14 graduates of the orphanage became members of evangelical church "Ark". This autumn, 3 graduates got married. Others live independently in their personal apartments that were acquired for them by Ark Center. Now, 27 children live in the orphanage. All of them are from dysfunctional families. This year 4 children were returned to their renewed saved happy families. Altogether, we have more than



The work in rehabilitation centers regularly brings fruit. People who had successfully finished the course of rehabilitation already make up a considerable percentage in church membership. We have the patients from all over Ukraine. This is why the demography of the church is so diverse. Women center takes a special place among other 7 centers, because when a mother is healthy - the whole family is doing well. 12 women after rehabilitation course have reunited their once broken families and now enjoy their complete life. Today there are 5 mothers among other patients of the center. However, rehabilitation ministry requires regular financing as most of the patients cannot pay for their staying in the center (40 USD - for food per month). These people are usually abandoned by their relatives because of their unacceptable lifestyle in the past. The rehabilitation centers successfully cooperate with our orphanage. Usually the reanimation of the family includes children and their parents.

---



In general, all church ministries are interconnected. One ministry naturally flows into another. For example, people who has finished the course in rehab center, go to live under mentorship of adaptation center. There they have all accommodations, receive help with renewing all lost personal documents and getting a job. For today, church building for adaptation center is still in construction process that is why for now church has to rent apartments for this ministry. Some of them (women and men) are employed by church bakery. The bakery by itself has an interesting story of development, but today we are mentioning only its ministry's activities. The bakery, besides providing job positions for previously drug and alcohol addicted people, donates for orphanage and all 8 rehab centers free bread (it is apart from baking bread products for 70 shops).

---



Evangelical ministry is also in other forms. For example, each Saturday a group of church youth and one deacon sets a tent in front of the city market. They provide free coffee and tea, Christian brochures and Bibles, play Evangelic songs, initiate dialogs and if people want they pray for them. Occasionally, youth goes to the city center with evangelic program (sing songs, show drama skits, share the message, invite to the church). Partially, evangelism is carried by newly opened Help Center. One of its functions is to go directly to people on streets and start conversation about Jesus. Thus, one day of the week belongs to one category of church members (for example



Besides the volunteers' work, we see the necessity of having few office workers to hold the organizing and coordinating duties in the Help Center. They have to be full-day employed for salary staff, because the work they have to accomplish is huge (data collection and processing, searching for optimal problems' solving). We know people, who can do the job, but unfortunately, today we are not able to find money to pay for it. Even though, this fact slows the development of the center, we do our best to make this ministry prosper.



Often, God uses children to evangelize adults. We observe this from Sunday school and summer camps. First, kids start to behave better, then parents react on these positive changes, visit church and finally stay there. With this idea in our minds, we began preparations for opening Christian kindergarten and daycare. (There is a growing demand for kindergartens in our town, because several governmental kindergartens were recently closed). It is important to mention that in the same building we make renovations for starting a Christian café. The constructing and decorating works already last for 5 years.



Another object, called Youth Center "Ark", is currently used as a main church building for congregation meetings. There are 500-600 seats available (depends how tightly people sit on the benches). Recently we had a wonderful youth conference there. As soon as we move to the main church building, Youth Center will be concentrated only on youth projects and activities (as it was initially planned). We began the construction of the main church building few years before the church was officially launched. The construction works lasts for 20 years already (2000 seats). During this period, church grew from 100 people to 1000.



---

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please, pray for all the ministries we carry out to bring good fruit;
- Pray for the construction works to successfully come to end, so that we would be able to use all the building appropriately;





- Please, keep all kids and rehabilitants in prayers.



### OUR MISSION

HART is dedicated to alleviating poverty and injustice in Eastern Europe, by working alongside local people, organizations and churches, giving them the tools to build a better world for themselves, their communities and their countries.

[403.230.8263](tel:403.230.8263) | [888.788.3880](tel:888.788.3880) | [office@hart.ca](mailto:office@hart.ca) | [www.hart.ca](http://www.hart.ca)

STAY CONNECTED:

