



Nikopol Evangelism
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“The Time Has Come” – August 2024 Newsletter

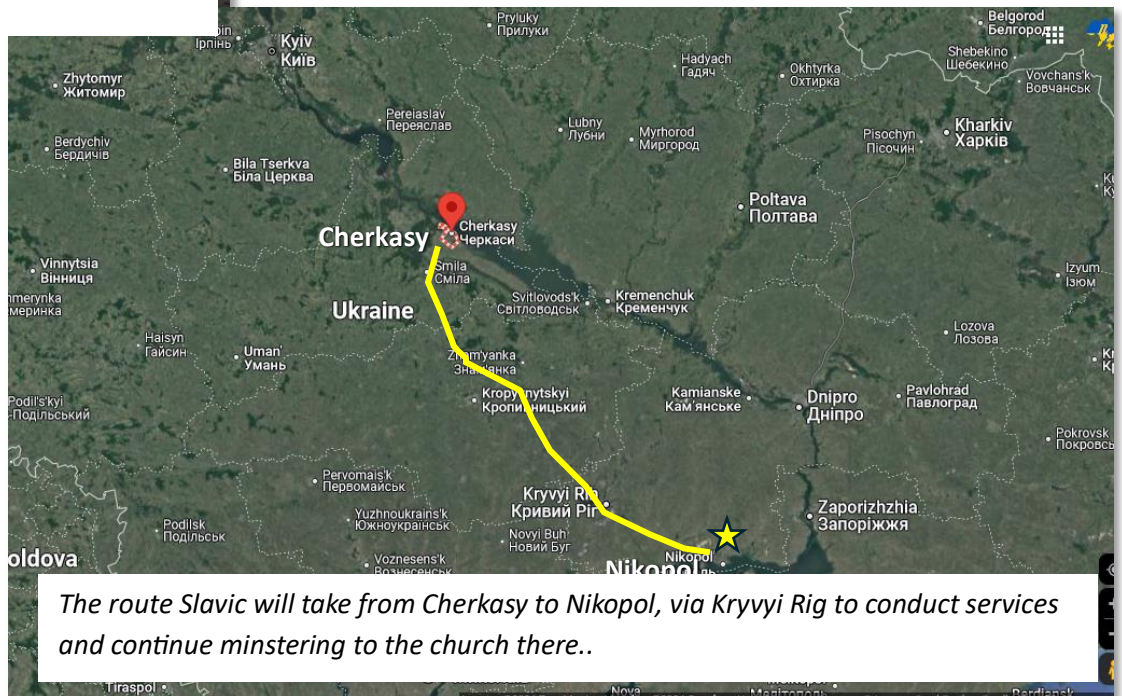


A bombed building near the center of town. I probably walked by this building 2-3 times a week.

In the recent months, attacks have been increasing in many places in Ukraine, especially along the front lines. Nikopol is considered the front, as it is directly across the river from one of the most heavily fortified parts of occupied territory. In 2023, Slavic and his family moved to a nearby village of Pokrovske. Now, even that has come under fire. Recently, there was an explosion 150 feet away from their home. Some months ago, a bomb hit the house diagonally across the street from the church building. This week several people were killed outside one of the shops we went to frequently.

I spoke to Slavic for an hour and a half this week, and several times during the conversation, as we talked about their coming plans, he became very agitated, which I interpreted as symptoms of PTSD. He described members of his family randomly waking in the night screaming. His children have not been able to attend school with any regularity for two years. The church is down to one service per week as Slavic feels that it is irresponsible to have many large gatherings, which Russia likes to target.

With this in mind, Slavic is planning to pivot the work in Nikopol and *Pokrovske. He has been travelling north to a more peaceful area, a city called Cherkasy, to investigate property. It is 350 miles north, but still significantly south of Kiev, which still is occasionally targeted. His goal is to buy several pieces of property.



The route Slavic will take from Cherkasy to Nikopol, via Kryvyi Rih to conduct services and continue ministering to the church there..

* The village of Pokrovske, where the rehab center is, is not the city of Pokrovsk in the east, which Russia is trying to capture.

Currently, most of the residents of the rehab centers are planning to go with them, making a group of about 20. The plan is as follows:

After procuring property, the rest of the Christians in Nikopol will be invited to come. There are only an additional 20 remaining. The rest of the group in Nikopol is 120 non-Christian members. Obviously, we will not be able to provide housing for them. To that end, Slavic will return by microbus each week to buy supplies for Nikopol and conduct the Sunday service. He is hoping to have the transfer completed in Late September/October before the weather gets harsh.

The primary work is still Nikopol, so the end goal is to sell his Cherkasy home when the war is over and return to Nikopol, which his family loves (all of his children including adopted children were born there). It is possible, if a church is established there, that he will be able to train and leave some younger men there when he returns, if a return is possible. He has emphasized that this is plan B.



Currently, Slavic has the ability to purchase his own family's property by selling his own apartment and using some other assets he has saved up, but will be looking for some funds to buy a larger property to use as a rehab facility/ temporary shelter. Those coming north should be able to find work, as the economy is more stable away from the front lines.

With regards to some of the other details of moving, they will be able to take all of the supplies and

livestock with them when they go, leaving nothing to be stolen. In Nikopol, there is a family or two that live in the church building to keep it from being looted.

I have informed Slavic that Nikopol Evangelism doesn't have enough to cover the cost of a building, though we do have some funds that were given about a year ago for the eventuality of moving people out of harm's way. The amount of funding he gets for the second building determines the size of the building he can get. Even in a village, this will probably be \$25,000 minimum. We briefly discussed renting, however this poses a problem as landlords offer good prices to attract renters, but quickly change them, and if he rents, he may end up watching property skyrocket.

The time to strike is now, the longer he waits the more property goes up. As we speak, Russia is advancing in a few places in the east, and are approaching sizable cities that have a combined 100,000 people. If those populations are forced to flee in the next few months, it will cause another spike in property prices across Ukraine.

God has kept the church safe through 2½ years of war and it has even thrived. It needs those who can, to help it continue through a period of transition. If you can contribute to this cause, please contact me.



the rehab center's livestock feeding by the river. The visible beach is how far the water receded after the bombing of the dam.



We have added an Instagram page: [Nikopol_Evangelism](#). I will try to post content there when I have updates. If you want more information you can contact me by text/phone or email.