



Nikopol Evangelism
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October Newsletter 2025

“God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in time of trouble.
Therefore, we will not fear,
Though the earth give way,
Though the mountains be moved
into the heart of the sea,
Though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
Selah.”

— *Psalms 46:1–3*

The stoning of Stephen led to the church in Jerusalem scattering across the known world. While it is difficult to maintain faith in God through affliction, the light of the Gospel shines all the brighter in times of trial.

Quick recap

Russia first invaded Ukraine in February 2022, but the community in Nikopol remained safe until July of that year. Those who were able, relocated immediately to Pokrovskoe. In the fall of 2024, Christians determined that the region had become too dangerous to remain, so they evacuated a second time—this time to Karapoishe.

Each time the church moves, a few are left behind, but as the Christians continue to spread, the message of the Gospel moves forward with them.

We rejoice that Nikopol Evangelism now supports **three congregations**:



The Church at Nikopol

As of October 16, Nikopol and the surrounding region have been attacked **49 times**. (Five of them in Pokrovskoe village.) 4 people injured; 2 apartment complexes damaged; a sports club; 5 small shops; a supermarket; a café; infrastructure; power lines 1 truck and 4 cars. Most of them are kamikaze drones. Thankfully, the majority of them were destroyed by the Ukrainian defense before reaching their targets. (Source: *Nikopol News Marina Shuchenko*)



Ludmilla, from Nikopol was baptized in July



Ludmilla was baptized this past summer while attending camp Americraine a collaborative effort with all Ukrainian churches and Sunset Bible ministry. She attends the congregation in Nikopol.

After evacuating about 20 members the congregation in Nikopol still has more than **100 attending**, including **18 who are baptized**, (two baptisms from the summer are shown at left.) What an incredible testimony to the power of the Gospel!

Slavic travels to Nikopol when he can, but in his absence **Artom** is faithfully filling in. This week they were blessed by a visit from **Yaroslav**, a Polish minister who considers the Nikopol congregation his church family and and has led many to Christ.

Slavic is also studying with four women who he hopes will soon make decisions for Christ.

The Church at Pokrovskoe

Pokrovskoe is a quiet village with no military base but today, it was struck five times by kamikaze drones. Slavic reported one hit the church in Pokrovskoe several months ago. Ukrainian defense has long accused Russia of deliberately targeting Ukrainian citizens, an accusation Russia denies.

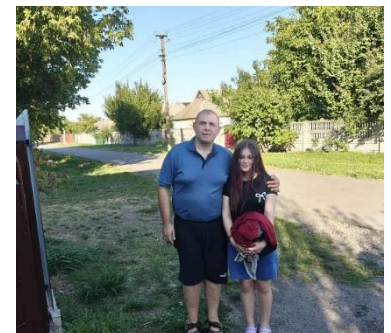
Currently **ten Christians** meet for worship three times a month. Because of the ongoing danger, Slavic avoids large gathering there because of the danger it may cause them. Even so, they celebrated **two baptisms** since our last newsletter in June. They are looking forward to a visit from Yaroslav this weekend.



Wednesday night in Nikopol, a Bible study session took place around the ping pong table. Yaroslav is at the left front corner of the table in black.



Angele came to Pokrovskoe near the beginning of the war, a refugee from Lugansk. She was also baptized in



Vika became a Christian this summer, she is 14 and stayed with her family in Pokrovskoe, she is a close friend of Nastay's



The Church at Karapoishe

In Karapoishe, the church purchased a large house to shelter refugees. Which also serves as their place of worship.



Additionally, a nearby building now functions as a **rehabilitation facility** for those overcoming addiction. Slavic's brother-in-law **Misha** keeps everyone busy with projects at the center. They've updated the outdoor kitchen — a blessing during summer canning season, keeping the main house cooler — refinished bedrooms, installed new plumbing and completed a barn and a greenhouse in preparation for next spring's farming season.

The rehab center helps support itself through the small farm they maintain, Anton (whose baptism is pictured above) tends to the goats and assists with daily chores.



Anton was baptized into Christ in July; he is currently going through the rehab program.

Artom preaches in Karapoishe when Slavic travels to Nikopol and another Artom fills in for him in Nikopol when in Karapoishe. Both faithfully serve in their roles.

Meanwhile, **Nastya** hosts a youth ministry called **Club Smile**. Organizing lessons, games, and snacks for neighborhood children. About ten kids attend regularly — a bright light of joy and hope amid ongoing hardships.

Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for safety, strength, and steadfast faith for all three congregations — in **Nikopol**, **Pokrovskoe**, and **Karapoishe**.



Pray especially for Slavic and his family as they serve tirelessly under constant threat, for **Artom** and **Artom** as they lead; for the men in the rehab program, and for the children reached through *Club Smile*.

Above all else pray that hearts will remain open to the Gospel, and that those hearing the message of Christ will find **refuge in Him — the true source of peace in every storm**.