

TAKING THE SAVING GOSPEL TO A LOST WORLD

RONALD COLEMAN
8813 WOOD GLEN DRIVE
ROWLETT, TEXAS 75088
(972) 412-4273

"...GO INTO ALL THE
WORLD AND PREACH THE
GOSPEL TO EVERY
CREATURE..."

CENTERVILLE ROAD
CHURCH OF CHRIST

1102 E. CENTERVILLE
ROAD
GARLAND, TEXAS 75041

MARCH, 2017

U K R A I N E

It would be an understatement to say this trip didn't go exactly as planned. **Rose** and I were delighted that **Kerry** and **Tommie Cain**, from San Antonio, Texas, were to travel with us again. These longtime friends and coworkers have been with us many times. Kerry has taught in the **Kremenchuk** training program on fourteen different occasions, first in 1999. Rose had been experiencing some disturbing health problems for about three weeks and the doctors couldn't discover what was wrong. Late in the afternoon, *the day before* our scheduled departure, one specialist told her, "You can't go!" This led to a frantic few hours. Shall we stay or go? Can we change our dates? How easily and quickly could this be done? People were expecting us...classes planned. We had just short of \$30,000 in very much needed benevolent funds that must be carried by hand into the country then distributed. Rose would be taking further medical tests. We had no idea how soon the results would come. Would even more tests be required?

Here is what we decided to do, and, in hindsight, I'm sure it was the right choice. Kerry, Tommie and I would leave the next day as planned but would shorten our stay. Our daughter, **Robyn Kirby**, would help Rose and stay with her if required. So, we were with the congregation in Kremenchuk one Sunday and I taught evening classes before we came home late in the week. I started a course on Ephesians which I hope to complete in our usual October trip there. We were also able to investigate benevolent needs and make distribution of the funds we carried for that purpose. Thanks to the Internet, I could speak with Rose every day. She is still being tested and waiting for a diagnosis!

E-mail address: RONROSECOLEMAN@aol.com

SPECIAL BENEVOLENT HELP

The economic situation in the poor country of Ukraine is still terrible. The war with Russia on the eastern border is, of course, a major factor in this. Of the \$29,900 we took, \$2,500 was contributed specifically to help Christian refugees from the war. The brethren in Kremenchuk advised us where this need was greatest and arrangements were made for the money to be delivered.

We assisted, as always, the shelter which cares for abandoned children and those rescued from abusive families. In addition to other needs, they always have trouble just putting food on the table and keeping the electricity on. Aid was also given, in the nearby town of Svetlavodsk, to the home/school for about 230 blind or visually impaired kids. Most of them have other physical or mental problems. As usual, we were able to visit the two institutions just mentioned. In Kremenchuk, aid was given to the hospital for severely disabled babies and small children. Boys in the juvenile prison were helped. Our brother, Gregory, teaches the Bible there regularly and has converted quite a few prisoners. He is also able to take in food, clothing and other needed items. You would think their basic needs would be supplied by the government that has them locked up. You would be wrong! The conditions are truly terrible in this prison of over 400 inmates. In Kremenchuk, a few individual Christians were helped and some funds were left with the Central church for distribution as needs arise.

The Ukrainians who receive this generous help express their deep gratitude for your love and kindness.

Soon I will be teaching in **Piedras Negras, Mexico** and ask for your prayers.

Your coworker,

Ronald Coleman