

Hristo & Vania Arnaudov
September 14, 2009 Sofia, Bulgaria

Dear elders, brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to all in the name of our Lord! Greetings from Sofia, Bulgaria and from Hristo and Vania Arnaudov, servants of the Lord! We are grateful to God for His guidance in our ministry, for the health, strength and wisdom He gives us, and especially, for the great love and mercy that He shows us every day. We thank all of you for your prayers and encouragement which we receive through your letters, as well as for the financial support you provide.

All this makes us be even more bold in our ministry here in Bulgaria. Despite the difficulties which we face at every step of the way, mostly in the form of deeply rooted atheism in the hearts and minds of the Bulgarian people and expressed every time we share the Good News of the Gospel, we feel new surge of energy, strength and encouragement as a result of your prayers.

Yet one more summer season is gone and we would like to share with you all that happened in the last few months. Along with our return to Bulgaria and the beginning of our new ministry, we set a goal for ourselves: let the Church of Christ spread beyond the borders of Sofia; let the seed we sowed in Athens now grow in Bulgaria. This was a vision of ours while still in Greece and we worked hard with our Bulgarian sisters in Athens to sow the seed in the hearts of their family members in Bulgaria as well. They would send to their families audio cassettes with my sermons from Athens so they could hear about Jesus Christ, and the salvation that comes through Him.

This summer, our vision, prayer and goal became a reality. One of our sisters from Athens had shared the Good News of the Gospel with her son. They came to visit us in Sofia and we spend several days discussing and teaching the Word of God and ... **Halleluiah! The Lord added to His Church one more soul. Darin gave his life to Jesus by repentance and baptism for the forgiveness of his sins.** Darin lives in Veliko Tarnovo with his parents but comes to Sofia so we can have time of fellowship and study the Word of God. Darin is young and educated but at this time is unemployed and we are praying that the Lord will provide and help him find a suitable job soon. We are also praying that God will help Darin grow in the faith and knowledge of God and His Word.

Sister Annie, who was also baptized in Athens and is now living and working in Sofia, is also praying for her family to come to know the Lord. While we were in Athens, our whole congregation prayed for Annie's daughter and her husband as they were married for 10 years but they unable to bear a child. Praise to God, Annie's daughter, Galia, gave birth to a beautiful baby-girl. Galia then came to church and presented little Annie to the Lord. Glory to God!

During the summer months while I was off from UBI, my wife and I decided to visit our home town of Bourgas where we have Christian friends, some of which were also immigrants in Greece. We had wonderful time of worship and fellowship with them and

they have asked that we visit them more often. We were also invited by brother Milcho who leads a small home church in Blagoevgrad. We responded to his invitation and had fellowship with the brothers and sisters there as well.

Here in Sofia, the other Church of Christ lead by brother Tom Black had a group of guests, brothers and sisters from Louisiana. Brother Donald Ossman was their leader and also the main speaker for the seminars which they had in the course of one week. We also took part of these seminars and were very touched and encouraged by the words which God had put in brother Don's heart to share. We also had a very pleasant fellowship at Tom and Sheryl's home, together with brother Don and sister Koula, as well as with Milcho and Marry. Brother Tom Black invited us to also take part in the men's and youth seminars which they had organized.

Along with all other events and gatherings, home group Bible studies and prayer groups which we usually have at our home, during the summer we often visited our brothers and sisters in the village of Dushanci where our sister Lilly, also a convert from Athens, had opened the doors of her home for a home congregation. She also invites people from the close-by town of Pirdop. Both Dushanci and Pirdop are about 100 km away from Sofia and we constantly receive invitations to go and serve them with the Word of God.

On August 1, we were part of the wedding of sister Nellie and brother Ilias from Greece. Brother Dino Roussos was also there and performed the wedding ceremony for them in Kria Vrissi, Greece. There were other brothers and sister from Bulgaria attending the wedding so we can all share in the joy of Nellie and Ilias. We are currently working with two new souls, Milena and Irina. They show great interest in the Word of God and my wife uses every opportunity she has to have fellowship with them and to discuss the way of salvation.

Recently we have been working with brother Peter and sister Milka. They are both my colleagues at the UBI. I am encouraging Brother Peter and also brother Raicho to work together with me and to prepare to teach Bible classes for the church. Dear brothers and sisters, we ask you to pray for all the people we have mentioned above so that they may grow in the faith and that they may bring others to the truth of God.

Please pray for us that God will continue to give us strength and health, as well as wisdom so that we know how to face each situation that comes our way, especially in regards to the atheism and unbelief of the Bulgarian people. May God open the hearts of other brothers and sisters as well – we are in need of more finances so we can afford to pay the rent for the place where we meet for worship, as well as to possibly be able to rent that place other days of the week as well so we can have Bible classes, seminars, and time of fellowship.

Please also lift my father, Ilija, in your prayers to the Lord. His health has not been good in the last few months and tomorrow he will be hospitalized again. My mother, Ruska, is almost unable to move as her gonartrose is at a heavier stage. Both of my parents are Christians and trust the Lord. They know and believe that nothing in this life happens

without the knowledge of God and that He is in control. However, they do need special care and lots of prayers and encouragement.

Please join us in our prayers for our sisters in the Lord, Sashka, Maria and Lidia – may the Lord show His mercy and heal them. We are also praying for the unemployed Milen, Anita and Darin.

Thank you dear brothers and sisters once again for your constant prayers and encouragement! May God bless you abundantly with all His blessings!

Please click [this link](#) to view photos.

In His Grace,
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servants of the Lord

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