

Update:
Oct 18, 2016



Prayer Focus for HCF's Partnership with our Sister Church of Druisk, Belarus

A little history, where we've been. . . . In the fall of 2010, mission teams from HCF ministered in several areas within Belarus through partnership with Byelorussian Missions and our brother in Christ, Andrew Ryzhkov. Pastor Joel had been affiliated and in partnership with Pastor Andrew for several years leading teams from churches where he had served. Returning from this 2010 ministry journey, HCF's leadership and church family began to pray and seek God's direction for ministry to the people of Belarus while *"the doors to Belarus remain open"*.

The Lord has called us to specifically partner with a small church in the towns of Druisk and Druya. These villages are located in the northwestern area of Belarus. In the winter of 2012, we began our on-going relationship with Pastor Nikolai and the membership of the Church of Druisk with the purpose of encouraging local believers and helping them bear witness to Christ. Since February 2012, when the next team returned to Belarus, we have continued to support, send ministry teams and pray for and minister to and with Pastor Nikolai and the Lord's faithful followers of the church in Druisk as they minister to us in prayer support.

The latest. . . . In 2015, Pastor Nikolai and Hleb visited here with the opportunity to meet Harvest's church family. In November 2015, another HCF team assisted in Druisk with ministry.

Currently. . . . HCF has another team preparing *'to go'!* This fall's focus is evangelistic follow-up, intentional teaching of the church and work projects on the church building.

Please join this team and our sister church in Druisk through prayer for the Lord's guidance, direction, protection and peace as they plan, prepare, travel, and minister.

Prayer Focus and Requests

The ministry team representing HCF's church family will leave Friday, November 4th and return Monday, November 14th. They will be participating in 'home visits', evangelistic follow-up, the ladies leading Women's Bible Studies, the men leading in worship and Men's Bible Studies with intentional teaching of the church as well as work projects on the church building. The HCF members of this team are:

Pastor Joel Bradberry	Cyndy Lowery	Kristal Westbrook
Davis Gooding	Barry Taylor	Our HCF family in prayer

Following are several specific prayer requests that have been expressed by individual team members for the team as well as the current prayer requests from our Byelorussian ministry partners.

- For faithfulness to Christ in each moment, in EVERY facet of life,
- Holy living and a clear Christian witness in all that's said and done
- Discernment and wisdom in all phases of life and to be a Christ-like steward of all that God has given
- God will lead in all truth as sermons & lessons are prepared. Wisdom preparing lessons that honor God and are true to His Word
- Open doors, hearts and minds for the Gospel
- The Lord's peace and protection through *all* the team members' faith as they prepare, travel & minister. Wellness & good health during this time
- Wisdom for the translators. Alertness and protection for the drivers
- Wellness & good health for the team members families at home
- God would minister grace & true JOY in their hearts as He is glorified in all they do in service to the Lord and in work and fellowship with their Byelorussian brothers and sisters in Christ
- Wisdom in delivering messages in a way that is helpful and useful to the Byelorussians and sparks good conversations on the topic
- They will preach/teach in the power of the Spirit with humility & love
- A heart for the people we visit (good listening) so that we can respond biblically to their spiritual needs. Members of the 'local work' will continue to grow in taking the lead during our "Gospel sharing" visits and interactions with the local community.
- Salvation for our Byelorussian friends (specifically Anatoly & Azur)
- Several team members continue to request prayer for the salvation of family members as previously brought before the church family
- Nikolai- the advancement of gospel promises to be more effective; faithfulness in discipleship
- Anatoli & Olga-birth of 4th child, final construction of their home
- Marsha & Oleg- birth of 3rd child
- Gertrude- mother Amelia is very weak and may die any moment
- Natasha- Wisdom to teach the children at home, church and the orphanage



October 23, 2016

Congregational Singing

Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down

Harvest Praise Team

Welcome and Announcements

Chad Seay

Quiet and Worshipful Reflection

Remember Me

Invocation/Prayer of Confession

David Walker

Congregational Singing

How Deep the Father's Love
The Power of the Cross
Mercy

Harvest Praise Team

Children's Catechism – All children K-5 are invited to come forward.

Prayer & Worship through Giving

Travis Taylor

Offertory/Congregational Singing

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Harvest Praise Team

If you are visiting with us today please do not feel compelled to give. If you filled out a visitor card feel free to put it in the offering basket.

Worship in the Word

"Famous Last Words"

Matthew 28:16-20

Joel Bradberry

The Lord's Supper

Elders

The Church Covenant

Pray for HCF and Pastor Joel as we continue the sermon series in I Corinthians entitled "The Troubled, Triumphant Church. However, for the next several weeks we will take a break from this series. Please pray each week that God would use the speakers to powerfully and clearly preach His Word and that we as a congregation would actively engage in listening to the Word preached.

Question/answer for this week's Children's Catechism – **What do we believe by true faith?** ...the holy catholic church.

HCF will collect a special **Belarus offering** next Sunday, October 30th. This will be just in time to help as our next team leaves November 4th.

The **HCF Fall Festival** is next Saturday, Oct. 29th starting at 3:00pm (supper will be served at 5:00pm). The church will supply meat (BBQ)/drinks and each family is asked to bring a dessert (initials A-M) or side dish (initials N-Z). There will be worship, games, trunk or treat and a bon fire. Any questions contact Matt Sluder at 901-2597 or Todd Martin at 79-7213.

Did you know that if you are not actively engaged in a community group the entire congregation is missing out? Most groups meet again next Sunday so please ponder the biblical meaning of fellowship and consider joining a group before next Sunday. If you want to join a group, talk with Alex or Joel.

Theology@9 Class – Living as a Church is currently being taught in three classrooms (#26, #27, & #28) simultaneously by our Elders. This is a 13 week class and the topics include unity, membership, diversity, preaching & prayer, governance, church fellowship, discontentment, church leadership, church discipline, encouragement, serving & giving, corporate worship and evangelism.

The HCF Praise Team will be at Autumn Care on Tuesday night at 7:00pm. Feel free to come and join in the fellowship.

Women's Bible study has begun at the home of Phyllis Abbott (7225 Hanover Grove Lane). Our text is the book of Ephesians, and Priscilla Shirer's workbook **The Armor of God**. You will need to read the book of Ephesians. Supper is at 5:30 and the Bible study will begin at 6:30. If you have questions contact Phyllis at 746-7930.

Save the Date! Our annual **Thanksgiving meal and worship service** will be Saturday, November 12th at Mechanicsville Church of Christ.

Women's Bible Study in Galatians will not meet for the next two weeks but resume on November 7th.

Women's Bible Study- Wednesdays -10:30am to 12:00 noon at the home of Priscilla Riley, 3731 Horseshoe Dr, Quinton, VA. The study is entitled "Twelve

Extraordinary Women." Come join us as we study these fascinating women and how they were used by God. Any questions please call Priscilla at 241-9837.

Men's Bible Study – Men's Bible Study and prayer time on Friday mornings, 6:00 am at the HCF Offices.

Youth Worship Service – Wednesdays at Old Church Community Center, 2080 Old Church Road, Mechanicsville - 6:45 to 8:00pm.

There will be an elder (David Walker) available in the front office at the conclusion of worship to pray with you or attempt to answer any questions you have about HCF or the Christian faith.

What do we believe by true faith? We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

HCF Elders

Buck Wicker, John Riley, Joel Bradberry, David Walker and Barry Taylor

HCF Staff

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The front doors of the school will be locked at 10:30 each Sunday morning. Once the front doors are locked please do not open them to allow anyone in. *All people who arrive after 10:30 should enter through the back door of the auditorium.*

To Submit Your Reservation online, follow this link

<http://www.hcfellowship.com/form.php?pageID=69>



Thank You, LORD!

Harvest Christian Fellowship's Thanksgiving Dinner & Worship Service

**Mechanicsville Church of Christ
8067 Atlee Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111**

**Saturday, November 12, 2016
Dinner in the Fellowship Hall - 6:00 p.m.
Worship Service in the Sanctuary – 7:00 p.m.**

**Turkey, Ham, Rolls and Beverages will be provided
Bring your favorite dish or two to share**

**Please contact Scott Croxton if you are interested in helping with
setting up the tables and chairs at 9:00am the morning of.**

He can be reached at (804)651-3975.

**Please detach this slip and put it in the offering plate no later than
Sunday, October 30th**

**Family Name _____ No. attending _____
(You can also make your reservations on the HCF website.)**



Dear Friend,

Thank you for joining us in worship. As you will notice we will observe the Lord's Supper today. This is a joyous time for all believers as we feast at our Lord's Table. You need not be a member at Harvest to participate—we simply ask that you be a professing believer to partake.

We want to be clear as to what we believe happens during the Lord's Supper so that you are adequately informed before the bread and cup are distributed. (By the way, these elements will be distributed to you. You will not need to leave your seat. Please take the bread and cup and wait until all have been served. We will partake together).

So, what happens at the Lord's Table? First, imperfect believers act in obedience to their Lord's command. The Lord's Supper is one of two ceremonies ordained by Jesus for his church, the other being baptism. The Lord's Supper is a visible representation of the gospel and is therefore good news for weary saints—not sinless ones. So we confess known sin and gladly receive the bread and cup.

Second, as we experience the elements, we commemorate Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection which he accomplished for our atonement. The bread and cup are signs of the body and blood of Jesus. As signs they point to the realities of his body and blood; however, the signs are not the same as the things they point to. The bread is bread and not the real body of Jesus. Likewise the cup is juice of the vine and not the blood of the Savior.¹ Led by the Holy Spirit we obediently remember the person and work of Jesus on our behalf.

Third, the body of Christ—the church—engages in true fellowship with God and each other at the Table. Unity is demonstrated by our common dependence

on Christ—we eat from a common loaf and drink the fruit of the vine poured from a common cup. The Table spread before us today is a forerunner of the future Marriage Supper of the Lamb described in Revelation 19.

Fourth, we celebrate. Commemorating Christ and his gospel is ultimately joyous. It is an occasion whereby we offer sacrifices of praise and joyfully look forward to his return to usher in the consummation of his kingdom. We celebrate each time the gospel is heralded. The good news is not simply old news to maturing Christians. In fact, mature believers understand that the gospel is not only the spark that ignites eternal life but is also the fuel that sustains it. Hearing the gospel time and again is great joy! Seeing the gospel in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, likewise, is a source of great joy.

Fifth, as we experience continual reminders of our position in Christ, we align our lives to God's ways. We walk closer with Christ motivated more by love than compulsion. In other words, we grow to love God with all of our hearts, souls, minds, and strength; and love our neighbors as ourselves.

Finally, and perhaps most significant, we cooperate with God in his supernatural work of sanctification. Our obedience in examining ourselves in light of God's holiness, remembering Christ's atonement for our sins, communing with God and one another, celebrating the Gospel, and partaking of the elements is supernaturally used of God to make us more conformed to the image of his Son. In this sense we can say that God, not man, is the primary actor during the Lord's Supper. God the Father, through the Holy Spirit, faithfully assures us of our salvation, security, home in heaven, forgiveness of sins, and all of the benefits that accompany our adopted status as children of God through our union with Christ. We are nurtured and our faith is strengthened by Christ at his table.

What will happen today at the Lord's Table? In short, God will sanctify us and strengthen our faith as we hear, see, touch, smell, and taste the gospel. We, in obedience to our Master, remember his sacrificial death. Through the work of the Holy Spirit we feed on Christ—our faith is strengthened by the assurance of all his benefits provided for his church. There is great joy as we draw sustenance from a common loaf and a common cup. Such joy excites faith and love. Such joy motivates us towards loving obedience to the two great commandments.

Grace and Peace to you,

¹ At HCF we use grape juice.