

May is the month when all of the ministries at Fimiam Church are preparing for the summer period. Some ministries take a break for the summer, some switch to an outdoor regime, some get ready for the retreats.

A team of youth made their final visit before summer to the orphanage to host a day program for the children. Along with activities such as woodwork, cooking, crafts, sports, a game called "The Big Hunt" and singing, they spoke about mercy. It was a day of joy for the children and a day of blessings for the team in spite of all the difficulties met. This ministry can hardly be regarded as easy due to the typical character of children from dysfunctional families who are doing their best to survive among children in similar circumstances. It is important to show God's unconditional love to them.



On May 20, the ministry for people with disabilities organized a trip to the zoo followed by a picnic for young people with special needs. Everyone enjoyed being outside in the warm, spring weather. After the picnic, there were songs glorifying God, a Bible story and presents for those who recently celebrated their birthdays and for all who attended meetings throughout the whole year. It was a joyful occasion for all of the participants.



The women's retreat that took place May 26-28 was a great blessing for the 60 attendees. In Ukraine, women can hardly find time and money for rest and refreshment. Thanks to people who supported this retreat, however, these women paid only a partial cost and could spend time together in Christian fellowship. We are grateful to Marsha Britt and Jessica Cook - our speakers from the USA who are also among the supporters – for their help. They led the spiritual portion of the retreat, examining the book of I John and sharing their Christian experience with the participants. There were also songs, games, crafts, a spa salon, presents, prayer times and testimonies from various women about how has God changed their hearts.



On May 26-27, "Treasury of Wisdom" Christian School and "The Little Star" Preschool finished the school year. Both the school and preschool held festive meetings in which teachers, children, their parents and other close relatives participated. The best students of the school received certificates of recognition and the preschoolers received diplomas. God's Word was preached and we pray that it will bring fruit.



On May 28, “Smile” Children’s Club had its last festive meeting before the summer break in which parents were also invited to attend. To open the program, the “Big Smile” mascot greeted the participants and sang songs with them. Afterward, Pastor Alexander Tkachuk addressed the children, advising them to read the Bible, be obedient to it and to be a good example for their friends. Then the children played an exciting scavenger hunt game consisting of five tasks. Meanwhile, their parents gathered with Pastor Yuriy Mykhalchuk to deliberate on Biblical principles for raising children. At the end of the program, the children enjoyed snacks, had the opportunity to get inside a big bubble and received cotton candy as well as presents from “Samaritan’s Purse.”



Joseph Kezele, President of the Arizona Origin Science Association, visited Fimiam Church and four institutions of higher education in Lutsk at the end of May as part of R500. He spoke about the influence of the Reformation on science and gave lectures refuting evolution from a scientific viewpoint. Attendees had the opportunity to ask him questions at the end of each lecture. Many also received a booklet by Carl Wieland, "Stones and Bones: Powerful Evidence against Evolution" as a gift from Mr. Kezele.

