



Broadcasting and Building for the future: a progress report

A near miss by NLR

Throughout this war, we have been protected by our Lord who must have an ongoing plan for us. On July 25, a drone hit the next door building yet NLR was untouched. No one was hurt, but many homes were lost.



Our staff remains dependent every day for protection from attack, even as the missiles and drones hit Odessa regularly. As this building is now unsalvageable, so our old radio building is nearing the end of its life for us, and we hope to move as soon as possible into our new site, which needs prayer for protection as well. We don't work in fear, but in expectation for all that God will do through this ministry in the future!

NLR construction *continued...*

Week four began the electrical wiring phase of the remodeling. Christian electricians Valeri and Eduard took on the task to build separate lines into each studio, while redoing existing outlets that were improperly installed with inferior wire, and potential fire hazards.

At the same time, plumbers were called in to rearrange floor heaters that were in the wrong places, cutting into concrete while our neighbors complained about the noise. A box of chocolates and an apology note did wonders for their attitudes and they forgave us. We want to be good neighbors

It was clear by the sixth week that the process would take longer than planned as the facility is large and has many details to resolve before it becomes a

broadcast center. Week eight saw doors installed in rooms, with Valeri and Eduard quite busy.



NLRI had a busy summer getting their new radio facility ready in Odessa.

The Lord has given NLR a new lease of ministry life from a new place that we trust will be used of God to share the Gospel across the Slavic world.

NLRI staff arrived in Odessa in late June to survey all the various aspects required to start the remodeling of the rooms purchased at the *Manhattan* building on Filatova Street. A wonderful gift from NLR donors, the five room apartment on the 25th floor would eventually turn into seven radio control rooms to house our two radio networks. At the same time, NLR broadcasts continued from the Christian university building and staff were too occupied with this to participate with the remodeling at the new site. The decision was made to hire Christian builders from local churches to help with the various trades required to get the building up and running.

The first task involved securing all the legal ownership documents for the building, including the conversion of this "apartment" into a "commercial use designation" that would allow NLR to conduct radio broadcasting.

The next step was to create a design that would expand the space into enough workplaces for a full staff to operate. That meant installing new walls, so the first two weeks involved lots of steel studs and drywall to create studios, each one with a magnificent view! The station would be divided up with equal numbers of studios for each radio network, plus editing and transmission rooms. Last, we had a small kitchen and staff area that quickly was tiled while the bathroom and plumbing was completed.



Week three started with a few thousand feet of various wires--audio, computer, ground, and fire—needing to be strung throughout all the rooms. Though it looked like spaghetti at first, it all will eventually be sorted into properly ordered connections that link every aspect of our network transmissions and recording productions.



On August 12, Dan and Oksana Johnson's visa period expired and they left Ukraine, ready for a return in early November. As the general contractors, they will oversee the remainder of the remodeling that can be done without them, i.e., air conditioning installations, wood paneling studios, acoustic treatments, and other needed details to make the studios sound good.



ONE CHALLENGE: for the sake of our neighbors below us, the decision was made to purchase carpet with padding (usually not done in Odessa) both for sound isolation and to improve acoustics. No professionals in the city appear to have experience in stretching carpets, and the complexity of having cables cut into the floors and needing exact cuts in the carpet requires a professional with experience. To address this, NLR is seeking one or two Christian workers from the USA with carpeting skills to come to Odessa on a 10 day mission trip in mid-November, so we might finish the floors and work on the final installation of broadcast tables, equipment, and wiring. Our goal is to have NLR finished and ready to initiate broadcasts on Christmas Eve. The remainder of the time from now until December will deal with further finish details, while dismantling portions of the old radio station for materials we can reuse.

WE ASK OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS TO ASK AROUND to see if there might be some fellow believers with carpeting skills to visit with us in mid-November. Interested persons can contact Daniel Johnson at NLRadioUSA@gmail.com.

In the meantime, our radio missionaries are doing a wonderful job keeping NLR operating during this time of war and uncertainty. We face some technical reception problems with our signal in Russia as the Kremlin has continued their policy of blocking independent media sites, and millions of others that they deem dangerous to their power and authority. Censorship is back in Russia, yet we have reports where Internet is down in some cities, our radio program continues to work through cell phones. NLR remains available via satellite radio. The rest of the former Soviet Union is unaffected by these control methods.

All of us have been encouraged by the listener responses to NLR, especially pleased to know our broadcasts are meeting a need for sound Biblical instruction and discipling for countless communities across the nations we serve. NLR is a worthy mission investment and we are grateful to our partners for keeping us on the air!



*Tanya, Oksana, Dennis, Kirill, Yuri
(missing: Ivan, Zhenya, Mikhail, Olga)*

A sample of NLR Listeners responding in August:



Axel Gromm: Great sermons about trials! I have been making transcripts and I continue to write them out!

Ekaterina Lodigina: Thank you Ivan for a very strong sermon. For me to possess the power of the Word, I need to constantly learn the wisdom of God's Word.

Pyoter Chebonyenko: Olga, a wonderful explanation and teaching on the creation (Genesis account)!

Ivan: Thanks for your air shifts! The fire of faith is starting to burn inside me listening to you and I get great desire to study the Scriptures. Praise God for His presence in my life and His answers to my prayers and questions!

I want to send greetings to my favorite radio and thank you that you exist because you help me and give me instructions with the Scriptures--you invest in my mind, explain how I should act toward God because I came to God very recently, was full of sin, and didn't know how to behave, and what I need. I still don't know much, but because of you, I learn a lot!

Natalya Obvsiy: Greetings to my beloved family in the Lord! Right now I am working in Hamburg Germany and at this moment, I am cooking dinner and listening to your radio. May the Lord bless all of those who preach the Word, as it helps to "walk on the water" (not to sink).

Irina Pushka (Kazakhstan): God is giving me His answers through you! I was thinking which country to live in and will they give me a visa to go there...how to live and move on in life, and I literally got the answer from you.

Olga Birukova: Greetings to you with the love of Christ. Thank the Lord for New Life Radio! May the Lord bless all of you and to those who listen to NLR! I want to listen to your programs all the time, and when I am not listening to you, I feel like something is missing. By listening and reading God's Word, as God's children, we grow and get closer to our Lord, so I wish you to prosper and that many would hear God's Word, praises, sermons, prayers of Puritans that you proclaim--all working on God's harvest! Thank you: all glory to our Lord Jesus Christ!

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