

Since most Ukrainians celebrate Christmas on January 7, a festive spirit was felt during all Fimiam events during the whole month of January.

The first winter “HD Frost” retreat for teenagers was held January 2-6 at the Retreat Center. The main aim of the retreat was to tell the young people about sin and its consequences and to introduce them to God. The Bible study was conducted at three different spiritual levels. There were also a lot of team games during which the participants could learn more about each other, exercise and become friends. Of the 30 teenagers who attended the retreat, almost half repented before God and chose to follow Jesus. Praise the Lord!



“Vacation in Narnia” was a day camp for children 7-11 years old which took place January 10-13. It was an exciting and useful time filled with thrilling emotions for the 60 attendees during their winter school break. They could become acquainted not only with new friends, but also with fairy-tale characters. The children visited different studios, played large group games, participated in

competitions and relays, sang Christian songs, had photo sessions and attended the Bible lessons where they spoke about the choices people make in their lives and the influence of those choices on them. On one of the days, the children visited an amusement center in Lutsk where they skated, bowled, jumped on trampolines and had a lot of fun.



On January 15, the son of one of our deacons joined Fimiam Church through baptism. It is a great pleasure to see our children become followers of Jesus.



In the evening of the same day a meeting was held for the families who receive parcels from HART each month. An interesting program was organized for them. A puppetry group from our daughter church gave several puppet shows. There was also a show using soap bubbles and a gift of cotton candy for the children. All attendees sang Christmas songs together and the Word of God was preached. We pray that this Word and the love expressed toward these families would grow and bring fruit.



After a small winter break, children and young people with special needs had a meeting on January 21. They were glad to see each other and to fellowship again. They sang songs to the Lord, recited poems, studied the Bible, made crafts, prepared a delicious dish, played games, enjoyed a snack and received presents from Oksana Elsinger, a friend in the USA who was at the summer retreat and became acquainted with these young people. All of these activities brought so much joy to the participants.



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Youth meetings continue to take place every Saturday evening. On January 21, Grigoriy Kichkin, a former drug-addict saved by God who is a musician, was invited to the Fimiam café where the youth gathered. He sang his own songs as well as worship songs known by all, shared his testimony and answered questions from the attendees. Over 50 young people attended the meeting. They could not remain indifferent to what Grigoriy said and rejoiced that the Lord loves and accepts everyone. At the end of the meeting, the youth fellowshiped over tea and cakes and had the opportunities to have their pictures taken at a special photo zone.





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On January 25, all youth home churches gathered together at the Fimiam sanctuary for a great time of fellowship, prayer and worship.



On the next Saturday evening, the youth club held a sports evening. Some people played ping pong while others played basketball. For those who are not fond of active games, table games were provided. Afterward, the youth fellowshiped while enjoying tea and cookies and deliberating on David's life.



Over 80 women visited the “Ladies’ Club” on January 29 where they discussed the topic “Your Purpose.” The whole evening was spent reflecting on the purpose and role of a godly woman and that her life must be like a candle that burns for God and others. Many women were able to share their visions of their purpose. The Biblical foundation for the evening was Proverbs 31:10-31.

