

History of Light of Jesus Church in Almaty, Kazakstan

The Light of Jesus Church of Christ was officially registered in March 2002. The North Atlanta Church of Christ has been a sponsor for a small group of Christians meeting here for several years. Ron Wood, an elder at the North Atlanta Church of Christ is the point man for North Atlanta's mission work here in Almaty. The North Atlanta Church of Christ provides the working funds for the church in Almaty.

In June, 2001, 3 families moved to Almaty to work with the church. The Green's, the Kennedy's and the Shacoorov's began to share the good news of Jesus and the church began to grow. The church has grown to an average attendance around 70 people each Sunday morning. Since June 2001, 150 people have been baptized into Christ. Because of health reasons Ron and Luda Kennedy had to return to the states in July of 2002.

There are several congregations and individuals that are involved in the work here. The North Atlanta Church of Christ, Atlanta Georgia. The Kaufman Church of Christ, Kaufman Texas, The Getty St. Church of Christ, Uvalde Texas, The Brackettville Church of Christ in Brackettville Texas. These congregations are the major support for the work being done here at the present time.

In November of 2001 we rented a facility and began remodeling. In January of 2002 we moved into the new church location of Toli bi 21. In January 2006 we had to move to a new place due to the raise in the rent. Now we are renting a small facility for weekly classes and other needs and a café next door for Sunday services.

In 2004 Vrooman family joined "Light of Jesus" staff and in July of 2005 Green family had to move back for several reasons.

In spring of 2010 we started raising funds for construction of our own church building next to the "Light house".

The Staff:

The Shacoorov Family -

Misha and Oxanna Shacoorov have 4 children. Andrey, Masha, Timothy and Misha Jr. Misha and Oxanna were converted in Tomsk Siberia during the Green's stay there. Misha was a part of Randy's preachers training and disciple group. Misha and Oxanna have been in the ministry since 1995. They have had a great impact on the church here in Almaty. They have a great passion to work with teens and university students. They are supported by the Getty Street Church of Christ in Uvalde Texas.

The Metso Family -

Sasha and Jenya Metso have two children, Nastya and Anya. Sasha became a Christian in Tomsk Siberia during the Green's stay there and was also a part of Randy's preachers training and disciple group in Tomsk. Jenya became a Christian in Barnaul. They moved from Moscow in May of 2002 to work in the "The Light House" ministry and to be on staff with the church here in Almaty. They are fully supported by the Brackettville Church of Christ and other contributions given to the Light House. Sasha and Jenya both love the Lord and are great servants here in Almaty. They have a great passion for winning the lost to Jesus and show great love and compassion to all of our children in The Light House.