



Slavic Gospel Association

Prayer & Praise

SHARING THE GOSPEL • EQUIPPING THE CHURCH • HELPING THE FORGOTTEN

Please join us each day this month in prayer and praise for the work of Christ across Russian-speaking nations.

1 **Western Easter Sunday:** What a glorious way to begin the new month—celebrating the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Truly . . . *He has risen* (Luke 24:6)! Pray in advance for the many evangelistic outreaches planned here in North America, and across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

2 We pause today to offer thanks for all faithful SGA ministry partners who help sustain our ministries across Russia and her neighboring countries, and in Israel. May the Lord raise up a tremendous harvest for His glory as the Gospel is proclaimed.

3 Remember the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Ask God to open up many new opportunities to reach these neediest and most hopeless of children. The unfortunate commits himself to You; *You have been the helper of the orphan* (Psalm 10: 14).

4 Please pray for SGA president Michael Johnson as he continues to travel across North America and around the world to share the great ministry opportunities that exist in the CIS. May the Lord grant him abundant wisdom as he leads our mission.

RUSSIA



5 While great progress has been made with the Gospel across Russia, a vast amount of territory remains unreached, especially the Far East. Pray for SGA's *Reach Russia Now* initiative, asking the Lord to provide the significant resources needed to plant more Bible-preaching churches.

6 Lift the staff of SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) in prayer. We praise and thank the Lord for director Valery Kazakov and his faithful team as they serve the churches Christ is building in Russia.



7 Pray for Pastor Vlad Treskin as he transitions from youth ministry leadership into church planting and being an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor. We are thankful to God for this gifted brother and his zeal for the Gospel.

8 While Western countries observed Easter on April 1, in Russia and her neighboring countries the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior is celebrated today. Please pray for the churches we serve as they proclaim the Gospel to their people!

9 We are thankful for the ministry of Vladimir Trohimenko, who serves as the UECB regional pastor in Russia's Primorsk region. Vladimir held fruitful *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministry this past January with a wide variety of children. Pray this will open many more doors for the Gospel!

UKRAINE



10 Join us in praying for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary in Ukraine. Irpen's solid doctrine and biblically sound approach to Christian education has become vastly influential across the CIS, for which we praise the Lord!

11 Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. Pray also for the regional pastors who oversee churches across the country's 24 oblasts (states), especially those responsible for ministry in the eastern conflict zones.

12 Recently we were able to replenish a significant number of Russian-language children's Bibles and other literature at SGA's Kiev RMC for distribution in *Immanuel's Child* outreaches, and for *Orphans Reborn*. We praise and thank God for His gracious and timely provision.

13 Pray regularly for SGA's Kiev RMC staff, led by Ruslan Muratayev. Evangelical churches have



grown in Ukraine more than in any other former Soviet republic, and our Kiev team labors tirelessly to serve them in the cause of Christ.

14 Even as 2018 began, reports reached us of fighting flaring up again in eastern Ukraine between separatists and government forces. Pray for the replenishment of SGA's Crisis Evangelism Fund, which helps churches distribute humanitarian aid and share the Gospel in these devastated regions.

15 Intercede for SGA's Dr. Sergei Omelchenko, our chief Russian-language book editor and in-country assistant to SGA president Michael Johnson. Sergei continues to work on editing the Russian translation of Dr. John MacArthur's book *Biblical Doctrine*.

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

16 SGA's director of Bible training continues to travel across Israel holding Bible classes for Russian-speaking congregations and other ministry opportunities. Please keep lifting him and his family in prayer asking for God's blessing and protection.

17 We praise and thank God for the ongoing, fruitful ministry of Dr. Levan, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in Georgia who also operates a medical clinic for the needy as part of his outreach. May the Lord encourage his heart today and grant an abundant spiritual harvest.

18 Evangelical churches in Azerbaijan have faced significant pressure in recent years including the jailing of pastors in some regions. Please intercede in prayer for our brothers and sisters, asking God to change the authorities' hearts and provide for full freedom to worship and share the Gospel openly.

19 The former Soviet countries of Central Asia include Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The needs of the churches are great, and so is the opposition they face. But the Lord will continue to build His church there, and we thank Him for the opportunity to serve His people.



20 In the Caucasus Mountains are the regions of Chechnya, Ingushetia, Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkaria. SGA-sponsored missionary pastors must labor discreetly in this region due to Muslim opposition. Please remember them in prayer today.

21 Pray for the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. Join us in thanksgiving for director Alexander Karyakov, and for the school's firm commitment to the Word of God.

BELARUS



22 For more than two decades, Piotr Podrez has served as director of SGA's Minsk RMC. We are deeply thankful to God for Piotr, his faithful family, and the diligent labors of our RMC staff to advance the Gospel.

23 While no longer serving as president of the Belarussian UECB, Pastor Alexander Firisiuk continues in ministry and encourages the hearts of churches across the country. Please lift this dear brother in prayer today.

24 Pastor Ivan continues to conduct SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry and food distribution in Belarus' Vitebsk region. May the Lord open the hearts of needy families to the Gospel as they have their urgent physical needs met through His provision.

25 Pray for the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. Pray also for students enrolled in their extension learning center in Estonia, which is one of the Baltic republics of the former Soviet Union.

26 Pray for SGA/Canada director Bill Ball, and his assistants Sue Petten and Olive Coke. Bill maintains a heavy ministry travel schedule across Canada and in the CIS. May the Lord raise up more Canadian churches to seize the great opportunities to advance the Gospel.

27 Pray for SGA's affiliate international offices in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia today. Ask God to send them an abundance of ministry resources, and new partner churches in their nations to keep advancing the Gospel in the CIS and Eastern Europe.

28 SGA's board of directors is charged with oversight of our

mission and its various ministries. Pray for chairman Warner Tillman, president Michael Johnson, and our mission's leadership team as they seek the Lord's direction for the coming months.

29 Pray today for SGA's chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky, and her staff in our administration division. Work is continuing to finalize our next fiscal year's budget, and this is always a very busy season for our admin team.

30 Reflection: Let us conclude April with King David's wonderful song of hope . . . *I have set the Lord continually before me; because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken* (Psalm 16:8).

Partner Prayer Requests

For wisdom in retirement decisions . . .

Eagar, Arizona

Pray for loved ones who do not know Christ . . .

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Please pray for healing . . .

Anniston, Alabama

For financial and health concerns . . .

Ypsilanti, Michigan

**The SGA staff is honored to bring your request to the Lord.
We thank you for the opportunity to serve you in this way.**



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