

*"Much Prayer, Much Power!"*

Peter Deyneka Sr., SGA Founder

# Prayer & Praise

Slavic Gospel Association



## Scripture theme for October 2016

*But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul (Hebrews 10:39).*

*Join us each day this month in prayer and praise for the work of Christ in the lands of Russia.*

**1** Reflection: Let's begin this new month with the psalmist's song in our hearts . . . *Praise the Lord!*

*How blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments (Psalm 112:1).*

**2** Pray for Bill Ball, executive director of SGA/Canada, and his assistants, Sue Petten and Olive Coke. We are thankful for our Canadian partners, and for how the Lord is using them to encourage churches across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

**3** With the U.S. presidential campaign season winding down, we are prayerfully watching impacts on relations with Russia and other

CIS nations. Pray for a lessening of geopolitical tensions and for restrictions to lift on the churches we serve.

**4** Lift SGA president Bob Provost and our mission's board of directors in prayer. May the Lord grant abundant wisdom and direction, and increased resources to keep advancing the Gospel.

## Russia

**5** Please keep interceding for Pastor Alexei Smirnov, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). May God encourage his heart and grant protection as he maintains a heavy travel schedule across Russia's 11 time zones.

**6** Sergei Nekrasov is an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in Russia's strategic Nizhny Novgorod region. He and his church have a vibrant youth and children's ministry, as well as preparing young people for service in the church. Lift him in prayer today.

**7** Pray for the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary, which is prayerfully seeking additional ways to expand the outreach of the school. Demand is growing for extension centers, which helps students who cannot travel to Novosibirsk.

**8** We praise and thank the Lord for His provision of SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC), led by Valery Kazakov. Ask God to bless each one on our staff and to empower their service to Christ and His churches.

**9** With Russia's new anti-missionary law, how much longer the door will be open for direct assistance to evangelical churches is unknown. Join us in praying for God's wisdom in our ongoing service to the churches.

**10** Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary Michael Tsvirenko as he continues to seek support for aviation ministry in Russia's Far East. The region is vast with many remote towns and villages unreached with the Gospel.

## Belarus

**11** We rejoice with SGA Minsk RMC director Piotr Podrez in

welcoming a new grandchild. Piotr's son and RMC staff member Dima, and his wife Inna welcomed little Tanya into their family this past July. *Behold, Children are a gift of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward (Psalm 127:3).*

**12** Please pray for Marina, wife of SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Sergei B. in Belarus' Mogilev region. Marina has battled kidney stones and other health problems this past year, and is expecting a child.

**13** Intercede in prayer for the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. Ask the Lord for the resources needed to keep the seminary operating, and training pastors for the new churches being planted in Belarus.

**13** Pray for Dr. Viktor Krutko, president of the Belarussian UECB. Pray also for the regional pastors who oversee churches across the country's six oblasts (states).

**14** With winter approaching rapidly, the need for food and other humanitarian aid in Belarus and the CIS will increase markedly. Pray for SGA-sponsored compassion ministry, which helps open doors for evangelism with needy families.

## Central Asia, Caucasus, and Israel

**15** Radio Free Europe reported late this summer that ethnic tensions are increasing in southern Kazakhstan, allegedly due to criminal

activity. May the Lord grant an opening for Kazakh churches to share the love of Christ and the hope of the Gospel.

**16** We praise and thank the Lord for Israel College of the Bible and their service to Russian-speaking congregations. Please intercede in prayer for the faculty and students today.

**17** Even with severe restrictions on the churches in most Central Asian CIS nations, the Lord continues to build His church and bring men, women, and children to Himself. We give Him all the praise and glory, and thanksgiving for letting us serve His people there.

**18** In Kazakhstan, authorities have been issuing new fines to unregistered evangelical churches for holding unauthorized worship services. While the registered UECB churches have not been impacted, the Forum 18 story is still troubling to human rights watchers. Pray for the body of Christ across Central Asia.

**19** Periodically, SGA-sponsored missionary pastors and other church workers discreetly visit regions in Russia's Caucasus Mountains where ministry can be very dangerous. Pray for many hearts to be opened to the Gospel, and for the protection of believers.

**20** Through the years, many Russian-speaking Jewish people have emigrated to Israel, and there are numerous congregations

of Messianic believers. Pray with us for additional ways to help these congregations with Bible training and other helps.

**21** Please pray for the faculty and students of the Almaty Bible Institute, led by director Alexander Karyakov. This strategic Bible school is having eternal impact far beyond Central Asia and southern Russia.

## Ukraine

**22** Ukrainian president Petro Poroshenko recently announced that the country would celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. We praise and thank the Lord for this historic development, and pray that it will further the Gospel's advance!

**23** Pray for Ruslan Muratayev and the staff of SGA's Kiev RMC. With an already hectic schedule, the ongoing separatist conflict in the east has increased their workload helping to coordinate humanitarian aid and Crisis Evangelism Fund efforts.

**24** With the fall term well underway, please keep praying for students at Irpen Biblical Seminary and Odessa Theological Seminary—both sponsored by SGA. May God lead the graduates on into greatly fruitful lives of Christian service.

**25** SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Pavel Dudka reports fruitful labor in a village where there were no known evangelical believers. Pray that God will intervene against



opposition that has arisen to his ministry, and bring many to saving faith in Christ.

**26** SGA remains in ongoing need of Crisis Evangelism funds to help war refugees in eastern Ukraine with food and other aid—and most of all, opportunities to hear the life-changing Gospel. Please lift this before the Lord.

**27** We are thankful to God for the wonderful *Orphans Reborn* outreach, and the impact it is having on the lives of thousands of young boys and girls in the CIS. Pray that more orphanage doors will open to the ministry so that many more can hear of the Savior's love for them.

**28** Please remember SGA's international offices in prayer today—the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. May the Lord increase their resources to serve

Bible-preaching churches across the CIS and Eastern Europe.

**29** Pray for the family of former SGA board member David Gotaas, who went to be with the Lord earlier this year. David served on SGA's board for four years (1986-1990). We are thankful to Christ for his years of service to our mission.

**30** Intercede for the SGA-sponsored *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministry. Pray for more participating churches to help reach as many needy children with the Gospel and special gifts as we can this Christmas season.

**31** **Reflection:** We close October with the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior . . . *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations . . . and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age* (Matthew 28:19, 20).

### *Partner Prayer Requests*

*I'm battling chronic fatigue syndrome . . . pray for healing . . .*

Colts Neck, New Jersey

*For the salvation of loved ones . . .*

Plainville, Kansas

*I have an unspoken request . . .*

Bullhead City, Arizona

*A friend is in the hospital and not doing well . . .*

Wilton, Alabama

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



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