



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 Reflection: Let us begin the new month with reflection from the Prophet Jeremiah . . . *I know, O Lord, that a man's way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps. Correct me, O Lord, but with justice* (Jeremiah 10:23-24).

2 Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko continues his ministry of Bible teaching across Russia and her neighboring countries, as well as guest preaching at churches in North America. We are thankful for this gifted brother and his contributions to sound Bible teaching in the Russian language.

3 Pray for SGA president Michael Johnson and our mission's leadership team. The summer months are frequently financially challenging for many ministries. May the Lord grant our leadership wisdom and direction as our new fiscal year gets off the ground.

4 Independence Day (U.S.): *Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bondslaves of God* (1 Peter 2:16). Join us in thanking the Lord for the freedom to worship and proclaim the Gospel—a freedom that is absent in many places across the globe. May we always make the most

of every opportunity for the Gospel, as the permanence of freedom is never guaranteed.

UKRAINE



5 Pray for SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center staff led by Ruslan Muratayev. Also pray for our mission's chief Russian-language book translator and editor, Sergei Omelchenko, who is also based in Kiev. We thank God for our Ukrainian team and their dedication to serving the churches as they proclaim the Gospel.

6 During the summer months, students at Irpen Biblical Seminary and other SGA-sponsored Bible schools across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) will be doing practicum assignments in preparation for the fall. Please lift them in prayer today as they continue their studies.



7 Please pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, who leads the UECB in Ukraine. We praise and thank the Lord for his servant leadership and godly example, especially in these trying days of political conflict in the country.

8 SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Vitaly Melnik was recently able to join other local churches for a mass evangelism event at a stadium in his region in Ukraine. Pray that the Gospel seeds planted will result in many coming to saving faith in Christ.

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

9 Forum 18 and other religious freedom news services regularly publicize increasing persecution of Christians in Central Asia. As the spotlight shines on these incidents, join us in asking the Lord to change the hearts of authorities, while interceding for our brothers and sisters in these largely Muslim nations.

10 With Kazakhstan's long-time president stepping down earlier this year, the nation will be in a period of transition for some time. Please pray that God will use this time to open many hearts to the Gospel, and move the hearts of the authorities to stop oppressing the church.

11 In Muslim-dominant regions such as Central Asia and the Caucasus, SGA-sponsored children's camp ministries must be held very discreetly by the host churches. Ask for God's protection and blessing on these

camps during the summer season.

12 Pray today for SGA's director of Bible training in Israel. With regular rocket fire coming into Israel from the neighboring Gaza Strip, the area where he and his family live can be very dangerous.

13 Pastor Franz Tissen has led the Kazakh UECB for many years, and maintains a fruitful children's ministry in addition to his leadership duties. Lift this special brother before the Lord in prayer as he faithfully carries out his ministry.

RUSSIA



14 Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian UECB. Dr. Mitskevich also leads Moscow Theological Seminary, which has been under significant pressure from the government in recent months. Ask for God's abundant wisdom in navigating through these challenges.

15 Vladimir Nenastin is an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor serving in Russia's historic Nizhny Novgorod region. He has a fruitful ministry with children's outreaches, evangelism, small home groups, and other activities. Intercede in prayer for Vladimir and his family today.

16 We praise and thank the Lord today for SGA's Moscow staff, led by Valery Kazakov. May the Lord continue to make them a blessing and encouragement to the evangelical churches we serve in Russia.

17 Lift the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary in prayer. Also please pray for increased resources to help Novosibirsk and other SGA-sponsored Bible schools train more students for Christian service.

18 Please continue to pray for the SGA-sponsored Reach Russia Now initiative, with the focus currently in the Far East. This region is huge but sparsely populated compared to the rest of Russia, and there are many unreached towns and villages in need of the Gospel.

BELARUS



19 Please pray for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. May the Lord continue to provide for their needs and make them a continual encouragement to evangelical churches across Belarus.

20 Lift SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Nikolai N. in prayer today. Nikolai serves in Belarus' Brest region near the Polish border and has a fruitful ministry with children. He also visits a local rehab center to share the hope of the Gospel with recovering addicts.

21 Praise the Lord for His provision in the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry across the lands of Russia. With up to 700,000 children living in state-run orphanages and children's homes, these lonely, forgotten little ones desperately need to know of the Savior's love for them.

22 Pray for Pavel Mishchenko, who directs the SGA-sponsored children's diagnostic camp in Kobrin, Belarus. This is a vitally important outreach for children with illnesses related to Chernobyl radiation. Ask the Lord to open the hearts of these needy kids to the Gospel as they receive treatment.

23 Remember to pray regularly for the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary in Belarus. We are thankful for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, who serves as president of the seminary in addition to being president of the Belarussian UECB.

24 Blagovestie (Good News) is a Russian Christian folk music group sponsored by SGA across the lands of Russia. Headed by Pastor Boris Berezhnoi, Blagovestie has encouraged hearts and proclaimed the Gospel in song to thousands of people in the CIS and even here in North America.

25 Join us in thanksgiving for the charitable foundations that help underwrite a portion of SGA's ministries across the CIS. Ask the Lord to guide us in seeking additional foundations that would have an interest in what God is doing in these spiritually needy nations.

26 Pray for Alexander Pashkovets, who oversees SGA's missionary pastor program in Russia, and is also a key member of our church relations team in North America. We are thankful for Alex's faithful ministry and passion to see men, women, and children won to Christ.

27 With the so-called Yarovaya anti-missionary law in force across Russia, authorities have been slowly tightening restrictions and other actions on evangelical ministries in the country. Please lift this matter before the Lord, asking Him to protect the advancement of the Gospel in the days ahead.

28 Please remember SGA's international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand in prayer today. May the Lord grant them increased resources for ministry in the CIS, Eastern Europe, and in their own countries.

29 SGA is thankful to be able to provide Russian-language Bibles and Christian literature for

distribution by churches across the CIS, and in our sponsored Bible schools. Pray for the resources needed to print even more to meet the great demand.

30 Lift up the students at SGA-sponsored church music schools in the CIS. Sacred music—including choral and instrumental music—is very important to evangelical churches and in the Russian culture. May the Lord continue to bless and anoint their diligent labors.

31 Reflection: We close July with the benediction of the psalmist . . . *God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us—that Your way may be known on the earth* (Psalm 67:1-2).

Partner Prayer Requests

Pray for my granddaughter's salvation . . . Anchorage, Alaska

I am dealing with chronic pain . . . pray for relief . . . Merritt Island, Florida

For safety from falls as I get older . . . Moline, Illinois

Pray for full recovery after a stroke . . . Phoenix, Arizona

For God's ongoing guidance . . . Meriden, Connecticut

**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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