October 2020 October 2020



Christmas, please pray with us that the COVID-19 pandemic will not worsen and hinder ministries from taking place. The churches we serve are creative in adapting to realities on the ground.

29 In addition to national UECB leaders, many faithful pastors serve as regional leaders to provide support and guidance to churches at a local level. Lift these dedicated brothers in prayer today as they joyfully serve as pastors to pastors.

Remember SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry in prayer today, which is ongoing year-round—separate and distinct from Christ Over COVID distributions. The need for warm clothing, food, and other aid is always there, and provides opportunities for churches to share the Gospel with the needy.

Reflection: Let us close October with the benediction of the Apostle Paul to Him who . . . is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen (1 Timothy 6:15-16).

# **Partner Prayer Requests**

For the salvation of my husband who has Alzheimers Airdrie, AB

Pray for my grandson to return to the Lord Edmonton, AB

Please pray for healing in the family relationship with my daughter and son-in-law

Guelph, ON

Please pray for employment for my son-in-law and grandson

Kelowna, BC

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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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.

#### **Scripture Theme of the Month:**

But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love (1 Corinthians 13:13).

**Reflection:** We begin the new month with the prophet's praise of our God and King . . . Yet I will exult in the Lord, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength (Habakkuk 3:18-19).

2 Praise God with us today for how God is using the SGA-sponsored *Antioch Initiative* to train pastors for fruitful ministry. Pray especially for our brothers in Yakutsk, Russia, who participated in *Antioch* training and are evangelizing across the region.

Pray for SGA president Michael Johnson, our board and leadership team. In the coming months, they will be working together on strategic planning for our ministries and seeking the Lord's guidance.



A Remember SGA's senior missionaries in prayer today—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk. The Lord continues to impact many lives as Ruth, Andrew and Florence live out their faithful witness.

## RUSSIA

5 Please pray for director Valery Kazakov and his faithful, diligent team at SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC). The fall and winter months are very busy times of ministry, and with the COVID pandemic are certain to hold challenges.

As the U.S. presidential election nears, our concern is—as always—that no matter what happens in the geopolitical world, the freedom of churches around the world to worship and advance the Gospel will increase. Please intercede today, trusting that the Lord will continue to build His church!

Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Boris Schetinsky, who recently led a fruitful evangelistic journey to remote villages along Russia's Chulym River. We praise God for the many hearts that were open to the Gospel along the

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way. Pray for much spiritual fruit!

Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Evangelical churches are facing increasing difficulties across the country, and much wisdom is needed in the days ahead.

# CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

Pray for the Baptist Union leaders of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. Churches in Central Asia encounter much opposition to their ministries from government as well as other religious groups opposed to the Gospel.

10 Please remember SGA's director of Bible training in Israel as you pray today. He and his family live in a region often targeted by terrorist rockets fired from the Gaza Strip. Ask for God's continued protection, as well as for open Gospel doors.

11 Pray for the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan, led by director Alexander Karyakov. Ask for God's provision for this strategic school, and for the protection of the students and faculty.

12 Lift up Pastor Vyacheslav in Central Asia, whose church is discreetly ministering despite restrictions on evangelical churches and the COVID pandemic. The love of God is having an impact in his community through these opportunities.

13 Intercede for believers in Azerbaijan and Armenia as hostilities have begun flaring up

again between the two nations. Pray that evangelical churches will be able to share the peace and reconciliation of Christ in the midst of conflict.

## **UKRAINE**



14 Please join us in praying for the staff of SGA's Kiev RMC. These are times of great challenge in Ukraine, and we are thankful for director Ruslan Muratayev and his faithful staff as they labor for the glory of Christ.

15 With winter drawing closer, the need for humanitarian aid such as food and warm clothing will certainly increase in Ukraine—all the more so with the double challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic and the conflict in the eastern regions. Please pray today, asking for God's increased provision.

As of this writing, the status of fall classes at the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary and other schools is uncertain due to the pandemic and any related government restrictions. Pray with us for God's guidance in assisting the schools with their needs in this difficult time.

Pastor Valery Antonyuk is president of the Ukrainian UECB, which consists of more than 2,600 churches across the country. Pray today for Valery and the regional pastors across Ukraine's 24 oblasts (states), as well as the congregations they serve.

18 Even though Christmas is a few months away, churches across the CIS are already busily preparing

for *Immanuel's Child* children's outreaches. Please pray for increased resources so we can reach even more children with the Gospel and special Christmas gifts!



# **BELARUS**



19 Please pray for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. Especially pray for their health and safety as they serve churches in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

20 Lift up the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. We are thankful to God for the wonderful spiritual fruit being gathered as they serve the Lord through their local churches.

21 Pastor Nikolai in Belarus says that several new people have been visiting his church in recent weeks, drawn by the faithful preaching of God's Word. Pray with us for the Gospel seeds that have been planted to take root and grow!

22 We praise and thank God for the dedicated, servant leadership of Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarussian UECB. Also pray for him in his role as head of the SGA-sponsored Minsk

Theological Seminary.

23 SGA's US office functions through three divisions—administration, ministry, and advancement—and united in one goal: to help provide the resources for evangelical churches in the CIS to reach their people with the Gospel. We praise and thank the Lord for our faithful ministry partners who help make it possible!

24 Provision of sound Bible training has always been SGA's top priority as a mission. Please continue to pray for the resources needed in this vital area, as new churches being planted need trained pastors and church workers to lead them.

25 Pray for Eric Mock, SGA's vice president of ministry operations, and the rest of our ministry division team. They love being a resource and encouragement to churches across the CIS, as well as churches here in the U.S. that have a heart for missions.

Pray today for director Bill Ball and team at SGA/Canada. As do our other international directors, Bill maintains a very hectic travel and ministry schedule to share what God is doing through His people across the CIS.

27 Although summer children's ministries are now past, follow up ministry among the thousands of children reached will continue. Pray that the Gospel seeds planted in these young hearts will grow into true saving faith in Christ.

28 When praying about upcoming *Immanuel's Child* outreaches this