



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.*

## Scripture Theme of the Month:

*Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your name give glory because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your truth (Psalm 115:1).*

**1 Reflection:** We begin the new month with thanksgiving for the glorious Gospel truth of salvation by grace through faith . . . *Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness (Romans 4:4-5).*

**2** Please pray today for SGA's board of directors as they prepare to meet for their fall meeting this month. Intercede for chairman Dr. Rick Goertzen and his fellow board members as they continue strategic planning for the days ahead.

**3** SGA's Garland Gould was recently promoted to vice president of partner engagement and added to our mission's leadership team. We are thankful for Garland's faithful service to Christ, and ask you to join us in praying for him in his new responsibilities.

**4** Please remember SGA president Michael Johnson in prayer today. We praise and thank the Lord for the recent opportunity Michael had to

encourage church leaders during a visit to Russia and Ukraine. May these meetings bear much ministry fruit over time!

## RUSSIA



**5** Lift the leadership of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB) in prayer today. We are thankful for UECB president Dr. Piotr Mitskevich and his fellow pastors as they faithfully shepherd their congregations and advance the Gospel.

**6** While summer camp ministry across Russia and her neighboring countries has come to an end for the year, follow up ministry will be taking place with attending children and their families. Please lift this before the Lord in prayer today.

**7** Pray for the staff of SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC), led by Valery Kazakov. Ministry is always challenging in Russia's huge capital city, yet Valery and his team serve the churches with great joy and dedication.

**8** Vitaly Zanin serves as national youth ministry director for the

Russian UECB. Pray for Vitaly today as he encourages more local congregations to encourage their youth to be active participants in the ministries of the church.

**9** In each of Russia's oblasts (states) and autonomous republics, there are regional pastors appointed to oversee and assist the local evangelical churches in their regions. Please lift these faithful servants today as they must travel frequently as part of their duties—sometimes in difficult regions.

## UKRAINE



**10** These continue to be challenging days in Ukraine, with economic difficulties and political turmoil seemingly never-ending. Pray for our brothers and sisters across the country as they proclaim the reconciling love of Christ and the life-changing Gospel.

**11** Pray today for SGA's Kiev RMC staff. Director Ruslan Muratayev and his staff are a wonderful team dedicated to their ministries, both at the RMC as well as in their own local churches.

**12** Intercede regularly for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary as the students begin the fall term. We praise and thank the Lord for His provision in doctrinally sound Bible training through this strategic school.

**13** SGA-sponsored missionary Pastor Yaroslav Machinsky and teams from his church are deeply involved in Compassion Ministry, especially in the war zone of eastern

Ukraine. Please ask the Lord to protect the teams as they travel through sometimes dangerous conditions to take the hope of the Gospel to needy families.

**14** As with most CIS nations, in Ukraine there are many lonely, forgotten orphan children in state-run children's homes who need to hear of Christ's love. Pray for the expansion of the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry through Bible-preaching Ukrainian churches.

## BELARUS



**15** Intercede today for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarussian UECB. Leonid and his fellow pastors are focused on the life-changing Gospel, and encouraging their people in the midst of severe political unrest in the country.

**16** The SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary is also starting up the fall term of study this month. Pray for the students as they study the deep truths of God's Word and prepare for lifetimes of ministry.



**17** Pray today for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. May the Lord protect their health, encourage their hearts, and open many doors for fruitful ministry as they serve evangelical churches across Belarus.

**18** For several years, SGA has partnered with Children's Hunger Fund to help provide food aid to needy families in Belarus and Ukraine. This has opened many doors for missionary pastors to share the Gospel and the love of Christ. Join us in thanksgiving for these God-ordained encounters.

**19** Scripture commands us to pray for . . . *kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness* (1 Timothy 2:2). Pray for political leaders in Belarus and other CIS nations, that their hearts will soften toward Bible-preaching churches and advance of the Gospel.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**20** Tajikistan is one of the Muslim-dominated republics of Central Asia where poverty is severe, especially in the country's mountainous regions. Pray for the missionary pastors SGA discreetly sponsors, asking for God protection and provision.

**21** We praise the Lord for Israel College of the Bible, and for the opportunities God is granting SGA to work with them to serve Russian-speaking congregations in Israel. Pray for God's continued leading and provision.



**22** Pray for Alexander Karyakov, president of the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. We praise the Lord for the impact this biblically sound Bible school is having across Central Asia for the sake of the Gospel.

**23** Join us today in lifting up UECB leaders across the Muslim-dominated countries of Central Asia as they shepherd their congregations. In nations such as Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, pressure on evangelical churches can be severe and the pastors need great wisdom from the Lord.

**24** In Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan was returned to office as prime minister with a large margin, which some observers thought was unlikely following the controversial war with neighboring Azerbaijan last year. Pray for peace to hold between the countries, and for churches as they preach reconciliation through the Gospel.

**25** The Caucasus Mountains can be a dangerous place for evangelical ministry, especially the Russian regions of Chechnya and Dagestan. But the people still need to hear of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for our missionary pastors who minister discreetly in these troubled regions.

**26** Pray for ongoing distribution of Russian-language Bibles and Christian literature supported by SGA across the former Soviet Union. God's Word truly changes lives as the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of those who read it.

**27** Please pray for Kristine Goertzen, the wife of SGA board chairman Dr. Rick Goertzen. Kristine was recently diagnosed with ALS, and the family is thankful for our intercession as they walk through this difficult time.

**28** Lift SGA's senior missionaries in prayer—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk. We thank God for the

encouragement they continue to be both here in North America and the CIS.

**29** Pray for SGA's international offices in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Ask for the Lord's continued blessing and provision as they help advance the Gospel in the CIS and in Eastern Europe.

**30 Reflection:** We conclude September with the psalmist's glorious song of trust in God . . . *From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For You have been a refuge for me, a tower of strength against the enemy* (Psalm 61:2-3).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*Pray for better mobility and health challenges ... Windsor, ON*

*Pray for an increase in spirituality in my family ... Windsor, ON*

*Pray for those struggling with loneliness ... Cambridge, ON*

*Lift up those in difficult financial situations ... Montreal, QC*

**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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