



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:

But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells (2 Peter 3:13).

1 Reflection: As we begin a new year, we rejoice in the new life we have in Jesus Christ . . . *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

2 Winter temperatures can be brutal in many parts of the former Soviet Union, especially in Siberia and the Arctic regions. Please pray for the resources to supply evangelical churches as they help needy individuals and families in their regions with compassionate aid and the Gospel.

3 There are only a few more weeks until SGA-supported *Immanuel's Child* Christmas outreaches begin across Russia and her neighboring countries. Pray in advance for the

children and their families who will attend and receive gifts provided through SGA partners—and as always, hear the Gospel presented.

4 Pray for SGA's executive leadership team—our president Michael Johnson, along with chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky and vice presidents Eric Mock and Garland Gould. May the Lord grant them His guidance as they direct our mission day to day.

UKRAINE



5 With the war in Ukraine soon to be entering its third year, please join us in praying for a final lasting peace to be achieved soon, while also praying for the faithful churches as they help their people and proclaim God's love through the Gospel.

6 SGA is thankful to be a principal sponsor of Irpen Biblical Seminary in Ukraine, with thousands of students trained in sound Bible doctrine. We praise God for each student that has graduated and moved on to fruitful ministries as pastors and Christian educators.

7 Join us in praising God with thanksgiving for His provision of humanitarian aid for distribution through the evangelical churches we



serve across Ukraine. Pray with us that it opens many doors for the Gospel.

8 Continue to lift up the staff of SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) as they serve evangelical churches across Ukraine. We are thankful to the Lord for director Ruslan Muratayev and his faithful team, and their ongoing fruitful ministry.

9 Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). The past several years of war and conflict have tested the endurance of God's people, yet have also opened the door for the Gospel in ways we never could have imagined. Ask for God's ongoing blessing and direction.

10 Please pray for SGA-supported missionary pastors across Ukraine as they continue their ministries and minister to thousands of people displaced by the war. May the Lord protect them as they travel, rendering aid and proclaiming the Gospel.

RUSSIA



11 The war in Ukraine has greatly heightened pressure on evangelical churches in Russia due to their biblical opposition to war, violence, and bloodshed. Some pastors have encountered serious personal consequences. Please join us in interceding for them today.

12 In addition to the upcoming *Immanuel's Child* outreaches across Russia, the Christmas season also opens many doors for *Orphans Reborn* workers as they share the true meaning of Christmas with the children.

Pray in advance for the teams as they share Christ's love and the Gospel.

13 Lift up the staff of SGA's Moscow RMC, led by Valery Kazakov. They are thankful to serve evangelical churches across Russia, providing valuable resources and encouragement to many ministries.

14 Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian UECB. Piotr must travel often in his duties, as well as leading Moscow Theological Seminary. May the Lord encourage and strengthen him today.

15 Intercede for SGA-supported missionary pastor Nail A. and his fruitful ministry across Russia's Bashkortostan region, especially with Scripture distribution and with youth. Pray that the Gospel seeds planted will take deep root and grow, yielding a great spiritual harvest.

BELARUS



16 Pastor Leonid Mihovich serves as president of the Belarussian UECB. Pray for him and his fellow pastors across Belarus, which has endured much political turmoil over the past several years. May the Lord grant them great wisdom as they lead their churches.

17 Join us in praising God for the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. Pray that this biblically sound school will continue to grow in enrollment and influence, strengthening the churches and training many more pastors.

18 Intercede for SGA-supported missionary pastor Valery O. in

Belarus as his church follows up with children who attended VBS ministries over the summer. Pray that this will lead to even more ministry opportunities with the children's families and caregivers.

19 Pray for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. Ask the Lord to supply their needs for ministry, and for their families as they faithfully serve Him in Belarus' capital city.

20 Belarus is a key center for SGA-supported Compassion Ministry to needy families, and this has certainly increased due to the influx of refugees from neighboring Ukraine. Ask for God's continued provision and for open Gospel doors.

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

21 This past summer, SGA had the blessing of supporting an Educator's Summit in Kazakhstan, bringing together many evangelical church leaders under the theme, *The Supremacy of God in His Word and His Sovereignty*. Praise the Lord with us for this opportunity to strengthen His people in Central Asia!

22 Please intercede for Pastor Sergei Kondaurov, president of the Kazakh UECB. Kazakhstan and other former Soviet nations in Central Asia are largely Muslim, and evangelical churches carry out their ministries under strict scrutiny from authorities.

23 With the awful war between Israel and Hamas that broke out in October, so many lives have

been lost and tensions heightened around the world. Please join us in lifting this before the Lord, praying for the peace of Jerusalem and the protection of His people.

24 With Azerbaijan overrunning the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region earlier this year, the



Armenian population has been fleeing to Armenia in large numbers. Pray with us as we continue helping evangelical churches minister to these refugees with the love of Christ and the Gospel.

25 **Western Christmas:** *The people who walk in darkness will see a great light* (Isaiah 9:2). More evangelical churches across the former Soviet Union are observing Western Christmas today along with their traditional Eastern Christmas January 7. Pray for *Immanuel's Child* outreaches that will be taking place, asking God to bring many children to Himself as they hear the Gospel.

26 Evangelism can be very dangerous in some Caucasus Mountain regions of the former Soviet Union due to Islamic dominance. Please lift SGA-supported missionary pastors in prayer today, asking for God's blessing and protection.

27 Pray for SGA senior vice president Eric Mock and our mission's ministry division today. Eric and his team coordinate all SGA-supported ministries in the former Soviet Union—a very demanding, yet rewarding challenge. Praise God for His blessing and provision.

28 Pray for SGA-supported Bible and Christian literature distribution across Russia and her neighboring countries. This is



increasingly a challenge as several former Soviet nations have leaned back toward their traditional languages. Ask for God's wisdom in the days ahead.

29 Pray for SGA missionary Chris Osiecki in Poland as he continues his regular ministry in addition to helping coordinate aid to refugees from Ukraine. We are thankful to the Lord for Chris and his

family as they serve Christ in a key Eastern Europe nation.

30 Today, SGA sponsors some 350 missionary pastors across the CIS, and many more are needed. The unreached territory is so vast! Join us in praying for the resources that will enable many more to go forth to preach the Gospel to millions of lost souls.

31 Reflection: As we conclude 2023, join us in giving praise and thanksgiving to the One who is ever faithful and true . . . *I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever; to all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth* (Psalm 89:1).

Partner Prayer Requests

Pray for our nation . . .

Hood River, Oregon

For good health, protection, and guidance . . .

Loves Park, Illinois

Please lift up our children and grandchildren . . .

Hitchcock, Texas

For salvation of family and Gospel opportunities . . .

Bucksport, Maine

Pray for healing in our family . . .

Hudsonville, 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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