

*“Much Prayer, Much Power!”*

*— Peter Deyneka Sr., SGA Founder*

# Prayer & Praise



**April 2011**

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



*Serving Churches —  
Reaching Russia . . .*

**Monthly Prayer Focus**

Please intercede in prayer this month for Easter evangelism and follow up ministry across Russia and her neighboring countries. We praise God for every opportunity to proclaim the Gospel that He provides.

# 2011 April Prayer & Praise

**1 Reflection:** Let us begin the new month with the song of Deborah and Barak celebrating the Lord's protection and victory for His people . . . *Thus let all Your enemies perish, O Lord, but let those who love Him be like the rising of the sun in its might* (Judges 5:31).

**2** Pray today for SGA president Dr. Bob Provost. Bob is scheduled for significant ministry travel this month, including during Easter week. Ask the Lord to grant him health and strength, and to make him a blessing to the congregations he visits to share the SGA story.

**3 The Lord's Day:** *Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma* (Ephesians 5:1-2). We are thankful to the Lord for the godly example set by our brothers and sisters across the lands of Russia. May He also grant us the ability to live our lives as living sacrifices for His glory.

**4** Pray for SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) staff, led by Sergei Gladishko. Also pray for SGA's chief Russian-language book editor Sergei Omelchenko, who is also based in Ukraine. We are thankful for our Ukrainian team and their diligent service to Christ.

**5** Intercede for Pastor Alexei Smirnov, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). May God grant him anointing and great wisdom as he represents Russia's largest evangelical church fellowship on the global stage.

**6** Late last fall, the news broke about several church burnings in Russia's heavily Muslim Caucasus region, and a UECB church was one of the targets. Pray for God's protection over His people in these volatile regions, and that they will have multiplied opportunities for the Gospel.

**7** Easter, or Pascha in Russia, is the holiest day of the year for Russian believers and a tremendous opportunity for evangelism. Join us in praying that the Holy



Spirit will open many hearts to hear and believe the Gospel as His people celebrate Christ's glorious resurrection.

**8** Praise and thank the Lord with us today for His provision of doctrinally sound Bible training through SGA-sponsored seminaries and Bible institutes across the lands of Russia. Such training is vitally important to prepare future generations of pastors and church workers for lifetimes of ministry.



**9** Please pray today for the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Ask for God's ongoing and increased provision, as the need to reach these children with the Gospel is enormous.

**10 The Lord's Day:** *Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin* (1 Peter 4:1). When we see the persecution of Christians on the rise again in some parts of the CIS, we recall the thousands upon thousands who perished for their faith under communist rule. As you worship today, intercede in prayer for Russian-speaking believers, especially in the Muslim-dominated countries of Central Asia.

**11** Lift SGA's professor of Bible, Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko, in prayer today. Roman is scheduled to travel to Belarus this month for intensive training classes at the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. May the Lord bless and anoint Roman's time with his eager students.

**12** Pray today for SGA's international offices in Canada, England, New Zealand and Australia. We praise and thank our God and Father for their faithful support of evangelical churches across the CIS and Eastern Europe.

**13** Pastor Ruvim Voloshin serves as vice president of missions for the Russian UECB. Please intercede in prayer for this

faithful brother as he fulfills his enormous oversight responsibility for missions efforts across Russia's vast expanse.

**14** Lift Pastor Franz Tissen in prayer today. As president of the UECB in Kazakhstan, Franz ministers and oversees evangelical churches in a very challenging ministry environment where the majority population is Muslim.



**15** As more evangelical churches are planted across Russia and her neighboring nations, maintaining ample supplies of Russian-language Bibles and Christian books is vitally important. We praise God for His faithful provision in this area.

**16** Pray for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. The people of Belarus face many economic and political uncertainties, along with their deep spiritual need. It is the joy of our Minsk team to serve Bible-preaching churches as they proclaim the hope of the Gospel.

**17 Palm Sunday:** *As soon as He was approaching, near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles which they had seen* (Luke 19:37). As we prepare to observe the Lord's resurrection next week, we praise God for the miracle of changed lives across the lands of Russia — men, women and children transformed by the Gospel! Ask God to prepare many more hearts to hear.

**18** Pray today for Florence Daneliuk, SGA missionary in Alaska, as she continues her ladies Bible study ministry in Kodiak. We are thankful to the Lord for Florence's decades of service to Christ in the "final frontier" of the U.S.

**19** Please continue to lift SGA's Rod Dyson in prayer as he progresses with his recovery from cancer-related liver transplant surgery last year. Rod's attitude of

service and gentle humility are daily blessings to us at our Loves Park, Illinois, office.

**20** Join us in praising the Lord for the 91 North American churches who serve as coalition partners with Russian churches through the SGA-sponsored *Antioch Initiative*. This partnership is a tremendous encouragement to Russian congregations as they seek to win their regions to Christ and plant many new daughter churches.

**21** Even though the Christmas season is over, follow up ministry among children reached with the Gospel during *Immanuel's Child* programs is not. Please lift participating Russian churches in prayer as they continue to disciple young boys and girls in their communities for Christ.

**22** Pray for SGA-sponsored Bible institute ministries in the CIS. Ask the Lord for the resources needed to maintain and even increase the availability of these wonderful Bible training opportunities for faithful church workers.

**23** Summer will soon be here, and that means it will be time for SGA-sponsored summer camp ministry across the lands of Russia. Please pray in advance for the funds needed to help as many needy children to attend as possible, as well as for their hearts to be opened to the life-changing Gospel.



**24 Easter Sunday/Pascha:** *Why do you seek the living One among the dead? He is not here, but He has risen* (Luke 24:5-6). We praise and thank our God for the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! As they say in Russia, *Christos Voskres! Voistenu Voskres!* (Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!)

**25** Pray for Pastor Eugene Bakhmutsky, first vice president of the Russian UECB, pastor of Moscow Bible Church, and UECB national youth ministry director.

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Ask God for continued health, strength and anointing for this key oversight responsibility.

**26** Lift the ministry of SGA/Canada in prayer today. We are thankful to our God and Father for director Allan Vincent and his dedicated team. Pray also for their board of directors, chaired by Ivan Barber.

**27** Life and ministry grows more difficult daily for our brothers and sisters in the former Soviet nations of Central Asia. Please join us in interceding for them as they face stepped-up pressure from governments and religious groups opposed to evangelical churches.

**28** We are thankful to God for SGA's many partner churches across North America and around the world. May He bless and

reward each one for their faithfulness to the Gospel and dedication to His Word!

**29** Pray for SGA's board of directors, chaired by Warner Tillman. While the next meeting is not until June, there is much work to do in advance. We praise the Lord for this dedicated, committed group of men and their oversight of our ministry.



**30 Reflection:** We close April with King David's song of trusting faith . . . *You who fear the Lord, praise Him . . . For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from him. But when he cried to Him for help, He heard (Psalm 22:23-24).*

**Please pray for those who co-labor with SGA in serving the evangelical churches of the Commonwealth of Independent States.**

## Partner Prayer Requests

*Pray for my brother who is facing cancer . . .*

(Cedarville, Illinois)

*Salvation for family members and healing of a marriage . . .*

(White City, Oregon)

*Please pray for my health situation and relationships . . .*

(West New York, New Jersey)

*For witnessing opportunities at my retirement center . . .*

(Houston, Texas)

*Pray for a family grieving the loss of their young son . . .*

(Arden Hills, Minnesota)

## Answered Prayers

We praise and thank the Lord for His continued hand of protection over SGA missionaries and colleagues as they travel around the globe for the sake of the Gospel. This is especially timely considering the bombing attack earlier this year at Moscow's Domodedovo Airport, which handles many international travelers. Please continue to lift our teams in prayer as they minister.

**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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