

*“Much Prayer, Much Power!”*

*— Peter Deyneka Sr., SGA Founder*

# Prayer & Praise



May 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 regularly for the students at SGA-sponsored seminaries and Bible institutes across the lands of Russia, especially as they prepare for graduation and summer practicum assignments. We are thankful to our ministry partners for their faithful support of Bible training.

# 2011 May Prayer & Praise

**1 Reflection:** We begin the new month with a wonderful reminder from the prophet Jeremiah . . . *Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, for he will be like a tree planted by the water, that extends its roots by a stream and will not fear when the heat comes . . .* (Jeremiah 17:7-8).

**2** SGA president Bob Provost has a hectic travel schedule this month, including meetings in California and graduation ceremonies at Irpen Biblical Seminary in Ukraine. Please lift him in prayer, asking for strength and God's ongoing anointing.

**3** Pray today for SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) staff in Ukraine. Director Sergei Gladishko and his staff are dedicated to the Gospel and committed to the service of evangelical churches across the former Soviet Union.

**4** The Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe is pressing the government of Turkmenistan to change its harshly oppressive religion laws. Please lift our Turkmen brothers and sisters in prayer as evangelical churches are under constant, strict scrutiny and pressure.

**5 National Day of Prayer:** *First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth* (1 Timothy 2:1-4). Today is the official National Day of Prayer in the United States. In keeping with the Apostle Paul's timeless admonition, join us in intercessory prayer for our nation.

**6** The SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. We praise our God and Father for His faithful provision in meeting the needs of this vitally important Bible school, and congratulate



the faculty and students on reaching this tremendous milestone.

**7** SGA senior missionary Andrew Semenchuk was recently able to spend some time ministering in South America, where our mission had a significant presence during the early days. We praise and thank the Lord for this opportunity to bring God glory, and for Andrew's decades of service to Christ.

**8 The Lord's Day:** *Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus* (2 Timothy 1:13). On this Sunday, pray for Russian-speaking pastors and Bible teachers across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as they stand for the truth of God's Word. May the Lord draw many to Himself as Scripture is taught and proclaimed.

**9** The upcoming summer months are important times for SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* workers across the lands of Russia, especially as the children participate in summer camps, river rafting expeditions and other activities. Intercede in prayer, asking the Lord to provide the resources to reach even more children.



**10** SGA's professor of Bible — Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko — is scheduled to begin yet another intensive Bible training session this month at Irpen Seminary. Ask for God's ongoing blessing and anointing as Roman teaches these eager pastoral students and grounds them in Scripture.

**11** Please pray today for the directors, staff and boards of SGA's international offices in Canada, New Zealand, England, and Australia. Join us in thankful praise to God for their dedication to the Gospel and to reaching the lost in the CIS and former communist nations of Eastern Europe.

**12** Belarussian president Alexander Lukashenko was recently re-elected to another term of office in an election marred by violent crackdowns on political opposition. Pray

for SGA's Minsk RMC staff and the nation's evangelical churches as they proclaim the peace and reconciliation found only in Christ.

**13** SGA recently received the rights to translate and publish Dr. John MacArthur's commentary on 1 Peter in the Russian language. Join us in praising the Lord, while also praying for our chief book editor, Sergei Omelchenko, as he works on the translation.

**14** With nearly 4,000 miles of territory from east to west, planting new churches in Russia is a difficult, challenging undertaking. Pray for the nearly 400 faithful national missionary pastors laboring across the country's vast expanse, asking the Lord to open many hearts to the Gospel.

**15 The Lord's Day:** *Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right* (1 Peter 4:19). As you worship today, please remember to pray for our brothers and sisters living in regions of the CIS where there is significant opposition — especially in the Muslim nations of central Asia. May the Lord powerfully use their faithful witness.

**16** Even though the Easter season is past, follow up ministry with those reached during special evangelistic outreaches is just beginning. Intercede in prayer for missionary pastors and layworkers as they demonstrate Christ's love in their communities.

**17** Pray for the faculty and staff of the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. Ministry in this central Asian nation can be very difficult due to the predominance of Islam and other religious groups opposed to evangelical churches.

**18** Next month, summer camp ministries will begin across the CIS. Please pray in advance for the hundreds of children who will be attending,



asking God to open their hearts to the life-changing Gospel.

**19** Join us in praising God for the way He is increasingly using teens and young adults to bless local churches and lead in ministry activities. The youth are the future of the church, should the Lord tarry in His coming, and they are already demonstrating their effectiveness at reaching their peers.

**20** Pray today for your local pastor and faithful church workers. The SGA family is ever thankful for the support and prayers of congregations across North America, and their involvement in our ministry is a tremendous encouragement.

**21** More than 100,000 young people die of drug addiction-related causes each year across Russia, with a government spokesman saying the problem has reached "apocalyptic" proportions. Lift Russian churches and their Bible-based drug rehabilitation programs in prayer today, as Christ is the only true hope for deliverance.



**22 The Lord's Day:** *Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever* (Ephesians 3:20-21). On this Lord's Day, let us praise and thank God for the power and anointing He grants for the sake of the Gospel!

**23** Pray today for Rev. Allan Vincent, director of SGA/Canada, and his administrative assistant, Sue Petten. May the Lord grant them an abundance of ministry resources and more opportunities to share what God is doing across the lands of Russia.

**24** Please intercede regularly for SGA staff at our Loves Park, Illinois headquarters. Our united goal is to be a support and encouragement to the evangelical churches we serve across Russia and her neighboring nations — all for the sake of the Gospel.

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**25** Pastor Eugene Bakhmutsky fulfills numerous responsibilities for the Russian UECB, including serving as senior vice president and national youth director. He is also pastor of a growing Moscow church. Lift Eugene and his young family in prayer today.

**26** Pray for SGA's board of directors, chaired by Warner Tillman. We praise the Lord for these faithful men who oversee our ministry and set the mission's policies.

**27** Despite ongoing economic doldrums across North America, we are thankful to God for His faithful provision. Please lift SGA's ongoing financial needs before the Lord, asking Him to provide abundance so we can help Russian churches reach even more with the Gospel.

**28** Pray for Pastor Vyacheslav Nestaruk, president of the UECB in Ukraine. While there is significant freedom to worship and proclaim the Gospel in Ukraine, we do not take

this for granted. May the Lord grant this faithful brother wisdom in his leadership responsibilities.

**29** **The Lord's Day:** *For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself (Acts 2:39).* As you worship today, join us in praising and thanking God for the hope of the Gospel. The Lord will build His church, and no power of man can stop Him!

**30** Pastor Alexei Smirnov is in his first term as president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Please intercede for Alexei on a regular basis as he fulfills his enormous leadership responsibilities.

**31** **Reflection:** We conclude the month with King David's reflections on the holiness of God . . . *O Lord, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? He who walks with integrity and works righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart (Psalm 15:1-2).*

**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 health and for God's protection . . .*

Fruitland, Idaho

*For the salvation of lost loved ones . . .*

York, Pennsylvania

*Our son needs God's direction . . .*

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

*My husband has cancer . . . pray for healing . . .*

Kirksville, Missouri

*In need of wisdom . . .*

Amery, Wisconsin

*To be good witnesses in our neighborhood . . .*

Concord, California

**The SGA staff is honored to bring your requests to the Lord. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you in this way.**



SLAVIC GOSPEL ASSOCIATION  
6151 Commonwealth Drive • Loves Park, IL 61111  
815-282-8900 • www.sga.org



SLAVIC GOSPEL ASSOCIATION - CANADA  
55 Fleming Drive, Suite 26 • Cambridge, ON N1T 2A9  
519-621-3553 • www.sgacanada.ca