

“Much Prayer, Much Power!”

— Peter Deyneka Sr., SGA Founder

Prayer & Praise



September 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

Pray on an ongoing basis this month for students at SGA-sponsored Bible institutes and seminaries across the lands of Russia. The fall term of study is getting under way, and it will be a hectic, yet fruitful time on the seminary campuses.

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1 Reflection: Let us begin the new month with the glorious song of the psalmist . . . *Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold* (Psalm 46:10-11).

2 SGA president Dr. Bob Provost has several important conferences to attend this month. Please ask the Lord for ongoing health and strength, as well as that Bob might be a blessing and encouragement to those he encounters.

3 In some regions of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), cold temperatures are already beginning to be felt. Pray for needy families, and for God's ongoing provision of resources to help local Russian churches obtain humanitarian aid for distribution.

4 **The Lord's Day:** *We must obey God rather than men* (Acts 5:29). It seems like Soviet-style tyranny against evangelical churches is on the increase in several nations, but the Bible-preaching churches we serve are intent on proclaiming the Gospel no matter what. Please lift them in prayer on this Sunday.

5 SGA-sponsored summer camps are over for the year across the lands of Russia, but the evangelical churches we serve will be continuing with follow-up ministry among the children reached. Intercede in prayer, asking God to continue drawing young boys and girls to Himself in the days ahead.

6 Pray today for SGA's Minsk Regional Ministry Center (RMC) in Belarus. Director Piotr Podrez, son Dima, and staff joyfully labor many long hours in their service to Belarussian churches as they continue to proclaim the Gospel to their people.

7 Retired SGA missionary Mary Light went to be with the Lord this past summer after a long illness. We praise and thank the Lord for Mary's many years of service as a registered nurse and missionary in Alaska, along with many other opportunities to



share the Gospel in a variety of ways. Pray for Mary's family during this difficult time.

8 Please pray today for SGA's board of directors, chaired by Warner Tillman. We are thankful to the Lord for these faithful men who help guide our mission and set our priorities and ministry goals.

9 Lift Pastor Alexei Smirnov in prayer today. As he continues in his first term as president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB), our prayer is that the Lord will grant him continued wisdom and direction as he fulfills his tremendous national responsibilities.



10 Please pray for SGA's professor of Bible, Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko, as he begins another fall term at the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary in Belarus. We thank the Lord for Roman and his decades of faithfulness in teaching the timeless truths of God's Word.

11 **The Lord's Day:** *Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you* (Luke 8: 39). On this Sunday, we reflect on the many testimonies we receive from the lands of Russia as new believers share the stories of how God has transformed their lives. Praise and thank Him, and may all the glory be His!

12 Please pray today for staff of SGA/Australia. Please also remember the faithful staffs of SGA offices in the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada, as well as their boards of directors.

13 We are praising the Lord for the positive response to *My Mission Adventure*, SGA's new children's program for Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday schools and other groups. Please pray with us that more churches and groups will participate in the coming year, and get their children excited about winning the lost for Christ!

14 Pray for the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry across the CIS, especially teams that are laboring in regions where access to the orphanages encounters significant opposition. Thousands of these lonely, forgotten boys and girls need the hope that only the Gospel can provide.

15 Lift SGA's Kiev RMC staff in prayer today. Ask the Lord to bless and encourage their hearts as they serve evangelical churches across Ukraine — a nation of more than 45 million people, with the majority needing to hear of salvation in Christ.

16 As we enter the fall season, preparations for SGA-sponsored Christmas ministries across the lands of Russia pick up pace. Please intercede in advance for *Immanuel's Child*, asking God to enable us to reach even more children with the Gospel this year.

17 Provision of Russian-language Bibles and doctrinally sound Christian books is truly a joy for SGA partners. We praise and thank God for their faithfulness in giving toward these key ministry resources — so important in meeting the need for God's Word!



18 **The Lord's Day:** . . . *so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God* (Colossians 1:10). On this Lord's Day, our prayer is for our faithful ministry partners across North America and around the world. May we all live to bring honor and glory to the Lord, and bear much spiritual fruit.

19 Earlier this year, SGA received several wonderful testimonies from ongoing youth ministry across Russia. We will be sharing them on our website and in our printed publications, with praise to our faithful God and Father for His work in so many young hearts and lives!

20 Pray today for Rev. Allan Vincent, director of SGA/Canada. Allan maintains a very intense travel and ministry schedule, telling the SGA story across Canada's vast expanse. May many more churches across Canada be encouraged to join in fruitful ministry opportunities in Russia and her neighboring nations.

21 Join us today in praising and thanking the Lord for SGA's supporting churches across North America. We cherish our relationship with these faithful congregations, and exist to serve them for the glory of Christ and the advance of the Gospel.

22 Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Vitaly Medvedev, who labors in Russia's Irkutsk region (southern Siberia). Vitaly and his church often conduct evangelistic visits to neighboring villages, and have great impact for the Lord across this remote, forbidding region.



23 God's Word commands us in 1 Timothy 2 to pray for government leaders. Join us today as we lift in prayer political leadership across the CIS. May the Lord work in their hearts so that the life-changing Gospel will not be hindered as evangelical churches proclaim it.

24 Praise the Lord for the generous charitable foundations that help underwrite a portion of SGA's ministry expenses. The difficult economy has had impact on these foundations as it has on all of us, so pray with us for God's blessing, and for restoration of resources for sowing the Gospel seed.

25 **The Lord's Day:** *For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it* (Hebrews 2:1). Media-connected, ostensibly Christian teachers here in the U.S. are gaining more publicity with their assault on biblical truth— most recently on the doctrine of God's eternal judgment. Pray for the churches

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of the CIS, asking the Lord to protect them from these pernicious errors, as they now can spread quickly via the Internet.

26 Intercede in prayer for Sunday school ministry across the lands of Russia. Christian education is still developing in the former Soviet Union, and we are praying for the resources to support it in every way possible.



27 Pray for Josephine Lyttle, who serves as coordinator in SGA's advancement division. Keeping our publication and mailing schedules on track is a very demanding job, and we are thankful for Jo's diligent service to Christ the Lord.

28 SGA is in need of additional financial resources to help increase support for missionary pastors across the lands of Russia. With more than 90 percent of communities still without a Bible-preaching church, the need is enormous! Please pray for God's provision.

29 Russia's notoriously frigid winter will soon begin, and the need some poor families will have for warm clothing and food is sure to increase. Ask the Lord to provide the funds to help local evangelical churches respond as the needs become known.

30 Reflection: We conclude September with the God-granted wisdom of King Solomon . . . *I know that everything God does will remain forever; there is nothing to add to it and there is nothing to take from it, for God has so worked that men should fear Him (Ecclesiastes 3:14).*

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 our health . . . family and friends . . .

Sunnyside, New York

My granddaughter needs prayer for many issues . . .

Shalimar, Florida

I'm having some health struggles . . .

Keizer, Oregon

My daughter is looking for nursing work . . .

Kailua, Hawaii

Pray for healing and pain relief . . .

Bixby, Missouri

Pray for safety . . .

Downer's Grove, Illinois

For loved ones going through cancer battles . . .

Valparaiso, Indiana

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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