

Ministry Report 2014

We give thanks to you, O God, we give thanks, for Your name is near; men declare Your wondrous works (Psalm 75:1).

The past year—2014—has been a momentous year in many ways. While the political, military, and related refugee crisis in Ukraine captured much attention from around the world, other important events unfolded day by day. Our gracious God and Father continued to draw



Global turmoil and conflict cannot stop our Lord Jesus Christ from building His Church!

lost men, women, and children to Himself as they heard the Gospel proclaimed through the faithful national Bible-preaching churches that SGA serves.

The following is a report of our main ministry activities throughout the 2014 calendar year. It contains the answers to your prayers and the results of God

blessing your faithful support. We trust that you will be blessed and encouraged as together, we rejoice with thanksgiving for what God has done.

Preparing Faithful Servants of Christ to Evangelize, Plant New Churches, and Serve Existing Churches

“Is not My Word like fire?” declares the Lord . . . (Jeremiah 23:29).

During 2014, you—our ministry partners—continued your generous giving to support all the SGA-sponsored seminaries and Bible institutes in the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as Bible-training initiatives in Israel. A total of 196 students graduated and are now ministering for our Savior. The total enrollment at the end of the 2014 calendar year was 1,006, an increase of 22 students over 2013.

There were a number of key training highlights in 2014. In spite of the war, the two Ukraine seminaries together have seven more students than last year. Irpen Biblical Seminary has a record enrollment of 380 students. Most exciting, however, is that our Bible institutes in the Muslim Central Asian countries together have 25 more students than last year. Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary in Russia began a distance, Internet-based

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Dr. Igor Yaremchuk (left), president of Irpen Biblical Seminary, congratulates a thankful graduate.

seminary training program for those unable to travel to the school for classes. Those enrolled are working toward Bachelor of Theology and Christian Ministry degrees. The program began with 12 students, and rapid expansion is anticipated.

In the fall of 2014, SGA president Dr. Bob Provost led the first SGA Biblical Inerrancy retreat at SGA's Regional Ministry Center in Kiev, Ukraine. Attending were the key leaders of seven evangelical seminaries and Bible institutes in Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Israel. The keynote teacher was Dr. William Barrick, director of the doctoral program at The Master's Seminary in California. Dr. Provost and SGA's Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko, along with SGA missionary Bret Laird, also led sessions. It was a tremendous inaugural event, and by God's grace and provision, a followup retreat is scheduled for November 2015 at Odessa Theological Seminary in Ukraine.

American and Canadian church coalitions and partners also continued their strong support of the SGA-sponsored *Antioch Initiative* in 2014. Thirteen training sessions were held at *Antioch* locations in Russia, taught by 23 pastors and teachers from the supporting North American church coalitions. A total of 13 men graduated from the *Antioch* training program in Tambov, Russia. In addition, a new group of students has begun *Antioch* training in Voronezh, Russia. These Bible and ministry training sessions have had enormous impact, and greatly strengthened many faithful servants of Christ in their ministries.

Training ministries continued to expand in Israel. At Israel College of the Bible, 23 Russian students were able to continue their studies into the second year of the certificate program, and plans were developed to launch a Bachelor's Degree in Bible in 2015. In addition, there was congregation-based training in Jerusalem, Ashkelon, and

Maalot, as well as drug rehab center training in Jerusalem and Beer Sheva. In all of these training initiatives, ICB students are engaged in supervised practical student-teaching. Altogether 85 Russian-Jewish servants of Christ received training for ministry. In addition, a ministry encouragement retreat was held for 16 alcohol and drug rehab center directors and their families.

Vibrant Evangelism and Zealous New Churches

So, for my part, I am eager to preach the Gospel . . . (Romans 1:15).

SGA partners continued their steadfast support of 349 dedicated missionary pastors, most of whom are planting new congregations in towns and villages that had no prior ongoing Gospel witness. There are 144 in Russia, 117 in Ukraine, 40 in Belarus, 37 in the Central Asian Countries, and 10 are located in the Caucasus nations. The ministries of SGA-sponsored missionary pastors were greatly impacted by the pro-Russian separatist attacks in eastern Ukraine, as well as the steadily growing opposition and persecution of evangelical churches in the Muslim-dominated countries of Central Asia. Ukrainian pastors, whose churches had been impacted by the war, are being supported temporarily until their churches can resume their support. Some pastors had to temporarily relocate their families during the winter to other parts of Ukraine due to the destruction of their homes caused by the military conflict. They plan to return in warmer weather as the Lord allows. SGA missionary pastors are serving in 11 countries, and remain undeterred in their mission of advancing the Gospel.

Reaching Children and Their Families, and Orphans

And He called a child to Himself . . . (Matthew 18:2).

SGA partners faithfully continued their support of evangelistic children's ministries across Russia and her neighboring countries. Through *Immanuel's Child*, 279 SGA-sponsored missionary pastors and their churches reached nearly 14,000 children and more than 8,000 adults during Russian Christmas outreaches in January, 2014. We praise and thank the Lord for more than 500 children and adults who received Christ, and for more than 1,500 children and adults who started attending Sunday school and church services.

Our partners made it possible for SGA to support summer camp ministries in 11 countries—and the first camp for Russian-speaking children in Israel! Nearly 15,000 children attended the camps, including more than 8,000 unchurched children, including 1,941 orphan children. The number of camps served was 265. A total



Church youth across the CIS are eagerly participating in the fruitful ministries of their congregations.

of 2,246 children received Christ, and following camp 1,175 children began attending Sunday school. We thank the Lord also for 229 adults who began attending church as a direct result of the camp session that impacted their child.

The Lord continued to work wonderfully through the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn (OR)* ministry. A total of 103 orphanages were greatly impacted by the Gospel. More than 7,000 children were reached and more than 5,000 attended regular Bible classes. *OR* supports the ministries of 75 CIS churches. A total of 156 orphans who have “graduated” from an orphanage are still coming back to attend the Bible classes on a regular basis. Of special note are the 52 graduates who have been gloriously saved, and are now helping disciple younger orphan children for Christ through *OR!* Food and clothing were provided to homeless and impoverished children. We helped 80 such children in Russia, as well as 135 children across Central Asia.

Youth IN Ministry Are Making a Difference for Christ

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth . . . (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

Ministry continued through the SGA-sponsored Youth IN Ministry emphasis in 2014. There are a total of 20 YIM ministry locations in Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine, as well as in several nations in Central Asia and in one Russian-speaking congregation in Israel. SGA partners help equip the church youth with discipleship and evangelistic materials, travel assistance, training, and other helps for

their growing outreach ministries. We are supporting the ministry of five national youth leaders in the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists, and there are 450 young men being disciplined and trained to serve in the ministries of their local churches.

In February 2014, SGA/Canada partners supported the National Youth Conference in Moscow with 300 youth leaders in attendance. The theme for the conference was *The Way of the Strong*, and focused on areas such as character, leadership, growth in personal relationship with Christ, and ministry within the family, church, and overall society. SGA sponsored Russian UECB youth leaders have written and published four Russian-language books geared toward youth discipleship.

Fruitful Ministry TO Youth and Young Adults

In addition to SGA-sponsored Youth IN Ministry program, the evangelical churches we serve are also reaching out effectively to youth and young adults, and there has been significant growth in the



Today's youth across Russia and the CIS are earnestly searching for the hope that only Christ can give.

youth movement across Russia. There are now more than 30,000 youth involved in youth meetings and outreaches, plus more than 2,000 trained youth leaders. Russian churches are expecting a minimum of 800 and a maximum of 1,000 young people for the special conference held annually with the sponsorship of SGA/Canada.

According to Pastor Eugene Bakhmutsky of the growing Russian Bible Church in Moscow, the Lord is working mightily through youth to bring more and more people to faith and to extend His Kingdom in Russia. They plant new churches, help existing missionaries, go on short-term mission trips, participate faithfully in ministry through their local churches, personal evangelism and evangelistic events, children ministry, and camps.

Bibles, Evangelistic Christian Literature, and Study Aids

I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your Word (Psalm 119:16).

The provision of Russian-language Bibles, evangelistic literature, Christian books, and pastoral study publications continued to be a high priority for SGA in 2014. We produced and distributed 6,500 copies of The Satellite Bible Atlas, an historical geography of the Bible by Dr. Bill Schlegel—which uses Scripture references along with 85 full-page color maps with satellite-enhanced imagery. We produced and distributed 10,000 copies of the children’s book, *Can A Creature Be Your Teacher*, by the Bible Society of



Gifts of Russian-language Christian literature are always eagerly received and read!

Israel. In addition, we produced and distributed 10,000 copies of another book for children, *Noah*, by Mrs G (Kitty Anna Griffiths). Translation and editing was also completed for Biblical Apologetics, a theological resource book by Dr. Cliff McManis, teaching pastor and elder at the Grace Bible Fellowship of Silicon Valley, and professor of apologetics at Cornerstone Seminary in Vallejo, CA.

As part of SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry, Russian-language evangelistic literature was also included in food parcels distributed by missionary pastors in Ukraine, Belarus, and other locations.

Compassion Ministry in a Year of Turmoil and Unrest

Thus has the Lord of Hosts said, 'Dispense true justice and practice kindness and compassion each to his brother' (Zechariah 7:9).

Our hearts are always broken at the reports we receive from SGA-sponsored missionary pastors about the severe poverty they encounter in the course of their

ministries across the CIS. The tragic Ukraine conflict, which broke out toward the end of 2013 and lasted throughout 2014, required a significant amount of resources that our Heavenly Father provided through SGA’s Crisis Evangelism Fund (CEF).

Crisis Evangelism Ministry

The intent of the CEF is to help local pastors who have few resources, and enable their churches to distribute vitally important food aid, as well as Bibles, Christian literature, and other essentials to families whose lives have been shattered. The resources provided by the CEF were determined by the changing conditions on the ground, and with the onset of winter, there was increased emphasis on warm clothing, heating oil and coal, mattresses, food, and other humanitarian aid. The food parcels contained items such as flour, cooking oil, pasta, and other staples plus Christian literature.

In 2014, a total of 18 tons of food were purchased and distributed to refugees and needy families through the CEF. In addition, warm clothing was provided for more than 550 people. According to Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists, there are three missionary pastors in one eastern oblast (state), and four others in another eastern oblast reaching a total of 350 families on a monthly basis. There are five churches that are helping to feed people three times a week. In addition



SGA partners helped provide several tons of food and other humanitarian aid along with Bibles and evangelistic materials.

to aid with food and clothing, SGA partners also helped put a new roof on a five-story apartment dwelling in Kramatorsk, and helped provide replacement windows for those that had been shattered by guns and shelling. All of this aid was distributed through SGA-sponsored missionary pastors and their churches to those in great need because of the crisis.

Other efforts that took place during this period involved the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary, Odessa Theological Seminary, Vinnitsa Bible College, and several churches across Ukraine. The seminaries opened their dormitory space to house refugees who had fled from the fighting. Church families opened their homes, and churches provided mattresses on the floors to shelter refugees in their time of need. In some cases, students gave up their rooms for refugee families and slept upon mats in the classrooms.

Outside of the Ukraine crisis, SGA continued general Compassion Ministry efforts and food distribution in partnership with the Children's Hunger Fund. Food parcels and evangelistic literature were distributed to 362 families in Belarus and Ukraine (in addition to the Crisis Evangelism Fund efforts). And SGA-sponsored missionary pastors reached 26 families living in various locations in two Central Asian nations where ministry must be conducted discreetly due to opposition.



Dr. Robert W. Provost
SGA President

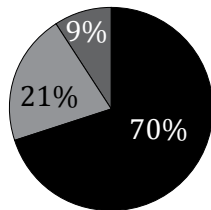
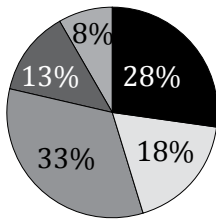
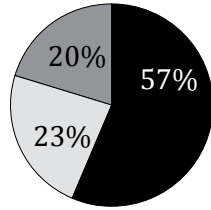
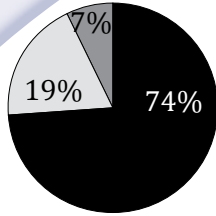
A Word From Our President

January 6, 2014, marked the 80th anniversary of the founding of SGA by Peter Deyneka, a young immigrant from Belarus. His powerful Gospel preaching to Russian-speaking people all over the world combined with his powerful exhortations to English speakers earned the moniker "*Peter Dynamite*." His commitment to prayer and motto, "*Much prayer much power, little prayer little power, no prayer no power,*" is remembered all over the globe. What God has done through this little mission has been more than remarkable. So far, more than 8,000 servants of Christ have been trained for ministry and there are more than 1,000 current students; more than 4,000 churches have been planted; and 349 missionary pastors continue planting new churches. Tens of 1,000s of orphans have been reached and discipled with more than 7,000 now in process; more than 5 million Russian Bibles have been distributed, and nearly 400 Russian language books have been published and distributed for biblical training and Gospel advancement.

2014 was an awesome year. Our great God did so many wonderful things. He gave exciting new ministries to Russian-Jewish alcoholics and drug addicts in Israel, a record enrollment of 380 students at Irpen Biblical Seminary, the launching of online classes at Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary and at Israel College of the Bible, the translation of Dr. Cliff McManis' *Biblical Apologetics*, the compassionate material assistance and Gospel ministry rendered to many thousands of Ukrainian war refugees including many Muslim Tatars from Crimea, the Biblical Inerrancy Retreat for SGA training ministry leaders, and the expansion of the *Immanuel's Child* Christmas outreaches. Through the faithful prayers and sacrificial support of SGA partners, and the labors of love of SGA staff and supported national Gospel workers, God has done great things for the glory of Christ. We thank our Lord for you and for your vital part. Please join with us in our praise and thanksgiving to Him.

Bob Provost

2014 Ministry Report



Financial Position as of 6/30/14

Assets

• Current Assets	\$2,706,747	74%
• Land, Buildings & Equipment	706,578	19%
• Other	247,388	7%

Total	\$3,660,713	100%
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Liabilities and Net Assets

• Unrestricted Net Assets	\$2,065,762	57%
• Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	857,157	23%
• Liabilities	737,794	20%

Total	\$3,660,713	100%
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Activities for Year Ended 6/30/14

Expenses

Ministry & Supporting Activities

• Equipping	\$1,790,932	28%
• Training	1,218,606	18%
• Evangelism-Church Planting	2,214,295	33%
• Advancement	894,271	13%
• Administration	532,841	8%

Total	\$6,650,945	100%
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Ministry Activities	\$5,223,833
Supporting Activities	1,427,112

Total expenses	\$6,650,945
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Revenue

Partner Support

• Individual Support	\$4,428,788	70%
• Donated Materials & Services	4,993	0%
• Churches	1,319,162	21%
• Foundation Grants	583,284	9%

Total	\$6,336,227	100%
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Partner Support	\$6,336,227
Other	31,754

Total Revenue	\$6,367,981
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