



Slavic Gospel Association

Prayer & Praise

SHARING THE GOSPEL • EQUIPPING THE CHURCH • HELPING THE FORGOTTEN

Please join us each day this month in praise for the work of Christ in the Russian speaking lands.

1 **Reflection/New Year's Day:** We begin this new month with the psalmist's beautiful song of trust in the Lord . . . *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change* (Psalm 46:1-2).

2 Please continue to pray for the children reached with the Gospel through last month's *Immanuel's Child* Christmas outreaches. We pray that the Gospel seeds planted will take root and grow, leading to salvation and eternal life for many!



3 Lift SGA president Michael Johnson in prayer this month. Ask God to grant him abundant wisdom and direction as he maintains a heavy travel schedule in the coming days.

4 Pray for SGA's international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia. We are thankful to God for their devotion to the Gospel's advance across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Eastern Europe.

RUSSIA



5 Russia's presidential election is scheduled to take place later in the spring. Pray for God's hand of protection over His people, and for continued freedom to proclaim the Gospel and worship freely.

6 Please lift up Pastor Vlad Treskin, who serves as national youth ministry director for the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Pray for him today, and for his fellow youth pastors across Russia's vast expanse.

7 Political tensions have been heating up again between Russia and Western nations due to various factors. Our prayer, as always, is that these tensions will be eased and that nothing will hinder the ministries of the evangelical churches we serve.

8 We praise and thank the Lord for Valery Kazakov and SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) team. Valery and his staff are joyful and tireless in their service to Russia's evangelical churches and assist U.S. staff traveling in-country.

9 Pray for Russian UECB leadership both at the national level, and in each of the 89 oblasts (states) across the country. May the Lord grant them great wisdom and direction in leading their congregations.

UKRAINE



10 Pray today for SGA's Kiev RMC staff, led by Ruslan Muratayev. While Ukrainian churches enjoy great freedom, they also face many ministry challenges including great poverty and ongoing political turmoil in the country.

11 Please remember the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary in prayer. We praise God for the growing impact of this biblically sound school on the ministry of the church across the CIS.

12 Intercede for the family of SGA's Sergei Omelchenko, who serves as our chief Russian-language book editor and assistant to SGA president Michael Johnson. May the Lord encourage their hearts as they faithfully serve Him.

13 SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Oleg Ogorodnik and his

congregation in Radomyshl continue to share the Gospel on the street in their town, and several young people have come to faith in Christ. Join us in praising God for Oleg's fruitful labors.

14 Please intercede regularly for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. As the ministries of the churches are impacted by the ongoing conflict in the east, ask God to grant them wisdom and opportunities to share the reconciling love of Jesus.

15 Distributing food and other aid through SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry continues to be a key outreach of evangelical Ukrainian churches. The needs are especially acute during winter, so join us in praying for increased resources.

BELARUS



16 Pray today for Piotr and Dima Podrez, and the rest of SGA's Minsk RMC staff. May God grant them increased opportunities to help evangelical churches in what can be a very challenging ministry environment.





17 In Belarus—as is the case in the other CIS nations where SGA works—churches will be engaging in follow up ministry with children reaching during *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministries. Ask the Lord to go in advance, preparing the hearts of the children and their families to respond to the Gospel.

18 Lift Belarussian UECB president Dr. Viktor Krutko in prayer today. Join us in praising and thanking the Lord for the fruitful Gospel partnership SGA has enjoyed with this faithful brother for many years.

19 Missionary pastor Alexei Alexeevich held a very fruitful VBS ministry last summer and continues to have a vibrant children's outreach. Ask for God's continued blessing and provision ahead of this spring and summer's outreaches.

20 Continue to intercede for the SGA-sponsored children's

diagnostic center and camp ministry at Kobrin. This camp assists hundreds of children suffering the effects of Chernobyl radiation that continues to plague a significant portion of the country.

KAZAKHSTAN



21 Pray for Pastor Franz Tissen, president of the Kazakh UECB. Also intercede for the regional pastors responsible for overseeing churches in the country's 14 provinces as opposition to their ministries increases.

22 Pastor Myrza, whose ministry SGA partners help sponsor in Kazakhstan, reported that he was able to hold outreaches with permission from local authorities, which is a huge blessing. Pray for a fruitful harvest from the Gospel seeds that were planted.

23 We are thankful to God for the Kazakh evangelical churches that participate in the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry. Pray for the additional resources needed to expand this outreach into more regions as the needs remain great.

24 Pray for director Alexander Karyakov at the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute. May God continue to grant His favor and protection to this solid Bible school in a nation where Islam is increasingly dominant.

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

25 In Uzbekistan, evangelical churches face a great deal of pressure from the government as well as other religious groups opposed to their ministries. Pray for Khafis, a faithful missionary pastor who discreetly holds children's outreaches as God opens the door.

26 Although the war in Russia's Chechnya region officially ended in 2009, this Caucasus region can still be very dangerous for evangelical churches and missionary pastors. Please pray for God's

protection for those who discreetly share Christ's love with the lost.

27 Pray for Bill Ball, executive director of SGA/Canada, and his assistants Sue Petten and Olive Coke. May God encourage their hearts and increase his provision for the CIS ministries supported by our Canadian partners.

28 **Reflection:** We conclude February with the wonderful encouragement found in Hebrews . . . *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful* (Hebrews 10:23).

Partner Prayer Requests

Pray for loved ones facing surgery and serious illness . . .

Flat Rock, Michigan

Praising God for the safe return of my son . . .

Calimesa, California

Please pray for our 40-year ministry . . .

Mountain Home, Arkansas

We are both battling diabetes . . . pray for better health . . .

Schenectady, New York

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



Slavic Gospel Association
6151 Commonwealth Drive
Loves Park, Illinois 61111
815-282-8900 ♦ sga.org



Slavic Gospel Association ♦ Canada
55 Fleming Drive, Suite 26
Cambridge, ON N1T 2A9
519-621-3553 ♦ www.sgacanada.ca