Reflection: We begin the new month with King David’s wonderful reminder of God’s faithfulness . . . *The words of the Lord are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times. You, O Lord, will keep them . . .* (Psalm 12:6-7).

In addition to Michael Johnson’s oversight of SGA’s ministries as our president, he frequently attends missions and other conferences to share what God is doing across Russia and her neighboring nations. Please intercede for Michael today, asking God for continued blessing and direction.

SGA is always looking for new friends and partners who share our burden to see the lost won to Christ across Russia and the rest of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Please lift this urgent need before the Lord.

Lift executive director Bill Ball and the staff of SGA/Canada in prayer today. Ask God to multiply their resources and to motivate even more Canadian churches to join together in support of ministry across Russia and the CIS.

SGA’s Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) is located in the suburb of Irpen, where the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary is also located. Please pray today for director Ruslan Muratayev and his staff as they joyfully serve Ukrainian evangelical churches.

Intercede in prayer for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). With the ongoing violence in eastern Ukraine and economic challenges.

As you pray today, ask the Lord to provide more faithful men and support to be sent into the field as missionary pastors—not just for Ukraine, but all of the CIS. The need is so great and so many regions have yet to hear the Gospel.
8 Please remember the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary and Odessa Theological Seminary in prayer. The fall term is just around the corner and all are busily preparing for their classes in Bible, theology, and practical ministry.

9 Intercede in prayer for SGA’s chief Russian-language book editor Sergei Omelchenko, who is based in Ukraine. We are thankful to the Lord for Sergei’s diligent service to Christ and to the evangelical churches of Ukraine.

8 Russia

10 As SGA’s Reach Russia Now initiative continues in the country’s Far East, the pastor training that takes place through our Antioch Initiative in Russia also needs to be stepped up as God provides. Ask for His ongoing guidance and provision in this important area.

11 The SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary is working toward implementation of a doctoral program of study, along with continued development of satellite programs in Nizhny-Novgorod, Irkutsk, Kemorovo, and St. Petersburg. Please pray for God’s provision and direction in these initiatives.

12 Pray today for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian UECB. Leading Russia’s largest evangelical church fellowship in these changing times is a difficult, demanding task, and we are thankful for Piotr’s servant leadership.

13 Most summer children’s camp ministries in Russia and her neighboring countries will soon be concluding. Join us in prayer for the thousands of children who attended, asking the Lord to grant growth to the seeds of the Gospel planted in their hearts.

14 Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Andrei Kolmakov, who ministers in Russia’s Kirov region. Andrei is involved extensively in church-based drug rehab centers in partnership with pastors in Kirov, Syktyvkar, Nizhny-Novgorod, and Perm. We praise God for the eternal impact these ministries are having in many lives!

15 Pray for SGA’s Minsk RMC staff, led by Piotr Podrez. May they continually be a blessing and encouragement to churches across Belarus, where congregations can encounter serious obstacles to their ministries, as well as tremendous opportunities.

16 We are thankful to the Lord for the Minsk Theological Seminary and the leadership of its president, Dr. Leonid Mihovich. Ask for God’s ongoing provision for this vitally important Bible school in Belarus.

17 Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Sergei who serves in Belarus’ Brest region near the Polish border. Sergei leads a very effective youth ministry as well as summer camp ministry in his region. May the Lord open many more opportunities for the Gospel so more children can hear.

18 Dr. Viktor Krutko serves as the current president of the Belarussian UECB. Please remember him and other key regional pastors in prayer today as they shepherd their congregations in very difficult times.

19 SGA places Compassion Ministry as a key priority in our service to evangelical churches, and it is a privilege to help churches in Belarus to obtain aid locally for needy families as needed. Pray with us for God’s ongoing provision.

10 Central Asia, Caucasus, & Israel

20 Back in 2003, Kazakhstan began hosting an event called The Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions. This year’s Congress will be from October 10-11 in Astana. Pray that events such as this will lead to greater religious freedom in the country.

21 In Central Asia, any Bible training must be conducted quietly due to governmental pressure and opposition. Ask for God’s wisdom and direction as future Bible institute training is considered.

22 Pray today for Dr. Levan Akhalmosulishvili, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor and medical doctor in the Caucasus nation of Georgia. Evangelical churches in Georgia face frequent pressure, yet Levan’s ministry is vibrant and reaches many with the Gospel.

23 Summer camp ministry will be wrapping up soon in Central Asia and the rest of the CIS. Pray for the salvation of the thousands of children who attended, and that their families would also be reached through their testimony.

24 Please continue to lift up SGA’s director of Bible training in Israel. May God grant him wisdom as he equips Russian-speaking congregations to preach and teach Scripture faithfully.

25 Please pray for Pastor Kamil Abdullaev, who heads up the UECB in Tajikistan. Also pray for the faithful missionary pastors who tirelessly travel to remote mountain villages to share the Gospel and teach God’s Word.

26 Pray today for SGA’s leadership team consisting of our president, Michael Johnson, Eric Mock, vice president of ministry operations, and Beverly Braunsky, our chief financial officer. Ask for God’s wisdom and direction in the many challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.
27 Pray for SGA/United Kingdom, led by Derek Maxwell. We are thankful to the Lord for our UK team’s years of ministry across Eastern Europe and other former communist nations of the CIS.

28 Please pray for SGA’s board of directors in advance of our fall board meeting next month. We are thankful for chairman Warner Tillman and his fellow board members who prayerfully set the policies and direction of our ministries.

29 Please pray for SGA’s advancement division which is responsible for all fundraising activities for our ministries, as well as communicating with the public and our supporting partners about what God is doing through His people across the CIS.

30 Remember our senior missionaries Andrew Semenchuk, Ruth Deyneca Erdel, and Florence Daneliuk in prayer today. May God bless them, encourage their hearts, and grant them strength as they continue to serve Him.

31 Reflection: We conclude August with the prophet’s proclamation of trust in the Lord . . . But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy. Though I fall, I will rise; though I dwell in darkness, the Lord is a light for me (Micah 7:7-8).

**Partner Prayer Requests**

*Please pray for our new grandchild, and for our health . . .* Fort Smith, Arkansas

*I need wisdom in many major decisions I’m facing . . .* Westland, Michigan

*For the salvation of my nephew . . .* Flushing, New York

*For God’s comfort in the passing of my husband . . .* Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania

*For deliverance of loved ones from a cult . . .* Bremerton, Washington

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