Scripture theme of the month: Thus says the Lord, “Preserve justice and do righteousness, for My salvation is about to come” (Isaiah 56:1).

Reflection: We begin September with the Apostle Paul’s wonderful assurance . . . And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose (Romans 9:1).

As the fall terms begin at SGA-sponsored seminaries and Bible institutes across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), please pray for the students and faculty as they commence yet another busy season. We praise God for the opportunity to help so many prepare for lifetimes of fruitful ministry.

Please intercede in prayer for SGA president Michael Johnson, our leadership team, and our board of directors as they meet later this month. Ask God for wisdom and discernment as ministry conditions overseas continue to evolve.

It’s been two years since the “Yarovaya” anti-missionary law went into force in Russia, yet the overall impact on evangelical ministries remains uncertain in the long run. Pray for God’s continued wisdom and protection for our brothers and sisters in the days ahead.

Lift the staff of SGA’s Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) in prayer today. We are thankful for director Valery Kazakov and our Moscow team, and for their diligent, faithful service.

Pray today for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Also lift up the seven regional vice presidents who oversee churches across the country’s 11 time zones.
7 Pavel Barsukov is an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor serving in Russia’s Krasnoyarsk region. Pray for him and his church as they lead Bible study groups and plant new congregations in this huge region located in central Siberia.

8 We praise and thank God for the vibrant youth ministry movement across Russia, and the encouragement these young people are to their churches. May the Lord raise up even more young evangelists to proclaim the Gospel to the many unreached towns and villages.

9 Pray for Pastor Eduard Genrikh, president of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary. Especially intercede for the satellite study programs administered by the school in Nizhny-Novgorod and other locations.

10 Please pray for Piotr Podrez, director of SGAs Minsk RMC. We are deeply thankful to the Lord for his years of diligent service to Christ and to our mission.

11 Intercede for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Gennady in the Vitebsk region of Belarus. This past spring, his church held an indoor soccer tournament where the Gospel was shared with youth from unreached families, and even youth from Central Asia! Praise God for this wonderful ministry opportunity!

12 Please continue to pray for the resources needed to keep the Little Pearl Children’s Diagnostic Camp at Kobrin operating. This camp provides vital services to boys and girls suffering from the effects of Chernobyl radiation, as well as sharing the life-changing Gospel with them.

13 Intercede in prayer for Dr. Leniod Mikhovich, president of the Belarusian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Pray also for the regional pastors across the country who assist local churches in their fruitful ministries.

14 The SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary has seven tracks of study—Pastoral Ministry, Bible, Biblical Counseling, Missionary, Music, Christian Education, and Church Librarian. Pray for the enrolled students, asking for God’s ongoing anointing and blessing.

15 Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko continues to hold classes at the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary, as well as other locations in the CIS. Pray for Roman and the students in advance, asking that the sessions would be especially productive and fruitful in the limited time available.

16 The former Soviet countries of Central Asia are Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. Please pray for evangelical churches in these nations, as they receive constant pressure from government as well as the dominant Islamic culture. May the Gospel continue to go forth regardless of what man may do!

17 We praise and thank the Lord for His provision for SGAs director of Bible training in Israel. Ask for God’s continued protection as he and his family lives within range of terrorist rocket fire from the Gaza Strip.

18 Pray for SGAs Advancement division, asking especially for God’s wisdom in how best to share the story of what God is doing in Central Asia, while also protecting the security of evangelical churches as they share the Gospel with those waiting to hear.

19 In the Central Asian nations, much ministry takes place one-on-one due to severe governmental restrictions on the churches. Pray for Pastor Vasily who has been able to reach many with the Gospel through home visits and other God-ordained encounters.

20 The former Soviet nation of Azerbaijan is the largest country in the Caucasus region, with a population of 9.7 million people. Pray for evangelical churches in this predominately Muslim nation, asking God to open more doors for Gospel witness.

21 Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Stepan Saryn in Armenia. Stepan had the opportunity to hold summer children’s camp ministries, along with other children’s outreaches. Ask the Lord to bring even more opportunities out of these labors.

22 Pray for Dr. Igor Yaremchuk, president of the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary. In addition to his seminary duties, Igor is also an effective evangelist with an engaging testimony. He enjoys every opportunity the Lord provides to share the Gospel with the lost.

23 Over the summer, sporadic fighting between separatists and Ukrainian government forces continued to break out, causing more stresses and heartaches for the people caught in the middle. Pray for peace, as well as for more Crisis Evangelism Fund resources to help devastated families.

24 Please continue to intercede in prayer for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. Ask for God’s ongoing wisdom and direction during these days of crisis in the country.

25 Sergei Omelchenko continues to serve as SGAs chief Russian-language book editor, and in-country assistant to SGA president Michael Johnson. We are thankful for Sergei’s dedicated service to Christ through our mission.
Lift SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Vasily Georgiev in prayer today. Vasily has had great opportunities for family ministries in Ukraine’s Odessa region, as well as Easter evangelism this past spring with hundreds of people in six villages.

Pray regularly for SGA’s senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Eredel, Florence Daneliuk, and Andrew Semenchuk. May the Lord continue to bless and sustain them as they lovingly share the Gospel with every opportunity He grants.

Pray for SGA’s international offices in Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand. We are thankful for their individual parts in serving Bible-preaching churches in the former communist nations of Eastern Europe and the CIS.

Pray for the SGA-sponsored Orphans Reborn ministry across the CIS. Especially lift the need for increased funds before the Lord, as the teams encounter increased costs for travel and other expenses.

Reflection: We close August with the psalmist’s song of trust in our God’s redeeming love and protection . . . God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change (Psalm 46).

Partner Prayer Requests

For healing of my marriage . . .
Santa Monica, California

I need God’s provision . . .
Logansport, Indiana

Pray for our health and strength . . .
Lake Wales, Florida

A loved one is suffering from cancer and needs the Lord . . .
Penn Yan, 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.