



Slavic Gospel Association

# Prayer & Praise

SHARING THE GOSPEL • EQUIPPING THE CHURCH • HELPING THE FORGOTTEN

*Please join us each day this month in prayer and praise for the work of Christ across Russian-speaking nations.*

## Scripture theme of the month:

*And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life (1 John 5:20).*

**1 Reflection:** *We begin the final month of 2018 with the psalmist's praise of God . . . For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly (Psalm 84:11).*

**2** SGA president Michael Johnson has had a very heavy travel and meeting schedule the past several months. Ask the Lord to grant rest and refreshing to Michael, and wisdom for he and our leadership team as they plan for 2019 and beyond.



## RUSSIA



**3** Pray today for Tim Dabner SGA's director of media, as he continues work producing new SGA videos, photos, and other materials to help tell the story of our ministries. We are thankful to God for Tim's faithful service to Christ.

**4** Lift SGA's Valery Kazakov and the staff of our Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) in prayer. May the Lord bless and encourage them as they serve evangelical churches and minister in Russia's huge capital city.

**5** Please pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian UECB. Pray also for the regional vice presidents who assist Peter, and who serve as pastors to pastors of churches in their respective areas.

**6** Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Gennady Stokov and his church as they follow up with children reached during summer camp ministry in the Voronezh region. Pray also for the children's families to be open to the Gospel.

**7** Intercede today for the students and leadership of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary. Especially lift up those enrolled at satellite campuses across Russia, asking God to guide them in their studies of biblical truth.

**8** We praise and thank the Lord for His provision for Mikhail, SGA's missionary in Far East Russia. Please keep praying for him and his family as they continue to adjust and participate in our *Reach Russia Now* initiative.

**9** Russia's leaders are reportedly considering re-opening adoptions of Russian children to Americans, but the vast majority will not be adopted out regardless of the political situation. Please pray for SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* teams as they continue Gospel ministry to these lonely, forgotten children.

**10** Lift Vitaly Zanin, national youth ministry leader for the Russian UECB, in prayer today. May the Lord encourage his heart today as he assists youth pastors and youth in ministry across Russia's vast expanse.

## UKRAINE



**11** Please pray for the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary in Ukraine, led by President Dr. Igor Yaremchuk. Ask for God's continued, generous provision for this strategically important Bible school, and its ongoing impact for the Gospel across the CIS.

**12** Join us in praising the Lord with SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Oleg Zapryagailov and his family. Oleg's wife is recovering from surgery after a cancer scare, but we are thankful no cancer was found! Please pray for her full recovery.

**13** Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. The Lord has blessed Ukrainian evangelical churches with growth since the collapse of Soviet communism, but these are days of challenge with the

armed conflict in the east, and economic troubles nationwide.



**14** Please continue to pray for the SGA-sponsored missionary pastors who are distributing food parcels to needy families through a joint outreach supported by SGA and Children's Hunger Fund. Ask God to open many hearts to the Gospel as they experience His love and gracious provision.

**15** Lift SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center staff in prayer today. We are thankful to God for director Ruslan Muratayev and his dedicated team, and their faithful commitment to Christ and the service of His churches throughout Ukraine.

## BELARUS



**16** Pastor Leonid Mihovich serves as president of the Belarussian UECB following the two-term service of Dr. Viktor Krutko. Lift our Belarussian brothers in prayer today as they model servant leadership and serve their churches for the sake of the Gospel.

**17** Missionary pastors report a very fruitful summer camp season in Belarus, with children coming to Christ and their parents now attending services in several regions. We praise and thank God for His work in many hearts, and for our partners' support of these fruitful outreaches!

**18** Pray for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. Ask for God's blessing and provision for their families, and His enabling as they serve churches in a nation that can be very difficult for evangelical ministry.

**19** Tatiana T. is a student of youth and children's ministry at the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. She and her husband Andrei are working to establish an outreach to troubled kids in their region. Please intercede in prayer for this, asking for God's provision.

**20** Please continue to pray for faithful missionary pastors and church workers across Belarus as they continue to distribute food parcels to needy families. We are thankful to the Lord for the opportunity to help through Compassion Ministry resources.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**21** In addition to teaching at SGA-sponsored seminaries in the CIS, SGA Bible teacher Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko often travels to other locations for preaching and teaching—some of it discreetly due to location. Please lift him before the Lord today.

**22** Tajikistan is a nation in former Soviet Central Asia where many live in heartbreaking poverty. Pray for

additional funds to help missionary pastors reach these families with aid and the life-changing Gospel, and that their labors will be unhindered by those opposed to evangelical churches.

**23** While SGA can openly report on ministry in most of the European part of the CIS, we must be much more careful in the Muslim-dominated countries of Central Asia. Please ask for God's wisdom and protection for our brothers and sisters in these difficult countries.

**24** Please pray for SGA's director of Bible training in Israel, who often is in the line of fire from terrorist rockets emanating from Gaza. May the Lord use him to encourage many hearts, and to equip Russian-speaking congregations in the careful handling of God's Word.

**25 Christmas Day:** . . . *for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord* (Luke 2:10). We praise and thank our God and Father for the matchless gift of His Son, who came to save His people from their sins. Pray for upcoming *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministries across the CIS in January, and for the children who will hear the Gospel.

**26** Please pray today for Stepan Saryan, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in the Caucasus country of Armenia. Stepan occasionally travels to Moldova to participate in outreach there as well. We are thankful to the Lord for his diligent ministry.

**27** Intercede for the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan in the wake of stepped up restrictions on religion by the government. This is a very critical time

period for these churches and their ability to carry out their ministries.

**28** Continue to pray for Sergei Omelchenko, SGA's chief Russian-language book editor, as he continues to translate and edit several projects. Sergei's giftedness in this area has been a tremendous blessing and resource to churches across the CIS.

**29** We praise and thank the Lord for SGA's senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk. Ask the Lord to grant them continued good health, as well as many more opportunities to share the Gospel and SGA's ministries.

**30** Pray for Alex Yusov and Alex Pashkovets, who oversee SGA's missionary pastor program across the CIS. Pray also for their assistants, Shirley Davis and Mary Alice Titcomb, who facilitate communication between the pastors and their U.S. sponsors.

**31 Reflection:** Join us in concluding 2018 with the wonderful admonition of King David . . . *Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but he who trusts in the Lord, lovingkindness shall surround him. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones, and shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart* (Psalm 32:10-11).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*Struggling with diabetes . . . please pray . . .*

Altoona, Kansas

*For healing in our family . . .*

Vero Beach, Florida

*Pray for wisdom in some personal decisions . . .*

Devon, Pennsylvania

*For the repentance and salvation of loved ones . . .*

Fort Wayne, Indiana

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



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