



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:

*If the Lord had not been my help, my soul would soon have dwelt in the abode of silence. If I should say "My foot has slipped," Your lovingkindness, O Lord, will hold me up (Psalm 94:17-18).*

**1** Let us begin the new year with thanksgiving to God for His great gift of salvation . . . *But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:4-5).*

**2** Please pray for SGA president Michael Johnson. Ask God to grant him continued wisdom and direction as he leads our mission in these very challenging days.

**3** Please pray today for SGA's international offices in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Pray that God will grant them new opportunities to bring more churches and individuals into partnership, and thus more help for evangelical churches in the CIS and Eastern Europe.



**4** The SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry has eternal impact on thousands of children across Russia and her neighboring countries. Yet there are thousands more children who still need to hear of Christ's love. Pray for resources to help UECB churches expand *Orphans Reborn* to many other locations.

## RUSSIA



**5** We are thankful to the Lord for the ministry of Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Please remember him and his fellow pastors in prayer as they lead their churches in the advance of the Gospel.

**6** Please pray specifically today for evangelical churches in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan—otherwise known as the “stan” countries of Central Asia. Believers in these predominately Muslim nations face growing opposition and oppression as they seek to live faithfully in Christ.

**7** Intercede for director Valery Kazakov and SGA’s staff in Moscow. May the Lord continue to make them a blessing to the Russian evangelical churches we serve, as they are to SGA missionaries who must travel across Russia’s 11 time zones.

**8** Lift the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary in prayer today. Ask for God’s wisdom as satellite learning opportunities expand across Russia, as well as continued development of curriculum.

**9** Pray for Igor Dengin, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor serving in Russia’s Nizhny Novgorod region. Igor is involved in fruitful youth outreach as well as drug rehab ministry and prison ministry.

## BELARUS



**10** Intercede in prayer today for SGA’s Minsk Regional Ministry Center (RMC) staff, led by director Piotr Podrez. Our RMCs are an important ministry resource for the churches we serve, encouraging them and helping to equip them with what they need for effective ministry.

**11** Pray for the faculty, staff and students of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. The spring term of study lies ahead, with hundreds of eager students preparing for service as pastors, church-planters, music ministers and youth workers.

**12** SGA vice president Eric Mock and his wife Kristi encouraged the hearts of several missionary pastors and their wives last summer during a ministry conference in Belarus. We praise God that these faithful servants were able to come . . . *in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest* . . . (Romans 15:32).

**13** Intercede in prayer for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarussian UECB. Also lift up regional leaders across the country who serve as pastors to pastors in their area. May they encourage many hearts in their selfless ministries.

## UKRAINE



**14** Pray for SGA’s Ruslan Muratayev, who directs our mission’s RMC located in the Kiev suburb of Irpen. Ask God to grant him renewed strength and enablement to be an encouragement to Ukrainian evangelical churches.

**15** Fighting and bloodshed continues to claim lives in eastern Ukraine, where the horrific separatist war has raged since 2014. Please pray for the missionary pastors who are leading teams into the dangerous region to share the

Gospel and distribute much needed humanitarian aid provided by SGA partners.

**16** We are thankful to God for Dr. Igor Yaremchuk and the faculty of the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary. Pray with us for the funds needed to keep this and the other SGA Bible schools operating at full capacity.



**17** Lift up Pastor Valery Antonyuk in prayer as he continues to serve as president of the Ukrainian UECB. These are truly challenging days for believers in this large nation known as the “breadbasket of Europe.”

**18** Pray for missionary pastor Sergei Dvoryanov, who ministers in the villages of Tetiev and Stepovoe. Especially remember the children reached through last summer’s camp ministry as Sergei follows up with the kids and their families.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**19** Please remember our brothers and sisters across Central Asia today as they face growing pressure from hostile governments and dominant Islam. May the Lord raise up much fruit as they faithfully preach the Gospel and seek to lead their people to saving faith.

**20** Please continue to pray for SGA’s Bible director and his family in Israel. There have been an increased number of rocket attacks from Gaza, and this has made it difficult for air defenses to stop them all. Ask God to protect His people and to bring peace.

**21** In Tajikistan, Pastor Kurbanoly and his wife are reaching local children from dysfunctional families through a church-based center he has established, feeding them and teaching them how to cook. Lift them in prayer today with thanksgiving for God’s faithful provision!

**22** SGA-sponsored missionary pastors continue to discreetly visit the dangerous Caucasus regions of Chechnya and Dagestan to share the Gospel and encourage believers. Pray for their safety, and for more open doors to reach the people for Christ.

**23** Pastor Ilya Zenchenko serves as leader of the UECB in Azerbaijan. We are thankful to God for his tireless ministry and dedicated service in a nation that is very difficult for evangelical

churches. Please pray for Ilya and his family today.

**24** Join us in praising and thanking our Lord for His blessing on *Immanuel's Child* Christmas outreaches that took place last month and in December. Please pray for the follow-up ministry that most of the churches will be conducting in the aftermath of the outreaches.

**25** Remember SGA missionaries Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Florence Daneliuk, and Andrew Semenchuk in prayer today. We praise God for their decades of faithful service to Christ, and continued fruitful ministry.

**26** Provision of doctrinally sound Bible teaching remains among

SGA's top priorities across the CIS, yet funding to keep the vitally important schools operating is always a challenge. Please join us in lifting this before the Lord, with thanksgiving for what He has done.

**27** Please pray today for Sergei Omelchenko, SGA's chief Russian-language book editor. Sergei also often serves as a translator for SGA both across the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and when visiting here in North America with Russian-speaking guests.

**28 Reflection:** We close February with the humble praise of King David . . . *Your lovingkindness, O Lord, extends to the heavens, Your faithfulness reaches to the skies* (Psalm 36:5).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*Please pray for my family . . .* Dobbs Ferry, New York

*Ask for God's wisdom in future decisions . . .* Freeport, Illinois

*For health and safety in outdoor work . . .* Colorado Springs, Colorado

*Pray for a friend whose wife passed away . . .* Baltimore, Maryland

**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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