



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:

*For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline (2 Timothy 1:7).*

**1 Reflection:** Let us begin the new month pondering the prophet Jeremiah's admonition . . . *Why should any living mortal, or any man, offer complaint in view of his sins? Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord (Lamentations 3:39-40).*

**2** Please remember SGA president Michael Johnson in prayer today. Last month was very busy in terms of travel and meeting with several ministry partners. Pray for ongoing health and strength.

**3** Continue to pray for evangelical churches across Russia and her neighboring countries as they follow up with children reached during *Immanuel's Child* Christmas outreaches. May many come to saving faith in the Lord Jesus!

**4** Join us today in lifting up SGA's board of directors, chaired by Pastor Rick Goertzen. May God grant them continual wisdom as they guide our mission in the midst of an ever-changing economy and ministry conditions overseas.



## RUSSIA



**5** Lift in prayer Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Pressure is increasing on evangelical churches across Russia, and the Lord's clear direction and leading are needed more than ever in the days ahead.

**6** Valery Kazakov has led SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) staff for many years. We are thankful to the Lord for our Moscow team and the service they perform on a daily basis for the glory of Christ. Please pray for them daily.

**7** Late last year, Russia's Constitutional Court ruled that private homes may be used for religious services after a believer in Novorossiysk sued over being fined. It

remains to be seen how this ruling will affect religious freedom overall, so please keep praying in the days ahead.

**8** Gregori Nazarkin is an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in Russia's Volgograd region. This year they plan to begin a church remodeling and construction project, which will enhance their outreach. Please lift them in prayer as things progress.

**9** Youth ministry continues to grow in Russian evangelical churches, for which we are thankful to God. Pray for national youth leader Vitaly Zanin. Ask the Lord to grant him wisdom and direction as he helps local churches build their youth ministries for maximum Gospel impact.

**10** Pray for *Reach Russia Now*, the SGA-sponsored evangelistic and church-planting initiative presently focused in the Far East. The territory to be reached is huge, and many more faithful men need to be raised up and trained to go!

## UKRAINE



**11** Please pray today for SGA's Kiev RMC staff, led by director Ruslan Muratayev. We praise and thank the Lord for Ruslan and our dedicated team, and for their joyful service to churches across Ukraine.

**12** SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Ivan Drobot ministers in the Kitsmansky and Zastavna regions of Ukraine and helps conduct training for young pastors who are beginning their ministries. We praise

and thank the Lord for Ivan's fruitful service!

**13** Join us in interceding for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary, led by Dr. Igor Yaremchuk. Pray for the Lord's ongoing blessing on the students as they study God's Word and prepare for ministry.

**14** Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. Also intercede in prayer for the regional pastors across Ukraine as they support and oversee local ministry.

**15** Despite continued calls and meetings to try and end the six-year-old conflict in eastern Ukraine, bloodshed and fighting are ongoing. Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors and the teams they lead into the region, asking for their protection as humanitarian aid is distributed to afflicted families.

## BELARUS



**16** Even with harsh restrictions imposed on evangelical churches by the government, the faithful churches of Belarus continue to have fruitful ministry with many won to Christ. Ask for God's

continued blessing and provision for their ministries through our mission.

**17** Pastor Leonid Mihovich carries dual responsibilities as president of the Belarussian UECB and leader of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary. Please remember him and his family in prayer today.

**18** Pray for SGA's Minsk RMC staff, directed by Piotr Podrez. Also please pray for his family, most of whom are also involved in fruitful ministries through their churches. We praise the Lord for their diligent example and faithful service.

**19** It is only a few short months before summer begins, and our missionary pastors in Belarus will be conducting their summer camp ministries. This is an especially fruitful season for Pastor Pavel in the Vitebsk region. Please pray in advance for his outreaches.

**20** Please continue to pray for the SGA-sponsored Little Pearl Diagnostic Camp near Kobrin, Belarus. Ask the Lord to provide increased resources for the camp to reach even more children for Christ, and to help them with their health needs.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**21** Occasionally, news stories will come out of Uzbekistan regarding increased pressure on religious groups, including evangelical churches. Please intercede for our brothers and sisters there, asking for

God's continual watchcare.

**22** In the Caucasus Mountains, regions like Chechnya and Dagestan can be very dangerous for evangelical outreach due to the dominant Muslim culture. Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors who discreetly visit these regions with the Gospel.

**23** Israel continues to endure barrages of rocket fire from terrorists in the neighboring Gaza Strip. Pray for SGA's director of Bible training in Israel and his family as they are frequently in the line of fire.

**24** Please lift up Kazakh UECB leader Franz Tissen and his fellow pastors across Kazakhstan. Although there has been a governmental change in the country, it remains to be seen what impact, if any, this will have on religious freedom.

**25** Poverty and hunger are serious problems in Central Asian nations such as Tajikistan. Pray with us for the resources to help local believers not only with their own needs, but also to be able to reach out to others with humanitarian aid and the Gospel.

**26** We praise the Lord for His provision for the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. Pray today for director Alexander Karyakov, the faculty and students.

**27** Please intercede today for SGA's international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand. We praise and thank the Lord for His gracious provision, and the impact these ministries continue to have for the sake of the Gospel.

**28** Although senior SGA missionary Ruth Deyneka Erdel does not travel overseas as she once did, the Lord has opened a new door of ministry for her—writing! We are thankful to the Lord for Ruth's decades of service to Christ, and for the encouragement she has been to women in Russian evangelical churches through the years.

**29** SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry continues to be a vital ministry component across the Commonwealth of Independent States. As missionary pastors distribute food and other aid, doors are opened for the Gospel to be shared. Pray for more opportunities!

**30** Please remember the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn*



ministry in prayer today. We are praying for expansion into even more locations, especially in Russia's vast, unreached Far East.

**31 Reflection:** We close March with the encouragement of the prophet Isaiah . . . *Therefore the Lord longs to be gracious to you, and therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; how blessed are those who long for Him (Isaiah 30:18).*

## Partner Prayer Requests

*I need surgery but there are concerns due to age. Pray for God's wisdom . . .*  
Millersburg, Ohio

*Battling fatigue and need encouragement . . .*  
Merritt Island, Florida

*Our family has been hit with illnesses . . .*  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

*An unspoken request . . .*  
Brooksville, Pennsylvania

*For our sons' salvation . . .*  
Belvidere, Illinois

**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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