



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 the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the son of God . . .*  
(Ephesians 4:12-13).

**1 Reflection:** We begin April with the prophet's earnest plea . . . *I know, O Lord, that a man's way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps. Correct me, O Lord, but with justice; not with Your anger, or You will bring me to nothing* (Jeremiah 10:23-24).

**2** We praise and thank God for all of SGA's faithful ministry partners across North America and around the world. You are helping to advance the Gospel across Russian-speaking lands and are a constant encouragement to our brothers and sisters there.

**3** SGA president Michael Johnson must travel frequently across North America and in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as part of his leadership responsibilities. Please continually lift him in prayer, asking for God's protection and that Michael will be a blessing to our ministry partners.

**4** Please pray for SGA receptionist Anna Mazzari, who joined the SGA team last year. Her voice is often the first one our partners hear when

they call our mission to inquire about our ministries.

## RUSSIA



**5** Pray today for Pastor Eduard Genrikh, president of the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary. Pray also for the students and faculty as they explore the riches of God's Word together.

**6** The political situation in Russia may be undergoing significant changes in the wake of a constitutional revision proposal made earlier this year by Russian president Vladimir Putin.



Please intercede for evangelical churches in Russia, as the potential impacts on religious freedom are as yet unknown.

**7** Please pray for Anatoly Chernodchuk, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor who serves in Birobidzhan (Russia's Jewish Autonomous Region). The Lord protected him from serious injury in a major auto crash the week before Christmas, for which we are thankful. May God protect Anatoly and his fruitful ministry in this challenging region!

**8** Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Also lift up the seven regional vice presidents who are responsible for vast territory across Russia's 11 time zones.

**9** Lift up SGA's faithful Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) staff, led by Valery Kazakov. May the Lord encourage their hearts and provide for their needs as they serve Him in Russia's enormous capital city.



## UKRAINE



**10** Join us in intercession for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical

Seminary near the Ukrainian capital of Kiev. We praise and thank God for His blessing on this wonderful school and their firm commitment to sound biblical doctrine.

**11** Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. Pray also for the regional pastors who oversee churches across the country's 24 oblasts. These are challenging days in Ukraine with the violent conflict in the east still unsettled. The nation needs the peace and reconciliation that only Christ can bring.

**12 Easter Sunday:** *Why do you seek the living One among the dead? He is not here, but He has risen* (Luke 24:5-6). Western nations observe Easter today, while Eastern Orthodox countries observe it the following Sunday. We praise and glorify our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, who purchased the salvation of His people through His death, burial, and resurrection! Join us in thanksgiving today!

**13** Please continue in prayer for Ruslan Muratayev and the staff of SGA's Kiev RMC. Also pray for Sergei Omelchenko—SGA's chief Russian-language book editor who is also stationed in Ukraine. We are thankful to God for our Ukraine team and their diligent, faithful service to Christ!

**14** Compassion Ministry is a vitally important outreach for many SGA-sponsored missionary pastors and their churches in Ukraine, opening doors for the Gospel among needy families. Ask for God's ongoing provision for food and other needed aid.

**15** Just two more months and it will be time for summer camp season across Ukraine and the other CIS nations. Pray today for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Yevgeny Kupchenko, who was able to hold fruitful regional camp ministries last year.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**16** Please continue intercession for SGA's director of Bible training and his family in Israel as the danger from terror groups launching attacks from the Gaza Strip always looms. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

**17** Pray for believers in Tajikistan's Kulyab region, and their wonderful, effective outreach among orphan and homeless children in the city. Ask for God's protection as ministry in the Muslim Central Asian countries is very difficult and must be discreet.

**18** Pray for Mekhman, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor who serves in a very difficult region in the Caucasus. He encounters significant opposition yet continues to share the Gospel with joy and love.

**19** Pray for Pastor Franz Tissen, president of the UECB in Kazakhstan. Pray also for his fellow pastors across the country, and in Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. The needs of the churches are great, and we are thankful for God's provision to serve them.

**20** Stepan Saryan is an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor

in Armenia, and carries out a fruitful ministry with home groups, prayer meetings, youth and children's services, and much more. Please lift him and his family in prayer today.

**21** Pray for the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. Despite pressure from government and groups hostile to the Gospel, they remain committed to teaching and proclaiming the Word of God to their people.

## BELARUS



**22** Pray today for Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. We are thankful for the steadfast encouragement and resources they provide for evangelical churches across Belarus.

**23** Lift Pastor Sergei in Belarus' Mogilev region in prayer today. He has a very fruitful ministry with summer camps, Compassion Ministry, youth outreach, and other ministries. We are thankful for Sergei and his faithful congregation, and their zeal for the Gospel!

**24** Please intercede for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarussian UECB. Ask the Lord to grant him and his fellow pastors wisdom and direction in their daily oversight and ministry responsibilities.

**25** Join us in thanksgiving for the opportunities SGA Bible teacher Dr. Roman Dechtiarenko has to teach at the Minsk Theological Seminary in Belarus. We also praise and thank God for His gracious provision for this strategic Bible

school at the heart of Eastern Europe.

**26** Pray for SGA/Canada director Bill Ball and his assistant Sue Petten. May the Lord raise up more Canadian churches to partner in advancing the Gospel across Russia and her neighboring countries.

**27** While the internet provides great opportunities to reach more people with the Gospel, it can also carry significant security risks overseas. Please remember our Advancement team in prayer as they maintain responsibility for this area of communication.

**28** Pray today for SGA's board of directors, led by chairman Dr. Rick Goertzen. Pray also for the boards

of SGA international offices in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

**29** Please remember SGA's international offices in prayer today—Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand. May the Lord encourage their hearts today and provide the resources they need for their ongoing ministries.

**30 Reflection:** We conclude the month pondering our glorious Savior and what He did for us . . . *Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people* (Hebrews 2:17).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*For the salvation of my children and grandchildren . . .*

Kodiak, Alaska

*Pray for my health and family concerns . . .*

Springdale, Arkansas

*Pray for loved ones with substance abuse and health issues . . .*

Olanta, Pennsylvania

*I have an unspoken request . . .*

Galion, Ohio

*For more ministry opportunities . . .*

Elk Grove, California

**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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