Prayer & Praise

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:
As for me, I shall call upon God, and the Lord will save me (Psalm 55:16).

1 Reflection: Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God (2 Corinthians 7:1).

2 Pray for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors as they follow up with all those who heard the Gospel last month during Easter outreaches. Pray for fruitful discussions and further discipleship for those who are hungry to grow in their walk with the Lord.

3 Lift up SGA’s leadership team—President Michael Johnson, along with chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky and Eric Mock, vice president of ministry operations. Ask the Lord to grant them wisdom as they oversee our mission’s work.

4 Intercede for SGA’s international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia. Ask the Lord to raise up more churches and individuals to support Gospel work in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

5 While SGA no longer does book sales in North America, our partners still help fund the printing of Bibles and Christian books in the Russian language as necessary. Join us in thanksgiving to God for the impact these resources continue to have in countless lives.

6 The Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB) today has more than 1,800 congregations across the country’s 11 time zones. Please remember UECB president Dr. Piotr Mitskevich in prayer as he carries out his day to day leadership responsibilities.

7 National Day of Prayer: Please join with the SGA staff today in prayer for the advance of the Gospel in all nations. I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations (Psalm 57:9).

8 Pray for director Valery Kazakov and the staff at SGA’s Moscow RMC as they serve churches and provide much-needed resources to congregations across all Russia.

9 SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Pavel Kopmar has a fruitful youth ministry in Russia’s Udmurtia region. Some youth have been helping the
church develop a website outreach, for which they are thankful. Please lift him and his congregation in prayer today.

10 Lift up Vitaly Zanin, who serves as national youth director for the Russian UECB. God has tremendously blessed youth ministry, with more than 20,000 young people involved through churches across the country.

We thank God for the staff of SGA's Kiev RMC, led by director Ruslan Muratayev. May the Lord encourage their hearts as they serve churches across Ukraine.

12 Pray for the faculty and students at the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary as they prepare for the upcoming summer break. Pray especially for the students who will be doing summer practicums as additional learning experiences.

13 Lift SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Sergei Yakimenko in prayer as he leads an effective children's and youth outreach through sports in Ukraine's Bobritsya region. Sergei also has had opportunities to lead prayer breakfasts involving city officials and other local leaders.

14 Ask for God's ongoing provision as evangelical churches in Ukraine reach out to needy families through SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry. A gift of food or other aid frequently opens the door for an opportunity to share the Gospel!

15 Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. With the unresolved armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, these continue to be days of great uncertainty and tension in the country. Ask for God's abundant wisdom to be supplied.

16 News media around the world have reported on recent meetings between Belarusian president Alexander Lukashenko and Western leaders. Pray with us that this thaw in relations will lead to greater freedom for churches to proclaim the Gospel.

17 Pray for the Belarusian UECB as they prioritize the training of pastors, preachers and Sunday school teachers this next year. Pray for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarusian UECB, as he oversees these initiatives.

18 Pray for director Piotr Podrez and his staff at SGA's Minsk RMC. We praise and thank the Lord for their opportunity to support and encourage evangelical churches across Belarus, and to provide them with ministry resources.

19 Please lift the faculty and students of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary in prayer today. Provision of doctrinally sound Bible training remains SGA's highest priority.

20 As is the case with many other churches across Belarus and the former Soviet Union, UECB churches in the Gomel region will be holding summer camp ministries from June through August. Pray for Pastor Vladimir and church workers as they plan this year's children's outreaches.

21 Lift SGA's director of Bible training in Israel in prayer along with his family. Southern Israel has again been the recipient of rocket attacks from terrorists in the neighboring Gaza Strip. Pray for their safety amid these constant dangers.

22 Please intercede for workers in children's ministries and outreaches in the central Asian countries as summer approaches.

23 Intercede for Vadim, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in the Central Asian nation of Tajikistan. Vadim's church carries out periodical Compassion Ministry with needy families in his region, and this provides openings to share Christ's love.

24 Continue to pray for the faculty and students at Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. SGA partners have faithfully helped sponsor this solid Bible school for many years, and it is having eternal impact through its pastoral students and graduates.

25 Pray for Dr. Levan, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor and medical doctor in the Caucasus nation of Georgia. We praise the Lord for Levan's faithful ministry and heart for evangelism in a country that can be very difficult for outreach.

26 We thank the Lord for the dedicated staff in SGA's accounting department, led by chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky. May the Lord encourage their hearts today as they continue to faithfully serve Christ.

27 Lift up Bill Ball, director of SGA/Canada, and his assistant Sue Petten as they serve Canadian evangelical churches, connecting them with opportunities to advance the Gospel across Russia and her neighboring countries.

28 We thank and praise God for SGA's senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk—and the examples their lives have been, and
even now as they continue to impact many lives for eternity.

29 Join us in thanksgiving for the charitable foundations that help underwrite a portion of SGA’s ministries each year. Pray that the Lord will help us find and make fruitful connections with new foundations that have a heart for reaching the lost for Christ in the CIS.

30 We are thankful to God for you—all of SGA’s faithful partners in ministry who help support us and pray for us each day. Please let us know how we can pray for you—our staff meets in daily prayer groups to intercede for our partners and ministries.

31 Reflection: We close May with the Apostle Peter’s fervent prayer . . . so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:7).

Partner Prayer Requests

For continued recovery from illness . . .
Aberdeen, Washington

My husband is battling cancer . . .
Crawfordsville, Indiana

For healing of broken relationships in family . . .
Floral Park, New York

Pray for employment opportunities . . .
Mobile, Alabama

Please pray for my mother’s health . . .
Hessel, Michigan

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