



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 He Himself is our peace . . .
(Ephesians 2:14).

1 Reflection: We begin this new month with King David's praise of our God and Father . . . *Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips will praise You. So I will bless You as long as I live* (Psalm 63:3-4).

2 SGA president Michael Johnson, our leadership team, and board of directors continue to meet in strategic planning sessions to chart the long-term course of our ministries. Please lift them in prayer, asking for God's ongoing wisdom and direction.

3 As Russian believers prepare for Easter, the holiest day on their calendar, please pray in advance for the many evangelistic outreaches and opportunities this wonderful day affords. Also pray for ongoing follow-up ministry that will take place throughout the year.

4 Easter Sunday (Paskha in Russia): *Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen, He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him* (Mark 16:6). We praise and thank our Lord Jesus Christ, who paid the price for our sins on the cross, and gloriously rose again for our

justification! *Christos Voskres* (Christ is Risen)!

RUSSIA



5 As part of the Russian Baptist Union's leadership structure, there are seven regional vice presidents who help oversee huge areas of territory across Russia's 11 time zones. Please pray for these faithful pastors as they serve and encourage the evangelical churches in their regions.



6 Continue to pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Ministry conditions are rapidly changing across Russia and the other former Soviet countries, and much wisdom is needed.

7 Sergei Volokitin is an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in

Russia's Kaluga region south of Moscow, which has many different ethnic groups including Roma. Pray for Sergei and his church as they share Christ's love in a variety of ways.

8 Even with the advance of vaccines for coronavirus, the COVID-19 pandemic's effects continue to cause great burdens for many families. Intercede for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors as they deliver much-needed food aid and the Gospel to the needy in their regions.

9 We praise and thank the Lord for SGA's dedicated team at our Regional Ministry Center (RMC) in Moscow. Pray for director Valery Kazakov and the staff today as they joyfully serve in Russia's huge capital city.

UKRAINE



10 Intercede in prayer for Dr. Igor Yaremchuk, president of the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary in Ukraine. Also pray for the students as the spring term progresses and the time for summer practicum ministry approaches.

11 Please lift the staff of SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) in prayer as they continue to serve Bible-preaching churches in Ukraine. We are thankful to the Lord for director Ruslan Muratayev and his dedicated staff.

12 Join us in praising the Lord for the SGA-sponsored *Orphans Reborn* ministry in Ukraine and the other former Soviet countries. Our partners are helping faithful church workers minister Christ's love to

thousands of children in 153 orphanages and children's homes across Russia and her neighboring countries.

13 Pray for Mikhail Hvisdun, an SGA-sponsored missionary pastor in Ukraine as he recovers from health challenges and undergoes physical rehab. He still continues his ministry visiting numerous villages with youth from the church, and we thank the Lord for his zeal and commitment to the Gospel.

14 SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry and food distribution to needy families continues to be a significant outreach for missionary pastors in Ukraine and Belarus. Join us in thanking God for His provision in meeting physical needs, as well as opening Gospel doors.



BELARUS



15 Since the controversial presidential election in Belarus last August, political turmoil has been ongoing with severe crackdowns by the authorities on protests. In the meantime, the churches SGA serves

are focused on sharing the Gospel and the love of Christ. Please lift our brothers and sisters in prayer today.

16 Pray today for Piotr and Dima Podrez, and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. Ask for God's protection of their health and ministries during these challenging days in Belarus.

17 The SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary is led by Pastor Leonid Mihovich, who also serves as president of the UECB in Belarus. Join us in praying for the students and faculty, and in thanking the Lord for their commitment to sound biblical truth.

18 Pray for Pastor Dmitri, who serves in Belarus' Grodno region. He has been visiting needy families in his region with food parcels and sharing the Gospel in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are thankful for the open doors being created to share the love of Christ.

19 Even though it is spring, follow-up ministry is still taking place from the SGA-sponsored *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministries. Please pray that God will open many more hearts for the Gospel as the children and their families are visited.

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

20 Pastor Kamil is the leader of the UECB in the Central Asian nation of Tajikistan. Believers there encounter many difficulties due to government opposition and severe

poverty. Please lift this faithful brother, his family, and the churches he serves in prayer today.

21 Intercede in prayer for SGA's director of Bible training in Israel as he continues to travel across the country for classes with Russian-speaking immigrants. Pray for open hearts to receive the Gospel of Israel's true Messiah—the Lord Jesus Christ.

22 Soon it will be time for SGA-sponsored summer camp ministries in the Central Asian nations, as well as the European countries of the former Soviet Union. Ask for God's increased provision to reach many more children with the Gospel this year!

23 The COVID-19 pandemic has hit hard in the country of Georgia, as well as the other nations of the Caucasus region. Please pray for SGA-supported missionary pastors like Dr. Levan in Georgia, who maintains a medical ministry in addition to his church pastorate.

24 Pray today for Alexander Karyakov, director of the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. Ask for God's continued provision of resources to help train as many future pastors as possible for ministry across Central Asia.

25 Azerbaijan is a former Soviet Caucasus nation that is largely Islamic and difficult for evangelical Christian ministry. Pray for Pastor Mekhman and his faithful church as they share Christ's love in a country that needs the Gospel so desperately.

26 As always, please pray for SGA's active senior

missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Florence Daneliuk, and Andrew Semenchuk. May the Lord continue to grant them health and strength as they serve Him in the days ahead.

27 Lift SGA vice president Eric Mock in prayer today. Eric oversees our mission's ministry operations across the CIS, as well as our church relations ministries in North America. May the Lord grant him health and strength in the midst of his many responsibilities.

28 Intercede in prayer for your local church pastor and staff today. We are thankful to our God and Father for the many faithful churches across North America that share our burden for evangelism across the lands of

Russia, in addition to their zeal for the Gospel here at home.

29 Pray for SGA's international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia. Ask for increased resources for ministry and more partner churches to get involved in what the Lord is doing in the former Soviet Union.

30 **Reflection:** We conclude April with the admonishment of the prophet Hosea . . . *Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them. For the ways of the Lord are right, and the righteous will walk in them* (Hosea 14:9).

Partner Prayer Requests

For family relationships and health . . .

Livermore, California

I am facing serious health problems . . .

Hitchcock, Texas

Pray for family battling COVID-19 . . .

Carterville, Illinois

For God's wisdom in finances and His peace . . .

Harwich, Massachusetts

Praising God for a good surgery outcome . . .

Pound, Wisconsin

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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