



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:

*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).*

**1 Reflection:** In this new year, we are thankful to show our love for Christ by loving one another . . . As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God (1 Peter 4:10).

**2** Given the severity of winter in the former Soviet Union, SGA-supported Compassion Ministry is all the more important as the churches face many requests for help from needy families. Pray for increased resources to provide food parcels and other aid where it is needed the most.

**3** Pray for Bill Ball, director of SGA/Canada, and Sue Petten, his assistant. We praise and thank the Lord for our Canadian team, their supporting partners and churches who help make much ministry possible.

**4** Pray for SGA's leadership team comprised of our president, Michael Johnson, chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky, and vice presidents Eric Mock and Garland Gould. Ask for God's continued guidance and wisdom as they oversee SGA's ministries in the CIS and in the US.

## UKRAINE



**5** Please pray for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary, led by Dr. Igor Yaremchuk. Also lift up the Bible institute students enrolled through Irpen as they work to complete their diplomas.



**6** The armed conflict in eastern Ukraine has dragged on for nearly eight years. Pray for an end to the bloodshed, and for the churches SGA serves in the region as they reach out to needy families whose lives have been shattered.

**7 Eastern Christmas:** Pray for the many children and families across the former Soviet Union who will be hearing the Gospel today through SGA-sponsored *Immanuel's Child* outreaches. May many come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

**8** Pray for the staff of SGA's Kiev Regional Ministry Center (RMC) today. Director Ruslan Muratayev and his team are in a busy season with *Immanuel's Child* outreaches taking place, as is the case with all of our RMCs in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

**9** Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Join us in thanksgiving for this faithful brother and his dedicated service to Christ and His faithful churches in Ukraine.

**10** Intercede for SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Ivan as he makes home visits in his own village and other villages in his region. These visits are wonderful opportunities to share the Gospel and deliver compassionate aid to needy families.

## RUSSIA



**11** Pray for Pastor Eduard Genrikh, who leads the SGA-supported Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary. Also lift up the

students who will be graduating this coming year and entering into lifetimes of ministry.

**12** Please lift up SGA-supported missionary pastor Yakov, who serves in Russia's Far East. Travel and evangelism is a significant part of Yakov's ministry, and we are thankful for the many opportunities God is providing.

**13** Lift up the staff of SGA's Moscow RMC, led by Valery Kazakov. They are thankful to serve evangelical churches across Russia, providing valuable resources and encouragement to many ministries.

**14** Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian UECB. Piotr also serves as leader of Moscow Seminary, and keeps a heavy travel schedule as part of his oversight duties. May the Lord encourage his heart today!

**15** The SGA-sponsored *Antioch Initiative* has had a tremendous impact in Yakutsk and other regions, providing solid Bible training to pastors and church workers. Join us in thanksgiving for God's faithful provision.

## BELARUS



**16** Leonid Mihovich serves as the current president of the Belarussian UECB. Pray that God will grant Leonid and his fellow pastors boldness and discernment as they serve the churches during these difficult days in Belarus.

**17** Join us in praising God for the SGA-sponsored Minsk

Theological Seminary. We rejoice with thanksgiving for the 24 students who graduated last term, and pray that God will use them mightily in building His church!

**18** Intercede for missionary pastor Valery, who serves in southern Belarus. Pray especially for the puppet ministry with children as well as individual Bible studies he is holding with local families.

**19** Pray for director Piotr Podrez and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. Piotr, his son Dima, and the staff are also deeply involved in the ministries of their local churches, and having tremendous impact for the Gospel.



**20** Belarus is a key center for SGA-sponsored Compassion Ministry to needy families. Pray that the missionary pastors distributing food and other aid will find open doors for the Gospel as they share Christ's love.

## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**21** The SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute has 252 enrollees

at the present time. We praise and thank God for this solid Bible school and the light of the Gospel that is shining in Kazakhstan through its students.

**22** Intercede for Pastor Franz Tissen, president of the Kazakh UECB. Ask God to grant him great wisdom as governmental pressure increases on evangelical churches in the country.

**23** The Central Asian countries of the former Soviet Union have always been difficult for ministry, and the governments there are getting ever harsher on evangelical churches. Please join us in intercession for our brothers and sisters there.

**24** Please continue to lift SGA's director of Bible training in Israel in prayer. We are thankful for the opportunities he has to teach Russian-speaking immigrants to Israel, both on an individual basis and through Israel College of the Bible.

**25** Although fighting has mostly ebbed between Azerbaijan and Armenia, the aftermath of the 2020 war continues to impact many lives. Pray for evangelical churches as they proclaim peace and reconciliation in Christ.

**26** Pray today for Pastor Oleg Shevkunov, leader of the UECB churches in Uzbekistan. May the Lord bless and encourage Oleg and his fellow pastors as they serve in a very challenging ministry environment.

**27** Pray today for Lana Yusov, SGA's director of children's ministries. As a former schoolteacher in the Soviet Union, Lana takes great

joy in serving evangelical churches as they reach young boys and girls with the Gospel.

**28** Remember to regularly pray for SGA's international offices in the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. COVID restrictions have been especially severe in Australia, and we pray that the ministries of the churches will not be hindered.

**29** We thank God for SGA's senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Andrew Semenchuk, and Florence Daneliuk. May the Lord continue to bless them with new

opportunities to lovingly share the Gospel where God has placed them.

**30** SGA is privileged to sponsor nearly 350 missionary pastors across the CIS, and many more are needed. Join us in asking the Lord to raise up more faithful men and their families who are able to serve.

**31 Reflection:** As we conclude January, let us ponder the wonderful promise of God for His people . . . *For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind* (Isaiah 65:17).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*Pray for encouragement and strength, and to be faithful . . .*

Lynnwood, Washington

*I recently broke both legs . . . pray for healing . . .*

Spring, Texas

*For my daughter's health situation . . .*

Rockford, Illinois

*Pray for the salvation and health of loved ones . . .*

Battle Creek, Michigan

*Please pray for a better housing situation . . .*

Salisbury, 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.**



Slavic Gospel Association  
6151 Commonwealth Drive  
Loves Park, Illinois 61111  
815-282-8900 ♦ sga.org



Slavic Gospel Association ♦ Canada  
766 Old Hespeler Road, Suite #204  
Cambridge, ON N3H 5L8  
519-621-3553 ♦ www.sgacanada.ca