



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:

Praise the Lord, all nations; laud Him, all peoples! For His lovingkindness is great toward us (Psalm 117:1-2).

1 Reflection: We start the new month with the words of praise penned by the Prophet Isaiah . . . *I will rejoice greatly in the Lord, my soul will exult in My God; for He has clothed me with garments of salvation . . . (Isaiah 61:10).*

2 At SGA, the coming weeks will be very busy working on budgets for the next fiscal year, which starts on July 1. Please lift up our various departments, especially accounting, as we work through all the planning and details.

3 While the COVID-19 pandemic has curtailed some travel for SGA president Michael Johnson and other team members, we are thankful for the opportunities they still have to personally encourage our brothers and sisters across the former Soviet Union. Pray that this pandemic will end soon and that ministry will not be hindered.

government continues to change laws and regulations on Christian schools, pray for seminary president Eduard Genrikh and his team, asking for God's abundant wisdom.

5 Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich and the leadership of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Ask God to encourage their hearts in the midst of these challenging days.

6 Valery S. is an SGA-supported missionary pastor in Russia's Far East. Please intercede in prayer for their ongoing church construction project, and for their fruitful Compassion Ministry. We are thankful to God for their loving, faithful testimony.

7 We praise the Lord for SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC) team, led by Valery Kazakov. The past couple of years have been challenging with the ongoing pandemic, yet they press on faithfully in their service to Christ and to His faithful churches.

8 Please continue to lift up the church-based drug rehab centers, crisis pregnancy centers, and similar outreaches by SGA-supported missionary pastors in Russia. Join us in praising God for the new believers

RUSSIA



4 We praise the Lord for the SGA-supported Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary in Russia. As the

who have come to faith through these ministries.



UKRAINE



9 Pray for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. In addition to Valery, there are senior pastors overseeing 26 different regions across the country. With the ongoing political turmoil in the country, these are challenging days and only the Gospel can bring ultimate hope to the people.

10 Pastor Pavel in Ukraine reports that he has agreed with a local television station to air 53 new Gospel programs over the course of the year. We praise and thank the Lord for this wonderful opportunity to proclaim Christ in Ukraine!



11 Lift Ruslan Muratayev and the staff of SGA's Kiev Regional

Ministry Center (RMC) in prayer today. Ask the Lord to protect their health and grant them strength as they serve evangelical churches across the country.

12 Join us in ongoing thanksgiving to God for the SGA-sponsored Irpen Biblical Seminary. Pray today for seminary president Dr. Igor Yaremchuk, the students, and faculty as they conclude the spring term.

13 Pray for Sergei Omelchenko, SGA's chief Russian-language book editor and in-country assistant to SGA president Michael Johnson. May the Lord encourage his heart and bless his faithful family as they serve Him in Ukraine.

BELARUS



14 Join us in praying today for Piotr and Dima Podrez, and the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC. We are thankful as always for their faithful service to Christ, and love for His church in Belarus.

15 Late last year, the Baptist church in Maryina Gorka celebrated its 100-year anniversary. Join together with us in praise and thanksgiving to God for these faithful brothers and sisters. The church is small, but their ministry is fruitful!

16 In addition to being the president of the SGA-sponsored Minsk Theological Seminary, Leonid Mihovich also serves as leader of the Belarus Union of Evangelical Christians Baptists (UECB). Please lift this faithful brother in prayer today.

17 Easter Sunday: Join us in joyful celebration of our Lord's resurrection as proclaimed by the angel . . . *Do not be afraid, 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). Kristos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres! (He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!)

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

18 Violent protests unexpectedly broke out in Kazakhstan earlier this year, with the government calling on Russia and other CIS nations to help restore order. Pray for the Bible-preaching churches we serve there, asking God to open opportunities for them to share the Gospel and model examples of God's peace.

19 Pray for Pastor Sergei Kondaurov, the new president of the Kazakh UECB. Pray also for all the SGA-sponsored missionary pastors who are laboring so faithfully to reach this predominately Muslim nation with the Gospel.

20 Pray for director Alexander Karyakov and the students of the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute. Ask God to protect the school and to expand its outreach throughout Central Asia.

21 Igor E. is an SGA-supported missionary pastor in Tajikistan. The people in the mountain region where he ministers have very hard lives, yet they respond to the love shown to them by the church and their outreaches are bearing fruit!

22 Pray for SGA's director of Bible training in Israel today. Praise God with us for the opportunities he has to disciple Russian immigrants and strengthen their congregations.

23 In addition to Kazakhstan, there are three other former Soviet republics in Central Asia — Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The population in these countries is largely Muslim, and ministry is difficult. Pray for the churches SGA serves as they proclaim Christ.

24 We still receive reports of sporadic violence in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh territory between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Pray for peace in this region, and that the churches will have increased opportunities for Gospel proclamation as they carry out Compassion Ministry to those affected.

25 Pray today for missionary pastors serving in the dangerous Russian regions of Chechnya and Dagestan. Any ministry there must be carried out very discreetly, yet God is changing lives despite the opposition.

26 Intercede for SGA's international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia. COVID-related lockdowns have been especially severe in Australia, impacting churches and their ministries. Ask for God's generous blessing and protection.

27 Intercede for SGA president emeritus Bob Provost who continues to share the SGA story with churches and key partners across

North America. We praise and thank the Lord for Bob and his wife Louetta, and for the fruit of their years of ministry.

28 Pray as always for SGA's senior missionaries—Ruth Deyneka Erdel, Florence Daneliuk, and Andrew Semenchuk. May the Lord bless and encourage their hearts today in their continued service for the sake of the Gospel.

29 Lift SGA's U.S. office staff in Loves Park, Illinois, in prayer today. Our joy is to serve the Lord and His churches—both here in North America and in the former Soviet

Union—as well as you, our faithful partners!

30 Pray for SGA's board of directors, chaired by Dr. Rick Goertzen. Ask for God's continued direction and blessing as they faithfully give of their time and help set the course of our ministry.

30 Reflection: We conclude April with the Apostle Peter's reminder . . . *The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins* (1 Peter 4:7-8).

Partner Prayer Requests

Pray for my husband as he recovers from surgery . . .

Ashton, Illinois

Please lift our prison ministry in prayer . . .

Bozeman, Montana

Many requests for loved ones . . . may they come to know Christ . . .

Hitchcock, Texas

Prayers for our nation . . .

Honesdale, Pennsylvania

For health concerns . . .

Gerber, 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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