

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:

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting (Psalm 118:29).

- **1 Reflection:** Let's begin the new month remembering the Lord's sobering caution . . . For whoever is ashamed of Me, and my Words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels (Luke 9:26).
- 2 Join us in thanksgiving for God's provision in SGA-supported Bible training ministries across the former Soviet Union. May the Lord continue and even increase our resources to help prepare many more students for lifetimes of faithful service.



3 Please pray in advance of this year's summer camp ministries supported through SGA. There are many challenges, especially in Ukraine with the ongoing impacts of an awful war.

- 4 Pray for the directors and staff of SGA's international offices in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and the United Kingdom. We are thankful to God for the opportunities He has granted to reach Russian-speakers around the world with the Gospel.
- 5 Please pray that God will continue to grant wisdom to SGA president Michael Johnson as he oversees SGA's ministries. Also intercede for our board of directors, chaired by Dr. Rick Goertzen.

RUSSIA

- 6 Pray for the students at the SGA-sponsored Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary as they wind down the spring term. Also remember them during the summer as they engage in practical ministry assignments.
- Intercede for ongoing evangelistic and church-planting ministry in Russia's Far East. Many remote towns and villages in this vast region are difficult to reach, yet are in desperate need of hearing the life-changing Gospel.
- 8 In Russian culture, church congregations that do not have their own building are viewed with suspicion, and many small churches are not able to afford construction of a church. Please lift this urgent need

Prayer & Praise April 2023

before the Lord today.

Western Easter: Why do you seek the living One among the dead? He is not here, for He is risen (Luke 24:5-6). Join us in praise and thanksgiving for the Lord Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, and glorious resurrection! Because He paid the price for our sins, we can have forgiveness, eternal life, and sweet fellowship with God.

Pray for Dr. Piotr Mitskevich, president of the Russian UECB. These are very trying days for evangelical churches across the Russian Federation, and the pastors need great wisdom from the Lord.

UKRAINE

11 Continue to intercede for SGA-sponsored missionary pastors as they distribute food and other aid to needy families whose lives have been shattered by the war. Also ask for God's continued protection as they travel amid bombardment.



12 We thank the Lord for the leadership of Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (UECB). Pray for him today, as well as for Pastor Igor Bandura, the

vice president of the Union and chief liaison to Western churches.

13 Irpen Biblical Seminary will soon be winding down the spring term of study. Please pray today for the faculty and students, continuing to ask for God's protection of both them and the Irpen campus.

14 Lift up the staff of SGA's Kiev RMC in prayer, led by director Ruslan Muratayev. Pray especially for Ruslan who has faced significant health challenges and long-term separation from his family because of the ongoing war.

15 Orthodox Easter: Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead, and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him (Matthew 28:7). Today is when Easter is celebrated across the former Soviet Union. Pray for evangelical churches as they preach the Gospel on their holiest day of the year.

BELARUS

16 As Belarus borders Ukraine, the war in their neighboring country has had significant impacts as refugees have come in and need assistance. Please pray for our brothers



and sisters in Belarus as they share Christ's love and help meet urgent needs.

17 Food distribution by missionary pastors to needy families through SGA-supported Compassion Ministry continues across the country, and the lost are being drawn to Christ through His love. We praise God for these wonderful opportunities to share the Gospel!

18 Pray today for Pastor Leonid Mihovich, president of the Belarussian UECB. We are thankful to God for Viktor's servant leadership of both the Baptist Union in Belarus as well as the SGA-supported Minsk Theological Seminary.

19 Intercede for the staff of SGA's Minsk RMC, led by Piotr Podrez. Pray also for Piotr's son Dima, who is also on staff and has a fruitful youth ministry through Golgotha Baptist Church in Minsk.

As summer gets closer, please intercede in advance for the SGA-supported Little Pearl children's diagnostic camp in Belarus. In addition to their ministry among sick children, the camp has also been involved in helping refugees from the Ukraine war.

CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

21 Lift SGA-sponsored missionary pastor Dr. Levan in prayer today as he serves in the Caucasus nation of Georgia. Through his medical clinic, Levan is able to share the Gospel with many needy families in his region.

22 Pray for the SGA-sponsored Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan, led by director Alexander Karyakov. We praise and thank God for sustaining this strategic Bible school at the heart of Central Asia.

23 Pray today for SGA's director of Bible training in Israel. More Russian-speaking families are coming to Israel from the former Soviet nations, and we thank the Lord for opportunities to share the Gospel and teach God's Word to them.



24 The former Soviet nations of Central Asia remain very challenging for ministry due to hostile governments and the influence of Islam. Pray for the advance of the Gospel to millions of people who desperately need to hear of the hope they can have in Christ.

25 Tensions continue to simmer between the nations of Armenia and Azerbaijan over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, where open warfare continues to break out periodically. Pray for a lasting peace, and for open ministry opportunities for the missionary pastors supported by SGA.

Please lift up SGA-sponsored Orphans Reborn workers across the former Soviet Union in prayer. Especially pray for the resources to expand this ministry and that the Lord will open more doors to additional orphanages.

27 Long-time SGA missionary Florence Daneliuk announced her retirement effective January 31 after 70 years on the mission field. Please continue to lift her in prayer, with deep thanksgiving to God for her faithfulness to Christ and the advance of the Gospel.

28 Pray for SGA's leadership team—our president, Michael Johnson, chief financial officer

Beverly Braunsky, Eric Mock, vice president of ministry operations, and Garland Gould, vice president of partner engagement. May the Lord continually grant His wisdom and direction in the days ahead.

29 Pray for Bill Ball, director of SGA/Canada, and his assistant Sue Petten. Our Canadian office and the churches they serve play a vital role in SGA's ministries across the former Soviet Union.

30Reflection: We close April with thanksgiving and praise to God . . . It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing praises to Your name, O most high (Psalm 92:1).

Partner Prayer Requests

Please pray for our church . . .

Acton, California

Pray for an end to the war . . .

Metairie, Louisiana

For financial concerns . . .

Waukee, Iowa

My husband recently passed . . .

Livingston, New Jersey

Praising God for recovery from COVID . . .

Burlington, North Dakota

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