



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 the Lord is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King (Jeremiah 10:10).*

**1 Reflection:** Let us begin April with the heartfelt prayer of King David . . . *But as for me, my prayer is to You, O Lord, at an acceptable time; O God, in the greatness of your lovingkindness, answer me with Your saving truth (Psalm 69:13).*



**2** In addition to his duties as SGA president, Michael Johnson is also our mission's chief development officer, overseeing efforts to raise resources in support of the churches we serve across the former Soviet Union. Please lift him in prayer today.

**3** Pray for SGA's international offices in Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia. May the Lord grant them an abundance for their ministries of service to the churches across Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

**4** Pray for retired SGA missionary Ruth Deyneka Erdel, whose

husband Paul went to be with the Lord in December. Ask for God's ongoing comfort and blessing on Ruth and her family, and as Ruth moves to Illinois to be with her daughter.

## RUSSIA



**5** The ongoing war with Ukraine has significantly heightened tensions between Russia and Western nations. It has also brought the churches we serve under great pressure as they proclaim the Gospel and pray for peace. Intercede for our brothers and sisters, asking for God's protection.

**6** Alexander is an SGA-supported missionary pastor whose church conducts ministry to women in crisis situations. Please lift him and the church team in prayer, as well as the women who are hearing the Gospel through this outreach.

**7** Pray today for director Valery Kazakov and the staff at SGA's Moscow Regional Ministry Center (RMC). We ask the Lord to encourage their hearts and increase their ministry opportunities in the days ahead.

**8** Lift up Dr. Piotr Mitskevich in prayer. As president of the Russian Baptist Union, Piotr carries great

oversight responsibilities and maintains a very heavy travel schedule as part of his ministry. We thank the Lord for this faithful brother and his family.

**9** We praise and thank God for the opportunity to support Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary. While located in central Siberia, the seminary's influence and reach stretches across vast Russia, blessing and equipping many students for ministry.



## CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS, & ISRAEL

**10** Pray for Pastor Sergei Kondaurov, president of the UECB in Kazakhstan. As ministry conditions continue to evolve across Central Asia, pray that God will grant Sergei and his fellow pastors abundant wisdom as they shepherd their churches.

**11** The past year has been fraught with conflict in the Middle East, with ongoing war between Israel, Hamas, and Hezbollah, plus the overthrow of longtime dictator Bashar Assad in Syria. Pray for the Russian-speaking congregations in Israel that SGA serves, asking for God's protection and Gospel opportunities amid the tensions.

**12** Remember to pray often for the SGA-supported Almaty Bible Institute in Kazakhstan. We praise and thank the Lord for His provision of solid Bible training for pastoral and ministry students in Central Asia.

**13** Several former Soviet countries in Central Asia continue to tighten restrictions on evangelical churches and revise religion laws. Please intercede for the faithful believers in these nations as they continue to discreetly share Christ's love with the lost.

**14** Pray today for the faculty and students of Israel College of the Bible, where SGA has the opportunity to assist Russian-speaking students enrolled in various tracks. We praise God for His faithful provision!

**15** SGA continues to support missionary pastors who discreetly take the Gospel into dangerous regions such as Chechnya and Dagestan located in Russia's Caucasus region. Pray with us for their safety, and for hearts that are open to the Gospel.

## BELARUS



**16** The Belarussian government recently announced that Russia's new Oreshnik hypersonic missile is being considered for deployment in the country. Pray with us that Belarus will not be drawn into the war in Ukraine, and for international tensions to lessen.

**17** Pray for the faculty and students at the SGA-supported Minsk Theological Seminary. Soon

the spring term will come to a close and the students will move on to summer practicum assignments as part of their coursework.

**18** Continue to pray for Lilia Podrez, wife of SGA's Minsk RMC director Piotr Podrez. Lilia has been undergoing cancer treatment since last year. The family is deeply thankful for all the prayer support from SGA partners.

**19** Dmitri, an SGA-supported missionary pastor in Belarus, has been engaged in foster family ministry in addition to the church's other fruitful ministries. Pray that the children coming into these believing families will be open to the Gospel and trust in Christ as their Savior.

**20** **Easter Sunday:** *He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures* (1 Corinthians 15:4). This year, Western churches and Eastern churches celebrate Easter on the same day today. Join us in praising God for Christ's glorious resurrection, which sealed the eternal hope of all who trust in Him for salvation!

## UKRAINE



**21** Pray today for director Ruslan Muratayev and his faithful



team at SGA's Kiev RMC. Serving in the midst of an ongoing war carries many stresses and burdens, but they remain faithfully at their posts serving Christ with joy, and for the sake of the Gospel.

**22** Please pray for ongoing children's ministries across Ukraine and the rest of the former Soviet Union, especially with camp season approaching soon. Pray in advance for the participating children, for their safety, and for hearts that are open to the Gospel.



**23** SGA-supported missionary pastors in Ukraine continue to travel into war-ravaged areas with aid for refugees and many others impacted by the war. Pray with us for traveling mercy, and for the ongoing resources that are needed for distribution.

**24** SGA has been blessed to support Irpen Biblical Seminary in Ukraine since its inception. We praise God for the many graduates who have gone on to pastoral and other church ministries since the early 1990s. Pray for even more fruit in the days ahead.

**25** Please join us in praying for Pastor Valery Antonyuk, president of the Ukrainian UECB. Also intercede for the regional church leaders across the country as they lead their fellowships amid very challenging days.

**26** We are thankful to the Lord for our ministry partners who

regularly support the ongoing provision of Bibles and Christian literature. While these resources are now obtained overseas instead of shipping them from the USA, the need remains.

**27** Pray for SGA missionary Andrew Semenchuk, who has been having some vision challenges of late. Ask for God's healing touch, and for Andrew's ongoing ministry of encouragement.

**28** SGA is in the midst of finalizing the budget for the next fiscal year, which runs from July 1 through June 30 of next year. Pray for wisdom and clarity as future ministry is planned and approved by our board.

**29** Continue to pray for SGA's executive leadership team of president Michael Johnson, chief financial officer Beverly Braunsky, senior vice president of ministry operations Eric Mock, and senior vice president of partner engagement Garland Gould. We thank the Lord for their service to Christ through our mission.

**30** **Reflection:** We end the month with the Apostle Paul's benediction . . . *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit* (Romans 15:13).

## Partner Prayer Requests

*Pray for a young believer facing her husband's terminal illness . . .*  
Columbia, Tennessee

*Prayer for our family . . .*  
Mountain View, California

*For health challenges in our family . . .*  
Velva, North Dakota

*Pray for our financial situation and health . . .*  
Loysville, Pennsylvania

*For healing from cancer . . .*  
Waxahachie, Texas

**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