



SLAVIC GOSPEL ASSOCIATION
Good News Report

SHARING THE GOSPEL ♦ EQUIPPING THE CHURCH ♦ HELPING THE FORGOTTEN

**With Your Help Last Summer,
God's Word Reached Over
77,000 at Camps.
Now We're Praying for More in 2025!**

**INSIDE: YOUR
PRAYERS AND
GIFTS AT WORK**

- ◆ Sowing and reaping at Summer Bible Camp in Mongolia—and a new church!
- ◆ “After the camp, I try to spend time with God every day.” Read the testimonies.
- ◆ Even in the spring, *Immanuel's Child* reports keep coming in!

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit . . . (MATTHEW 28:19)

“All the children were from UNBELIEVING homes.”

In Buddhist Mongolia, the Lord’s Light Shines Through Bible Camps . . . and a Church is Planted!

Alexei T.

SGA-Supported Missionary Pastor in Siberia and Far East Russia

Greetings! It is our joy to share about the **Summer Bible Camp** ministry carried out by our church team. A part of our team of nine people—eight of whom are our church youth—went on a mission trip to Mongolia. They held two camps in late July. **The first camp was run in western Mongolia in the settlement of Bayantes with about 100 children attending.** They were from several areas across the region. About 60 percent of the children were from unbelieving families, and they heard the Gospel for the first time. In this camp, 70 children prayed in repentance. Going forward, a local missionary will continue ministering to these children.

The second camp was held in Mongolia’s Uvs region. This camp became special in the way that we saw God’s guidance! In one town there are no churches, and there is not a single believer in Jesus Christ. **There had never been any children’s camps there, and all the local people follow Buddhism.** We planned to hold the camp in another village, but on the day when we got to the camp, things had to be rearranged so we held the camp in the place where we could.

In total, we had **100 to 120 children** who came, with the number of children varying every day. In



Children praying at the camp.

this camp as well, all the children were from unbelieving homes, and they heard about God as the Creator, about men sinning against God, and about the Lord Jesus Christ and His Gospel for the first time.

We do not know how many repented, as **in this camp the children prayed for the first time.** After our camp, brother Chimde remained and is going to continue communicating with children, also **planting a new church there.** One thing that happened in this village—a few years ago, a team from another city planned to hold a camp there, but the locals came up on horseback and did not let them run the camp. **But this year, the Lord changed the hearts of the locals and they let their children come to our camp without any hindrances.**

Please, **pray for the children who repented in these two camps, and for brother Chimde and his family as they plant the new church!** ♦



Children and leaders at one of the camps in Mongolia.

Thanking God and You for a Busy Summer Camp Ministry Season!

Sergei N.

SGA-Supported Regional Pastor in Russia

Editor’s note: You can get a picture of what will happen in this year’s camps by looking at last year, which Pastor Sergei describes in this fascinating account. May his report inspire you to pray and support these growing efforts *this year.*

Traditionally, summer is our time of holding **Christian camps.** God blessed me to visit the Kursk region in early July, where I took part in the camp organized by a local church that is not big, but young and very united. About a month after the camp was held, the church began to help those who lost their houses and living places due to the war with Ukraine. Together with other resources, they have been feeding more than **400 people daily.** A young Christian sister joined the church at the camp, and we baptized her. Glory be to God for the



Children’s camps held in the Kursk region.

faithfulness of the saints in different places of the earth!

Right after the ministry in Kursk, I took part in **the children’s camp organized by the Kursk churches,** which is traditionally held in a Christian center called Yolochka (Pine Tree) near Bryansk. All in all, there were more than **30 camp workers and 140 children!** Next, we held **two big meetings for teens and youth in August,** which were attended by approximately 250 people. All of us were positively exhorted in the Christian faith and to be motivated in our walk with Christ.

While serving as the senior pastor in the Kaluga region, I learned there was an urgent need to have a gathering for regional pastors and their wives. There have never been meetings held for the ministers’ families, which also need encouragement now. **It is necessary to rent a Christian center for the gathering or for a camp. Please pray for the finances needed for this.** It would be a major blessing for the families of the regional pastors. They really deserve it. Many of them have been serving the Lord for more than dozens of years. Thank you so much for your tremendous support of the ministry in the Kaluga region. May God bless you abundantly. ♦

Fruit from the Seeds You Help Sow . . .

Testimonies and Thanksgiving from 2024 Armenia Summer Camps



Participants of the summer camp.

My name is Anahit. I am 15 and I have been participating in Christian camps for several years now. But this year, **the camp was very special and exceptional for me**, because this time I really enjoyed the evening **talks we had with our mentors**. We were talking about the Word of God every night and **these talks helped me to love the Word of God and Christian fellowship**. After the camp, I try to spend time with God every day—I read and pray to Him. I am thankful to God that this year, through the camp, I grew closer to Him!

—Anahit T.

My name is Gore. I was in a Christian camp for the first time. **Everything was new and interesting to me—from Christian songs to ending each day with prayer**. It was at the camp that **I prayed to God for the first time**. I learned a lot about God and it made me consider many things in my life. **Thanks to the Christian camp, I made many believing friends, and now I talk to God through prayer**. I also try to live the way God wants me to. I am very glad and grateful to God that He gave me the opportunity to attend this Christian camp!

—Gore H.

I was born in Stepanakert. I am 21 now. Since I was little, I have been going to the Baptist church where I was brought by my late mother. As soon as our church started running children's camps, I participated in all the events. But this year, I and my fiancée Ani participated in the camp as mentors. **And I want to note that these camps, in addition to teaching children of Christian truths, bring us as the church closer together, and of course bring us even closer to God.**

Before the camp, Ani and I were not yet members of the church, though there at the camp we resolutely decided to receive water baptism. On September 1 after the camp, we were baptized. Glory be to our Lord!

—Arsen T.



Departing at the end of camp.

MUCH PRAYER, MUCH POWER IN ACTION

. . . perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will (2 Timothy 2:25-26).

A wonderful truth that we see over and over again in Christian ministry is that nobody is ever too far gone in sin for God to redeem. **His sovereign power, grace, and mercy can touch and change even the hardest of hearts, bringing them to repentance.**

From **Belarus**, Pastor Alexander sent us the story of a man like this, along with a prayer request. The man's name is Vladimir, whom Pastor Alexander says had an "unusual destiny."

"As a youth, Vladimir was devoted to sports. He practiced boxing and martial arts, winning first place standings in boxing—not only in Belarus, but also in other countries. Vladimir, or informally Volodya, said that he decided in his youth to devote his life to the devil, piercing the number 666 on his chest. In turn, the devil—whose purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy—ruined Volodya's life. He became addicted to alcohol. Then he lost his health. We used to invite him to church, and he would sometimes attend Sunday services and Bible studies. He eventually came to total devastation and lost his family. His legs began to fail. His mother died. His sister took him in, and at that moment, when we heard that he could hardly move around the room, we visited him.

We had a long talk with Volodya. He admitted that the devil and all his sins had ruined his life. We called him to repentance. It was said that even sorcerers in the days of the Apostles burned their magic books and turned to the Lord Jesus Christ. Volodya repented, asking forgiveness for his life and for his sins. The church kept praying for him. In the ministry of the church, there are moments when you come to a sick unbelieving person. You call him to repent, and he repents, and tomorrow he goes to eternity. He leaves this life being saved, like the robber on the cross. Thank God for His mercy! We



Visiting Volodya.

ask you to pray for Volodya."

We do not know how much time that Volodya has left on this earth, or whether God will choose to heal his broken body. But we rejoice with Alexander and his church over Volodya's repentance. Not only will the Lord Jesus Christ redeem and resurrect Volodya's soul, but he will also one day receive a transformed, glorified, resurrected body in which to live and serve the Lord in joy for eternity, as all will who have trusted in Him for salvation. Praise God! ♦

Going About and Doing Good Like Jesus

Evgeniy T.
SGA-Supported Missionary Pastor in Ukraine

You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good . . . (Acts 10:38).

Greetings in the Lord! Despite the war that is still ongoing in Ukraine, we continue to serve other people in need. Thanks to your prayers and support, we have the opportunity and resources to continue God's work. Our main activity of late has been aimed at helping people who have suffered from the war. I continue to do what I did before by volunteering, but with greater volume and power. The most difficult part of my ministry is to find funds for the many related programs. One example is purchasing modular houses for people whose homes have been destroyed by Russian missile attacks. Over the past two months, we have been able to build 10 such houses for people in the Kherson and Mykolaiv regions.



A couple with their new modular home.

We purchase meat and prepare food for the people in the frontline zones of Donetsk, Zaporozhe, and Kherson. We visit hospitals, providing psychological, spiritual, and physical assistance to those who have sustained disabilities. We continue to provide volunteers and chaplains with resources to help the civilian population. In addition, I got acquainted with an organization that helps women who are going through stress or a difficult period

after losing their husbands in the war. Last year, 98 women received assistance, and 22 children were born. I helped find funds to rent a room for the center, and I provide the center with baby diapers.

The situation of elderly people who are left alone by their children, who have either gone to war or gone abroad, is very difficult. Many elderly people who live alone have disabilities and cannot take care of themselves, some are bedridden and have no relatives who will take care of them. Many of them die in their closed apartments. A doctor told me that one woman had not left her apartment for a long time. When the doctor and police arrived, they broke down the door and found her lying on the bed. She was alive, but because of the wounds on her body, she was covered with worms. This is the reality of many of the lonely people with disabilities. We are currently installing five modular houses into which such people will be resettled. They will be cared for by social workers.



Providing assistance to people in need.

Recently I met a man, a volunteer and a public figure. He has many influential friends in our government. He told me, *“Evgeniy, in helping the civilian population and volunteering work, the Baptist Union churches have shown themselves to be the most active, the most courageous, the most selfless. Our government has noticed this and greatly appreciates the work of evangelical Christians.”* It is very nice to hear this. I believe that the work that we are doing together today will glorify the Lord in His time. ♦

Immanuel's Child 2024-2025

We proclaim Him . . . (Colossians 1:28).

SGA has concluded another *Immanuel's Child* Christmas ministry season across the former Soviet Union. Through the Lord's provision, the faithful churches SGA serves reached even more children—setting another record, for which we are deeply thankful. Despite the ongoing war in Ukraine plus some opposition in other former Soviet nations, God greatly blessed these fruitful outreaches. Thank you for your prayers and generous gifts, which helped make it all possible. Be blessed and encouraged as you rejoice with us!

IC Reaches More Children than Ever!

Children Reached	65,608
Children from Unbelieving Families . . .	49,068
Children Repented	2,594
Adults Reached	20,099
Adults Repented	462
Adults Starting Church Attendance	1,504
Children Starting Sunday School	4,377
Number of Churches	853



(Top R) IC outreach in Russia; (Above L to R) IC outreach in Ukraine; IC outreach in Belarus.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Summer camp in Ukraine.

It is only **two months** before SGA-supported **Summer Bible Camp ministries** begin in the former Soviet Union. **These outreaches continue through August, and tens of thousands of children and teenagers hear the Gospel as a result.** We are so deeply thankful for your support of these fruitful ministries, along with our other ministries of Bible training, Christian literature provision, Compassion Ministry, other children's outreaches such as **Orphans Reborn** and

Immanuel's Child, missionary pastor sponsorship, and so much more. Please be in prayer about how you can help reach our goal of ministry to **80,000 children!** ♦

Insight FROM MICHAEL

At Summer Bible Camps, children meet the Savior. God uses your gifts to bring His truth and love to girls and boys.

One of the highlights for me every summer is seeing all the wonderful reports that come in from the churches SGA serves across the former Soviet Union regarding their annual camp ministries. **The reports cover all sorts of different regions, different people groups, different cultural considerations, and different challenges for the hosting churches.** Some of the hurdles they face are financial, while others might be in regions where Christian ministry encounters opposition from legal authorities or other religious groups who oppose it.



No matter what the challenges, the churches—by God's grace and provision—rise to meet them. Their goal is **obedience to Christ in sharing the Gospel**, and their resourcefulness in carrying out His Great Commission is truly inspiring. And the story is told not only by written reports and videos—but also the **beautiful photographs we receive.**

They vividly show **the joy of the children** as they participate in the many fun activities of camp, but also **hear of the Lord Jesus Christ and His great love for them.** They hear well-taught lessons from Scripture—biblical truths that apply in living out their daily lives. **We see in the written notes of the children how thankful they are to be able to participate in these camps.** Even some who might have attended reluctantly and were a discipline problem at the beginning come around by the end. They not only don't want to leave, but they also want to come back again the next summer!

None of this would be possible without you—our partners in ministry. Your faithful prayers help sustain this work, as well as your generous financial support. We are thankful that you have been so blessed by the fruit of these outreaches, and frequently share that with us. **Please join me and the rest of the SGA family as we intercede in prayer ahead of the summer season.** There is still much to do for the churches as they prepare. Pray with us that we will be able to help as many children attend camp as possible, and that God will open many young hearts to the Gospel. Thank you in advance!

For our Savior,

Michael Johnson
President



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Good News Report is published to report religious news about Russia, the rest of the CIS and the ministries of:

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