

Mission 1910

Winter/Spring Quarterly 2006

+7 (921) 323-7181 cell +7 (812) 529-27 86 home email: mission1910@hotmail.com

Mission update

Once again I'd like to thank you for your prayers and support during my medical leave to the States in November and December. I am thankful for God's healing touch and my complete recovery.

It has been a long winter here in St. Petersburg and throughout Russia. The temperatures plummeted on several occasions to 30 degrees below zero and even 40 degrees below zero, a first for me. I have had the privilege of experiencing 20 degrees below zero, but 35 degrees below zero is altogether different. :o)

Some of you may have experienced this type of cold, but for those of you who haven't I'll give you an idea of how cold 35 degrees below zero is.

One day while returning to the flat, I stopped to buy a two liter Sprite. I left the store and continued the seven minute walk to the flat, once inside I gasped as I looked at the Sprite, it was half frozen!!!

During this frigid cold, which lasted almost two weeks, people deserted the streets, shut down shops, closed schools, and abandoned their winter games such as skiing, ice hockey, ice skating, and searched for anything that would keep them warm.

However, the commitment the Christians displayed awed me – church services were not cancelled! The meeting place was full in spite of the fact that we had to wear our coats because it is too expensive to provide that much heat for the hall.

Praise God for seasons and now we are moving, albeit slowly but nonetheless moving, towards spring. :o)

The other day while walking to the bus stop an anxious sigh escaped my lips as I jumped puddles. This is the time of year when the snow softens and then melts onto the sidewalks and streets creating puddles that too often resemble ponds and even small lakes. No longer will I step on the crunchy snow, but now I must play hopscotch as I walk to the bus stop. But there is hope. During this time the days begin to lengthen and prepare for White Nights. (My favorite time of year) The clocks were set an hour ahead last Sunday and presently the sun sets around 8:30 P.M. White Nights will soon be here!

It's been a very busy spring semester for us. We are thankful for yet another year that God has allowed us to be an influence in this city. We have some 60 students enrolled with Logos Language Center this includes our offsite locations. We praise God for the open doors He has been providing Logos. We have been given the opportunity to teach the managers at Ikea – a Swedish owned (Home Depot type) store, beginning in April. I will teach Business English and Cross Cultural Communication and Jeremy will teach Economics/Accounting. Please keep praying for us as we continue making contacts

which in turn allows us to interact with more people and bring the light of Christ to the many lost souls here in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Some of you may wonder how teaching English is considered missions. I would like to recommend English Teaching as Christian Mission an Applied Theology by Donald B. Snow. This is a must read for anyone who prays for and/or supports Christian English Teachers on the mission field. It will answer many of your questions concerning teaching English as a mission.

As I close I'd like to share an insight I received and was encouraged by. Last Sunday I read Genesis 15:6-21, concerning God's covenant with Abraham. God has given us precious promises through Christ and we can not allow anything to cause us to doubt His promises. As Abraham did in verse 11 we must do also, we must chase the birds of prey away; those birds of unbelief, doubt, fear, disappointment and hold on to our promise. I will chase the birds away!

Lisa P. Christian
Missionary to Russia

Praise Report

Praise God for...

My full recovery after the operation. I have not had any complications, I am so thankful to God for His faithfulness to me.

For those of you who gave to assist me financially with the medical expenses after the surgery.

The 60 + students currently enrolled at Logos.

Those who gave to replace the school supplies that were stolen during the robbery in the fall

Prayer Requests

Pray for...

The situation here in St. Petersburg concerning the skinheads and the racial injustices.

The Russian people

The Russian government

Pastors, missionaries and Christian workers here in Russia

Missionaries and Christian workers around the world!

The Logos Language Center teachers who will return to the States in May.

Sveta's family as they continue to deal with the death of her father and her mother's complete recovery from her surgery in January.

My network of volunteer staff Stateside

How Can I Be a Part?

Teachers

We are now looking for teachers for the 2006-2007 School year.

Qualifications:

Committed Christian Life

Desire to serve overseas

Ability to commit to one semester (16 weeks) OR one year (nine months) in St. Petersburg, Russia

A four year Degree

ESL/EFL Teaching experience a plus

Short Term Mission Trips

We are looking for teams of 3-10 who are willing to come for eight to ten days serving in the following ways: classroom teaching, conducting seminar/workshops, street ministry etc.

Sponsoring a student

Some of the people of St. Petersburg are not fortunate to be able to study English and would love the opportunity to do so at a qualified English Center such as Logos. You can make it happen. Sponsor a student! Or ask your church to sponsor a student(s).

If you are interested please contact me via email: logosrussia@hotmail.com

Food For Thought

Your prayers are needed!

I would like to ask you to pray along with the thousands of others who read the January 3rd issue of Voice of the Martyr's.

While I can not personally attest to the persecution in the early years of communism I can attest to the new wave of persecution today.

We serve a mighty God and Russian Christians as well as missionaries here in Russia are praying and we ask you to join us in prayer concerning these things.

Prayers for January 3, 2006
From The Voice of the Martyrs

RUSSIA (ASSIST News Service)

Russia is currently experiencing a resurgence of religious repression similar to that of an earlier period in the country's history. "Our country, Russia, experiences a very difficult time now. In many respects it is very similar to the 1920-1930 period in Russian history," writes Isabel Du Toit, Head of Prayer Ministry for the TBN and Association of Christian Churches "Union of Christians," in an e-mail obtained by ASSIST News Service (ANS). "Today we face a new wave of slander against Christian leaders in Russia. There are waves of gossip to discredit Russian main Christian leaders, i.e. Bishop Sergey Ryahovsky (head of the Russian Pentecostal Union), Bishop Paul Okara (head of the Russian Evangelical Church) and Bishop Igor 'Nikki' Nikitin (head of the Association of Christian Churches' Union of Christians)." Du Toit asks concerned Christians in the United States to "please stand with us in prayer to end this tendency and prevent the repetition of these happenings."

Pray the Spirit of Christ will fill Russian churches and their leaders. Pray God will protect His Body from splits and destruction. Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit throughout Russia.

For more information visit www.persecution.com