

NEWS FROM THE EASTERN FRONT

Missionary Jon Zwingel & Family
St. Petersburg Russia – November/December 2011

Dear friends of the gospel,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. May the good Lord bless you this Christmas season and New Year. What a blessing it has been, to be serving the Lord in Russia. Much work has been done. Thousands have heard and read the gospel of Jesus Christ. Some have been saved and added to the church. We look forward to continue the work of God, and we are so thankful for you, our supporters. It has been an honor to be serving with you and we only want to be a blessing and encouragement to you. Thank you our dear friends!

Visit to America: We as a family took it upon ourselves to travel back to the US to visit family for the seasons. We went back between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It had been close to three years since my mother had seen our daughter Kristina. We were there for 10 days and had a nice time of rest. We did visit one of our supporting churches and reported back to them. In fact, it is located in my hometown where I grew up as a lost teenager. Never had I ever thought that I would be a missionary and would preach in my hometown. What a wonderful time it was, and it was good to witness to old friends. Please pray for my mother, Betty. After we left back home to Russia, she came down with pneumonia! She spent about a week in the hospital and is now home. Please remember her.

Church: St. Petersburg Bible Baptist Church is doing well. The spirit among us is very good and I see and know our people are growing. We had a wolf come in our midst before a Sunday service. I rebuked him and he left. Pray for our people to be protected from such wickedness. Other than that, we still hold weekly Bible study for our new converts. Hopefully, we will have a baptism within the next few months. Since we don't own church property, we are amazingly limited in time and usage. It is winter now, and everything outside is frozen. So we are not able to have baptisms like we would like to have. I hope in the future when the Lord allows us to buy property; we will build a baptismal in the church. Plus hold mission conferences, fellowships and more worship and Bible study time. The Chinese church is so kind to us to let us use their property. But it comes with a cost. Again; limited time and space. We just cannot do what we want to do because it is their facility. There are also a few doctrinal issues I have with them. They are very ecumenical! Since their American Chinese pastor has to go back to the States every three months, I offered my assistance to preach in his stead and they are very happy for this. So, I preach the book!

Nevertheless brethren, please join our church in prayer. Our need is church property!

Evangelism: Tis the season once again. I would like to thank a few churches that have helped us in our outreach again to orphan kids. The Lord is opening a door again, and we are just starting to go. I have some good news about our churches reputation among other churches in the city. Word has gotten around that we have had good success in reaching the kids with the gospel, that some other Baptist churches want to help us. A few will come and help out, but most of all, they give towards gift and gospel literature. What a blessing!

I am sorry that I don't have any pictures to show you yet. When we were in America, our cameras decided that they didn't want to go back to Russia, and stayed behind. They were not delivered to us in time before we had to leave. But, we do hope to have more news and pictures of this yearly ministry for you next letter. Pray for us to plant seed!

Our future plans for this coming Spring are to have a big soul winning effort. I would like to thank Pastor Bruce Rhew and church in Blackstone, Virginia for sending us thousands of door hanging bags. They truly sacrificed a lot for this, and we are so thank for to their kind help. Our goal? We want to reach 20,000 Russian homes with the gospel. I am working on developing a package that will give a clear presentation of the gospel in written and video format. We will use gospel tracts, letter of invite and Lord willing, two DVD's. One DVD we would like to use is the "Light of the world" film by Chick Publications. The other is a work in progress. It is called: "Meet Mr. Niceguy". A cartoon by Living Waters. So please pray for this. Lots of time and money will be spent in getting all this done. Pray for our preparation and for hearts to receive Christ.

Other news: We would like to inform you that our mailing address is:
Prospect Veteranov 87 Apt. 545
Saint Petersburg 198260
Russia

You may also find updates on our ministry on Facebook. Search for: Slavic Missions and click "like"

Additional prayer request:

Pray for church property funds. We need \$500,000 min. to purchase. We have around \$96,000 saved. This brethren, is a VITAL NEED for the church.

Pray for safety, health and wisdom for us.

Pray for the church brethren to be soul winners and growth in Christ.

Remember the requests given in the letter!

May the Lord bless you and keep you. We are thankful to you, our supporters, in helping us reach Russian people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In Christ alone,
Dr. Jon, Larysa and Kristina Zwingel
St. Petersburg Russia
Galatians 2:20

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