

MISSION TO RUSSIA, Inc.
P.O. Box 158
Valley Center, KS 67147



MISSION TO RUSSIA exists to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ by meeting the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of the people of the former Soviet Union.

December 2011
Issue 1

MISSION TO RUSSIA

*Evangelizing, Educating, & Equipping
the people of Russia since 1992*



The MTR board of directors is thankful for all prayer partners & financial supporters.

Financial Summary

Sept Oct Nov 2011

Income	
General Fund	\$34,442.67
LTTW School	\$23,618.53
Training Center	\$12,960.00
Travel	\$12,914.56
Total	\$83,935.76

Expenses	
LTTW School	\$45,521.46
Training Center	\$16,956.26
Travel	\$14,154.86
Office & Administration	\$12,237.52
Total	\$88,870.10

Deficit \$4,934.34

Current Needs

- Increased General Giving
- Additional School Sponsors
- New support to fund the: *Kostroma Christian Training Center*
- New Monthly Supporters

If you are interested in helping with any of these needs and would like additional information, please contact Curt Eyman.

636-928-7440 (home)
636-485-2755 (cell)
curteyman@mission2russia.org

FINANCIAL DISCLAIMER: All solicited designated gifts received by MTR will be used for that designation. Any designated gifts which exceed the needed amount for a specific project or ministry will be transferred to the general fund to be used at the discretion of the MTR Board of Directors.

Mission to Russia, Inc
Board of Directors &
Contact Information
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 158
Valley Center, KS 67147

Curt Eyman - Executive Director
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Home 636-928-7440
curteyman@mission2russia.org

John Canon - MTR Board President

Executive Committee
Ron Cook - Ministry Founder
Randy Jones - Committee Chair
Daryl Marshall
Chuck Schmidt

Dan Stoll - School Sponsorships

Ken Peterson - Internships

Linda Bergner - Treasurer

Carolyn Marshall - Secretary



A New Brother

In November, Vlad Malyshev was baptized into Christ. Vlad is a friend of Vika Murina, a young lady who has been a member of the church for many years. It is encouraging to see the young people successfully sharing their faith with their friends. We welcome Vlad as a new brother in Christ and celebrate along with the angels in Heaven!



He Who Promised is Faithful

A rainbow is an awesome sight. Most often it is seen just after a storm has passed and is set against the backdrop of a dark sky, vividly displaying a beautiful spectrum of colors. For those of us that have put our faith in Jesus the rainbow should be a beautiful reminder of God's faithfulness to us. Our loving Father used a rainbow to seal His covenant with Noah after the flood, promising to never again destroy the earth by flood. He has kept that promise to this day, because as the writer of Hebrews tells us: *"He who promised is faithful"* (Hebrews 10:24b). This rainbow over the church and school in Kostroma is also an awesome sight. Not simply because of the visual beauty, but because it is a stark reminder of God's faithfulness

throughout the years of ministry in Russia. In a culture engulfed in uncertainty and wounded by communism, moving forward has only been possible due to God's faithfulness. Throughout the years He has removed every obstacle. Many of you are sacrificing, struggling, and enduring storms to support this ministry. As the winds are swirling, remember God's faithfulness. Look to Jesus, our "rainbow of promise" and his "beautiful spectrum of color" will be vividly displayed! God's faithfulness has been manifested through your generous financial support and prayers. They are deeply appreciated. The MTR board of directors is thankful for God's faithfulness that comes through you.



Welcome to Russia!

Connor Farris arrived in Kostroma in November. Connor graduated from Ozark Christian College with a TESOL degree and will be helping teach English in the *Light to the World School*. For those that may not know, TESOL stands for "teaching English to speakers of other languages." Connor will also minister by offering English classes to the community through the church. He will be a great asset to the church in reaching young adults as well. Many Russians enjoy spending time with Americans. One reason is to practice their English with a native speaker. Connor's presence will help attract high school and college age students to the church. If you would like to get Connor's ministry updates write to him at: farris.conner@my.occ.edu to be included in his distribution list.

Commissioned, Loved, & Appreciated

The theme of this years National Missionary Convention in Atlanta was *Commissioned - making disciples of ALL nations*. Every Christian has been commissioned to help make disciples whether it be on the other side of the world or right next door. It is always encouraging to meet the people God has sent to "the ends of the earth" as missionaries and learn how He is using them.

MTR was pleased to have a space at the convention to introduce new people to the ministry in Russia, and fellowship with many faithful supporters.

God commissioned Ron and Ginny Cook in the spring of 1992 to share the Gospel in Russia. One highlight of the convention was the appreciation banquet for Ron and Ginny for their twenty years of faithful ministry to

the Russian people. Memories were stirred and joyful tears were shed as individuals honored and thanked the Cooks for the impact they have had on so many lives, both Russian and American! Ron and Ginny



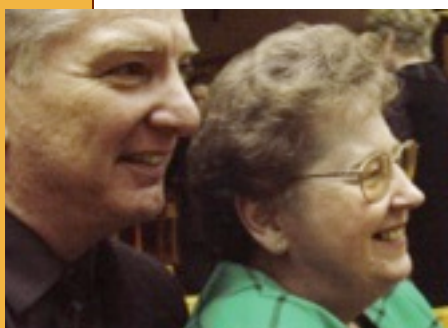
received a plaque from the board of directors inscribed with Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people" (Good News Translation).

A poster was presented to Ron and Ginny by Alex Gribov and Sasha Zhurin on behalf of the entire Kostroma church family. The 3' by 5' vinyl poster is an image of Jesus' face which was created using hundreds of pictures from the ministry over the years in Kostroma. How fitting! In everything the Cooks do they strive to be a reflection of Jesus!

Thank you Ron and Ginny. You are loved and appreciated!

A Special Message From the Cooks

Dear Precious MTR Family and friends,



It is with great deep gratitude that we thank you for honoring Ron and me at the reception held during the Missionary Convention. It was such a special time for us as we had friends come all the way from Colorado just to spend the evening with us, many friends representing several different churches that support the ministry, as well as just special friends whom we share a great love with. Of course the special treat of the evening was having Alex and Sasha from the Church in Kostroma there. "Wow" what a joy that was to spend four days with these Russian "children" of ours. We

thank you for the gifts and many kind words that were shared. We haven't the words to express how much this means to us. It will be a gift treasured the rest of our lives. We pray God's blessing on each of you as you share in the *Mission to Russia* work whether by being part of the Board of Directors, investing financially, or simply sharing in the work in your prayers. What a privilege it has been to be part of God's Kingdom here in the states and around the world. Praise His Holy Name. To Him be ALL the Glory.

With Loving appreciation, Ginny and Ron

Under The Bridge

That's where the weekly ministry to the poor & homeless takes place. This ministry, led by Zhenya Petunina, began in August and is already growing and experiencing success. Twenty-five homeless people are being fed twice a week, and the church is hoping to increase the frequency of meals. Love and compassion are being shown as the church works to relieve some of their suffering. The main goal is to introduce them to Jesus and lead them to a saving relationship. Throughout November twelve to fifteen of people receiving assistance came to worship each Sunday morning. Praise God! Typically these people have a difficult time trusting others and this is a sure sign the church is beginning to gain their trust.

The Russian winter is already raging with temperatures in the twenties and snow-covered ground. During a normal Kostroma winter the ground is covered with snow by the middle of October and remains through the beginning of April. Temperatures in January and February will range from zero to twenty-five below. Many homeless freeze to death during the winter and the church is working to address this problem. They want to purchase an old railroad car and convert it into a warm refuge from the harsh Russian winter. There are several obstacles that need to be overcome before this can become a reality, but with God's help the church will continue to press on.

Generosity Enables Fellowship & Ministry

It was a great blessing to have two leaders from the *Kostroma Christian Church*, Sasha Zhurin and Alex Gribov, surprise the Cooks by attending the appreciation banquet in Atlanta. While in the U.S. Alex and Sasha visited four supporting churches to report first-hand on their ministry. They enjoyed meeting many brothers and sisters who partner with them in ministry and fellowshiping with their American church family. Alex and Sasha also attended the *National Missionary Convention* in Atlanta, GA, the *Eastern Christian Convention* in Hershey, PA, and

presented the MTR ministry to five new, non-supporting churches. Our prayer is that through this opportunity these churches will become partners in ministry with MTR. All this was made possible because of the generosity of the *Mount Pleasant Christian Church* in Greenwood, Indiana where Alan Baumlein leads the mission program. MTR appreciates Alan's leadership and is grateful for *Mount Pleasant's* help. Thank You!



Join Us In Russia!

The next *Fellowship Tour* is tentatively scheduled for August 29 - September 10.

Just as the name implies: it is a great opportunity to fellowship with our Christian brethren in Russia. The group will do some small work projects at the church & school in Kostroma, visit another church in Gus Hrystalny, and enjoy the Russian culture as tourists. School sponsors will spend time with their student



and in most cases stay in their home while in Kostroma!

If you would like to join this group, contact Curt Eyman: curteyman@mission2russia.org or 636-485-2755. Assuming an airline cost of \$1250, the trip will cost \$2400. This covers everything except meals and entertainment during 2 days of sightseeing in Moscow. MTR does not make money on these trips. If you desire, any unspent funds will be refunded to you after returning home.

Prayer Needs

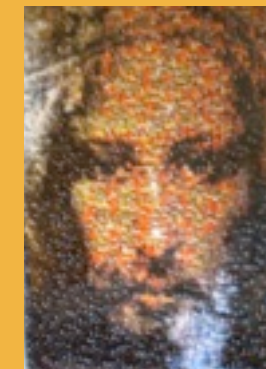
Wisdom for Russian leadership

Young men studying in *Kostroma Christian Training Center*

Acquiring railroad car to provide shelter to the homeless

Future church planting efforts

Connor Farris and his ministry as he adjusts to living in Russia



THREE WAYS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL HELP

By Check: payable to MTR and mailed to P.O. Box 158 Valley Center, KS 67147

Through Paypal: go to www.mission2russia.org, click the donate button. On next page click on PayPal logo & follow the directions.

Auto-debit: To have monthly donations automatically deducted directly from your account, contact MTR treasurer Linda Bergner at 316-722-0152 or bergnerbunch@pixus.net