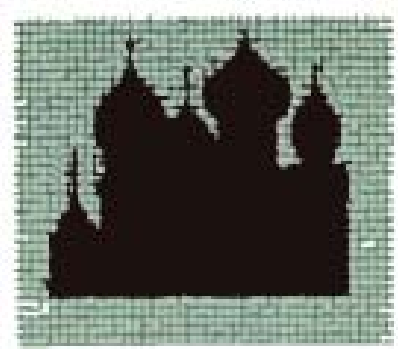


The Russian Bible Society

BIBLE JOURNAL



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Giving the Pure Word of God to the Language Groups in the Commonwealth of Independent States



Georgian University Student Ministry

First, we want to rejoice that one of the workers in the University Student Ministry, Miranda Satseradze, was married July 23rd in her Baptist church in her home town near to the larger city of Kutaisi, Republic of Georgia. Please pray for this new Christian family of Vladimer and Miranda. It is a joy to know that Vladimer was first contacted and then converted to Christ through the outreach ministry of the University Student Ministry. Although he is from the capital city of Tbilisi, they will make their home in Batumi. He is a merchant marine sailor and ships out from Batumi.



**Come, See, Change
September 5-12, 2016**

This will be the fourth student outreach using this same format. In an email dated July 12th Sister Miranda said: "Our team and students are in preparations for the annual evangelistic event COME SEE CHANGE. We specifically need your prayers these days as spiritual battle is getting harder each day. It is for the fourth time we will launch the project and year after year the interest among the students grows. This year God blessed us with almost 65 participants. It also means that we need additional finances for these extra participants. Full price for one student is around 100 USD. We would appreciate any donation made during or even after the project, if you have wish."

May I ask you to specifically put this evangelistic outreach on your calendar and pray daily for the Lord to reveal Himself as the only Savior of sinners. Some might like to take a particular day to pray and fast for the workers and students. I do not know as of this writing how much funding (if any) is needed. However, you may be led of the Lord to give toward the need of \$100.00 per student for these seven days of witness. If so, you can respond with the coupon on page 3.

Georgian Projects — Church Planting



We share with you about Batumi ministry. We, as usual, have two services a week, Sunday service and prayer meeting. We are still six adults and five children who come constantly, and several adults and children who come time to time.

Three weeks ago brother Aleksey fell down from the high stairs and damaged both legs. Now he lays home and can't walk yet. If you remember I wrote you that he said that he cooled off and lost interest to serve God, and only attends services and talks about financial problems. I think that Lord warn him. Please pray, if it is so, that he will understand and repent.

I continue to go to Chakvi. Ilia reads Bible every day. He finished New Testament and started Old. I talked to him about his attitude to wife, we read from Bible about it. His daughter Viola came back home and with her friend Anna sometimes come in Church to Sunday service. And his wife Marina doesn't show interest in Gospel, but sometimes she sits with us when we read Bible. I ask you to pray especially for Viola. She is 20 years and she acts and dresses like boy. I dont know how to talk with her. Please pray for Lord's action in this family.

continued on page 2

Latvian Projects

We recently received this report by telephone and email from Pastor Petr Samoylich of the Salvation Temple.

Vacation Bible School — Summer Camp

From June 27th through August 6th Pastor Samoylich and his team conducted three Vacation Bible Schools and a children's camp and youth camp at Salvation Temple and the new Baptist church plant in Vecmilgravis — five weeks of preaching and teaching the Word of God to children and teens. Several children and youth gladly heard the Word of God and professed faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. One of the highlights is to have children from the orphanages. This year plans were made to include one more orphanage.



Around 600 precious children attended the outreach and every child and youth went home with a Bible. Each Bible has the possibility of impacting three to five other people in family units. We forget that former Communist countries do not have as many actual Bibles in homes. In a recent survey in the USA it was revealed that nine out of ten Americans own a physical copy of the Bible. We have no figures of Bible ownership among Latvia's almost two million population.

Two requests for coming months were shared by Pastor Petr Samoylich.

Public School Teachers Conference

Please pray as speakers are arranged to teach and preach in the fall Public School Teachers Conference. Pray for the Lord to prepare the hearts of Christian teachers who will attend and for God to prepare the hearts of unconverted teachers

Georgian Projects — Church Planting

Also we want to start youth group. And I went to children who stopped attending Sunday school and invited them to this group and several teenagers came. We plan to meet in this group twice a month. We want to have second meeting out of town and invite more people.

We invited new translator for Georgian speaking sister. This is elderly woman, her name is Taplo. She says that she is Orthodox Christian and reads Bible. Milena continues to work with women, and they are very big pleasure attend this group. Also we recently met one young lady, her name is Irma. I preached her Gospel and gave her New Testament, and she started to read it and she has many questions.

We ask you very much to pray for all these people, for our neighbors, for people who went from Church, and everyone whom we work with. Also pray for my friend Roman, for Lord to show him true way and set him free from porno dependence.

who will also be in attendance. Pray for Holy Spirit conviction and conversion to take place October 22nd-23rd. The Lord has been gracious to save several teachers in previous conferences.

Latvian Bible Project

God willing, in 2017 Brother Samoylich will celebrate twenty years of pastoring the Salvation Temple, and the RBS is helping to raise funds for a 20,000-copy printing of the Latvian Bible. God willing, we want to help with a better quality Bible and print this edition in South Korea. In light of the restrictive law passed and now in effect in the Russian Federation, we do not know if Russia intends again to invade the Baltic states as they did in 1942.

Family and friends are asking Pastor Samoylich if he intends to stay in Latvia. Some will remember that he was born in Ukraine. He said in a recent telephone conversation that he has no intention or leadership from the Lord to leave Latvia. He did mention that Latvia has no army and only one helicopter. Recently NATO has put into Latvia 200 soldiers and some tanks.

The Russian Bible Society feels an urgency to get this 20,000-copy edition printed and shipped into Latvia as soon as possible. God willing, Brother Samoylich should know in mid-September the exact costs of this project. Rejoice that we now have in hand \$105,618.81 of the anticipated need of \$147,400.00 for this project. Usually we can send the printer half of the quoted price and then pay the other half when safely delivered to the destination. However, we will need in this case to provide the full amount up front. Pray for the Lord to lead Pastor Samoylich in his negotiations with the copyright owner and printing company. Pray and give as the Lord may direct. Pray for the Lord to prepare hearts to receive each copy of this 20,000-copy printing. We have anticipated the cost to be \$7.37 a copy. This may be high or low and we will adjust this when the order is placed in September.

Pray for our Christian friends in the Baltic states of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia in these days of uncertainty.

One more time we thank you for everything! Give regards to everyone who knows us. Glory to our God !

— Arkadi Movsesyan (slightly edited)

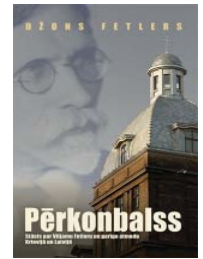
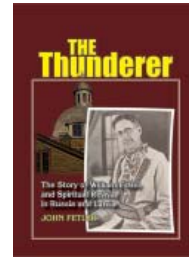


The Thunderer in Russian

Rejoice that the English edition of *The Thunderer*, which was published in November 2014, has now had 167 books distributed. With the Latvian edition in hardback a smaller printing was done of only 800 copies. Just over 400 copies have been distributed and any profits have gone into a retired Baptist ministers fund in Latvia.

Sister Inna Yocum has been formatting the Russian translation, which was translated from English into Russian. This edition will also contain seven sermons in Russian taken from Russian periodicals edited by William Fetler during his lifetime. We are working on the cover and getting the best pictures we can for the Russian edition. God willing, we will publish it in paperback. The page count will be about 232 pages with about fourteen pages of glossy pictures. Pray that this book in Russian will stir the Russian churches both in USA, where we have 5.5 million Russian-speaking souls, and Russian congregations in other countries to evangelize their Russian friends and work mates.

God willing, in our next *Bible Journal* we will give exact information on size, pictures, costs, etc.



New Russian Law Effective July 20, 2016

We have had two “black days” in our beloved Republic. The first was January 22, 1973 when the Supreme Court Justices by a 7 to 2 vote confirmed “abortion” which has led to the killing of an estimated 58.5 million babies to date. This was a watershed event because it was the first time in modern history that our government legislated immorality. The second was the Supreme Court decision that by a vote of 5 to 4 on June 26, 2015 redefined marriage from being between a man and a woman to the present unbiblical position of same sex marriage. Again, legislation that is of the greatest sort of immorality. Both of the decisions made in spite of our Constitution.

In like manner our brothers and sisters in the Russian Federation have had their constitution set aside. Sergey Ryakhovsky, who is co-chair of an advisory council of heads of Protestant churches in Russia said: “The bill violates the fundamental rights and freedoms in the sphere of religious freedom. The Constitution of the Russian Federation, Article 28, says that everyone is guaranteed freedom of religion, including the right to freely disseminate religious and other convictions.” He also noted international law asserts the “inalienability of the right to distribute their religious beliefs.” And, he pointed out, the plan “is in contradiction with Article 30 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation. Believers tend to talk about their faith, and no law can forbid...it,” he said. “The Soviet past reminds us that many people of different faiths were persecuted for their faith, for spreading their beliefs, the Word of God. ...Our fathers paid fines and were sentenced to prison terms for ‘illegal assembly,’ for ‘religious agitation,’ for preaching and prayer. And today we see clearly that the proposed bill gets us back to that shameful past.”

Therefore, we need to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Russian Federation as they again have a law hanging over their heads prohibiting any witness outside of “authorized church buildings and religious sites.”

The “anti-evangelism law carries fines up to US \$780 for an individual and \$15,500 for an organization. Foreign visitors who violate the law face deportation. Russia has already moved to contain foreign missionaries.”

How we love the spirit of one brother in Christ who said, “If it will come to it, it’s not going to stop us from worshiping and sharing our faith ... The Great Commission isn’t just for a time of freedom.”

Note: Various sources cited for above article: *Christianity Today*, Human Rights Watch, Sergey Rakhuba (president of Mission Eurasia).

~~RESPONSE COUPON~~

YES, HERE IS MY GIFT OF SUPPORT TO MEET THE SPIRITUAL NEED OF PRECIOUS SOULS

_____ \$10.00 _____ \$25.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ \$100.00 _____ \$500.00 _____ OTHER

_____ Latvian Bible (\$7.37 each)

_____ Georgian University Student Ministry

_____ Georgian Projects

_____ Ukrainian Translation



Translating the Bible into Ukrainian
The Popchenko Family
*"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
 Romans 10:17*

The Lord has answered prayer for the health of Anya, according to an email received in late July. She said that she had been feeling better lately. Continue to cover the translation team in prayer for their health.

Rejoice that the Lord supplied almost all of the funds for the translation team for August, September, and October. We sent \$6,150.00 for this on August 1st. Pray for funds needed through December of \$5,714.06. Rejoice that the team has completed 50% of the second draft of the New Testament. Pray that the trial printing of the New Testament could take place early in 2017.

Finally, remember that 50 years ago in 1966 our US Congress established September 30th as the day each year to honor Bible translation.



**Global Baptist Gospel Projects
 Missions Inc** in association with the
Russian Bible Society
 PO Box 6068, Asheville, NC 28816
 Phone: 1-800-252-8896

**“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”
 (1 Peter 1:23)**

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Projects for 2016

	Commitment	In Hand	Need
Georgian Projects	12,831.00	10,213.00	2,618.00
Georgian University	6,515.00	5,275.00	1,240.00
Georgian Widows	3,000.00	3,640.59	-0-
Latvian Bible	147,400.00	105,618.81	41,781.19
Ukrainian Translation	16,400.00	10,685.94	5,714.06

RUSSIAN BIBLE SOCIETY

THE RUSSIAN BIBLE SOCIETY has been at the frontline of providing Bibles for Russia and its people since 1944. We believe the greatest gift we can give to any people is the pure Word of God in their native tongue. Therefore, we are committed to continually providing word for word translations based on reliable manuscripts, such as the Received Greek Text. Thus, the Bibles we publish are the “Synodal Translation” of the Russian Bible and its accurate translation into the minority languages of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

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BIBLE JOURNAL

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“Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.” (2 Corinthians 8:4)