



EASTER IN RUSSIA 2011

Russian Lifeline No. 161

*Bringing News of Richard & Judy Grout from Vyborg, Russia,
Serving with Hope International Missions since 1993*

*“Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
[that] even so Russians also should walk in newness of life.”*

Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

This verse, from Romans 6:4 was carried at the top of our prayer letter for more than ten years. It is certainly a verse for Easter. We are trusting that the deep snow will melt away and that by Easter signs of new life will be springing up and greening up. Much more than that we rejoice when a sinner repents and comes to Christ and receives new life. In the past few days we have seen several, both younger and older, come to Jesus for salvation from their sins.

Our purpose is to reach the lost and needy here in Russia with the Good News of salvation from sin and new life in Christ. To encourage believers to live stronger Christian lives we distribute many books and Bible studies in Russian. Along with the message of salvation we also give humanitarian aid. Thanks to friends in Finland and Norway we are still helping to feed about forty people each week.



We were glad to find most of these same people we photographed last fall eating at our tables again this March. Some of them come clear across town through deep snow on foot to receive help and encouragement from Aleksei Glushkov and others here at Vyborg Christian Center.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that we will find new ways to reach the Russian people. Top priority is for the publication of our new course for new Christians: “*Practical Christianity*” by Dr. Stephen Gibson. Several thousand dollars are still needed for this project.

We are very thankful that the Lord answered our prayers and gave us a “new” 1998 Mercedes turbodiesel van, but upon our return from America we found our Christian mechanic in Finland had discovered more repairs were needed than we had anticipated. Then when we arrived in Vyborg the heating bills (electric) were also much larger than expected.

PRAISES

In spite of many problems, Vyborg Christian Center has been continuing to reach out in many ways for more than 18 years. The door is still open, but there are many challenges. Because of more than a few faithful supporters, we have much to be thankful for. First, we are thankful for all our supporters from America, Norway, and Finland!

Jesus told us that we should feed the hungry, help the stranger, clothe the needy, and visit the sick and the prisoners. (Mt.25:25-36) Every month we do this by giving humanitarian aid to about forty needy sick and shut-in people, and every day we help those who come to our doors for food and clothing. Our Hospital Chaplain, **Lyudmila Fyodorovna**, is a highly qualified nurse-practitioner who visits sick people of all ages in their hospital rooms and in their homes. Lyudmila also teaches others how to help their sick family members.



Lyudmila sharing the Gospel



Anna Marie and Tamara N.



Easter in "The Ark"

Anna Marie answers letters from prisoners in more than 200 prisons across Russia. Last year her correspondence increased by 60%. **Tamara Nikolayevna** is still carrying on correspondence with many children all across Russia with *Child Evangelism Fellowship* lessons. Now these ladies have another helper, **Katya**, a young lady who helps with checking the children's lessons every week.

Psalm 82:3 tells us to "*defend the poor and fatherless [and to] do justice to the afflicted and needy.*" **Judy** goes with **Lena**, who teaches art in the children's home (orphanage) and helps the children there. **Judy** and **Aliya Glushkova** go to "*The Ark*", a special club for children from the children's home. For the college-age young people, including some of those who have graduated from the children's home, every Friday night **Aleksei and Aliya** have a fellowship dinner and youth program.

Aleksei Glushkov continues to lead our evangelistic outreaches, not only with the young people but with the older adults on Wednesdays and in the village of Veshevo on Tuesdays. In addition to this, he manages the Center's building, which is not a small job.

Our Assistant Director, **Valera Tolkachev**, continues to lead the **House of Hope** rehabilitation center, which now has three locations, both for men and women who are striving to be free from heroin and other addictions. He pastors a church which has a number of former addicts and their families which meets in the Christian Center every week. We praise the Lord for these faithful workers, who have sacrificed much to work for Jesus and to fulfill His great commission.

All for Jesus, Richard & Judy Grout, ragrout@gmail.com