



Dear Family and Friends,

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and told him that Mary would be giving birth to "a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He Who will save His people from their sins." (Matthew 1:20, 21) This is the reason for Christmas...to celebrate that God loved the world so much that He sent His only Son to come into our evil world and save people from their sins by dying on a cross. This is why we do our global ministry. This is what we proclaim: that "there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved." That Name is Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world! Receive His gift!



Gennady and Vova in Saransk

Our fall missions trip was exciting and fulfilling. Pastor Gennady Gavrilov from Prague and his worship leader, Vova Korotky, who served as my interpreter, traveled with us.

We started out in Saransk, Russia, where we began our missions ministry in 1996. We have a large number of friends there. We helped plant three of the four churches and love the pastors and church families very much. Our first goal was to help



Victor's church plus Americans and interpreters

Victor Gretcho, new pastor of the oldest Saransk church, advertise an outreach concert on the first Sunday night at his church. We distributed flyers, and many new people came to the evening church concert.

The Saransk weeks were filled with meetings with dear friends and their families, prayer groups, invalids,



Grace Church Sisters



Our interpreter Natasha and baby #8 Alyona



Sveta, paralyzed in diving accident

and witnessing opportunities. One night we had an



Youth Meeting

Tanya, Maxim's sister

impromptu youth meeting with several new young people who were invited by other church youth. Unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity to visit Maxim in prison because of the advice that other prisoners might harm him for receiving attention from an American. Because of his rededication to God, his mom Vera and sister Tanya are also returning to the Lord and fellowship. This is a joy! Please continue to pray for him. He has 4 more years to serve.

In Moscow, we met with Ruvim Voloshin, Vice-President of the Russian Baptist Union, for advice and counsel. We work under the authority of the Russian Baptist Union. We also met with the leaders of the Baptist Union Youth ministry.



Ruvim Voloshin

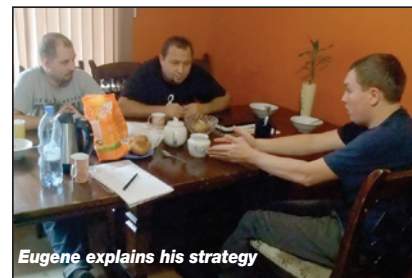
In Pskov, we had quality time with church planter, Alexander Hubeev, evaluating our summer team ministry and making plans for the summer 2012 team. The next step of development for this church plant



Alexander shares his vision

is to build a House of Prayer to better accommodate the people who want to attend this church. We are considering now how to help them. We will return next summer with our 5th evangelism team assisting him to establish his new church. The 2012 Team dates are July 11-21.

In Petrozavodsk, we met with Eugene Zinnon, the new church planter. He explained his ministry objectives, and we adjusted our plan for next summer's team to meet his needs. This team will focus on witnessing to street children and



Eugene explains his strategy



teens by going with them on boats along a local river doing tent camping! Our recruiting focus will be for Russian-speaking youth from America and Russia. The dates are July 21-28.



*Ilya and Vitaliy who came to Christ through the 2010 Team*

of the new church. He will return home in December and make preparations to relocate his family in early 2012, the Lord willing.



*Gennady and Ilya put an ad in the local Russian newspaper*

Mission trip travel is always challenging! On the way home Vova and I missed our flight from Milan to Prague on Sunday night Nov. 6 because of torrential rains. We finally got a ticket for him for the next day back to Prague, but I had to find a direct flight to Frankfurt to meet Barbara and fly home. God provided the last seat! On the flight I met Maro, a 17-year-old student from Japan. We are skypeing and emailing almost every day. He is very open to the Gospel. Please pray for him.



*Gennady*

In St. Petersburg, Pastor Gennady and I had the privilege of speaking at the 10th anniversary service for Comfort Baptist Church. Sasha Kurmaev is the pastor. Gennady and I started planting this church in 2001 and we praise the Lord for its development.

It now has 40 baptized believers! After the service I talked with Andrey. In June he slipped and fell on a rock climbing adventure and was in a coma for 2 months. He continues to improve! Praise the Lord!



*Andrey*

In Prague, I met with Igor, one of the directors of the 2011 Czech Family Camp. We evaluated this past summer's



*Czech Family Camp*

ministry and made plans for the next Czech Republic Camp Team, July 4-16, 2012. This is a great opportunity for people who have never been on a short-term team to reach out to unchurched Russian speaking people and see God work!

In Naples, Italy, Gennady, Vova, and I joined Ilya Dunilyuk from Fresno to help him begin his church-planting ministry there. We met a few Russian-speaking believers who will be his core leadership team. We found out that every Sunday at 6 a.m., several buses from Ukraine arrive in downtown Naples! Most of these people speak Russian. This will be a major point of contact with new people. Gennady and Ilya handed out flyers announcing his new Bible study ministry on Sunday afternoons. The first Sunday 12 people came. Last Sunday there were 30! This is the beginning



**Darren, Bethany, Jim, Barbara, Ryan, Kim, Joel (nephew)  
Hayley F, Audrey L, Ian L, Jacob F, Colin L**

*Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year!*

*Love,  
Jim and Barbara*