

"Making the Most of Every Opportunity, Because the Days are Evil" (Eph.5:16)

New Law Regarding "Evangelism" in Russia

Please pray for RCR's ministry work in Russia following the passage of a new law regarding public security and "Combating Terrorism" adopted by the State Duma on June 24, 2016, which also **significantly changes the conditions of sharing the Gospel** in public, in homes and in prisons. Our ministry will be burdened with legal registrations. At times like this, we realize that we underestimate the good times, thinking they will last forever, but no, life flows as a turbulent river, presentling surprises. We don't have time to sulk, but must use the opportunitues God gives and align our lives with His clock. - Alexander Zakharov, Exec. Director in Russia

The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire Magazine

- 1. Praise God for the completion of the **third issue** of the magazine for 2016, with the topic "Life and Faith."
- 2. We have finished the process for the inclusion of our magazine, *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire*, in the **Russian Post mail subscription catalog** for 2017. We hope that with it we will reach new readers, and that this will make it easier to work with correctional facilities.
- 3. <u>Urgent.</u> Disturbing news came from the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia about their unwillingness to cooperate with the Protestant churches, prohibiting their ministers in prisons.



News from the "Pirkko Homes"

1. July 6-10 was the **annual summer camp conference** for Christian rehabilitation and adaptation centers, which took place in Vyshny Volochek, near Nikulino. More than 300 participants were expected to come. Besides those from RCR's "Pirkko Home" centers, others joined from the "House of the Word" (Moscow), "Liberation" rehab centers (St. Petersburg) and the "Good Samaritan" rehab centers (Northwest Russia). Special thanks to the Lord that permission was finally granted by the local authorities to have this camp! Because the forest service didn't want us to come, this verse had special meaning for us: "a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries." (1 Cor 16:9 ESV).

2. On June 19th, the **6th anniversary celebration** of the "Pirkko Home" in Orel



was marked by a joyful event - two men undergoing rehabilitation, Gennady and Vladimir, accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord! Also, at the May 29th service at 1st Baptist Church of Orel, there was a baby dedication, blessing of the daughter of Natalia and Andrei Semyenov (the leader of the men's Pirkko Home at Orel).



RCR Recording Studio

For the last few months our studio employees have been learning and gaining experience in the recording of **video broadcasts**. During this time, with God's help, we purchased 2 professional video cameras and some lighting equipment. Now we are working on converting the radio studio for video recording.

Please pray:

- for the opening of prison doors to the gospel and to prison ministers;
- for the staff of The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire magazine, regarding their needs and health;
- for the construction work taking place at the new church plant in Solnechnogorsk (where they plan to have a learning center for "Pirkko Homes"), and that the sanctuary can be ready for services starting in September, and for the spiritual formation of this new church;
- for the ministers of rehabilitation centers and the needs of their families; for new assistants in the ministry;
- for the extra funds that are needed for the purchase of vans for the "Pirkko Homes" in Orel, Lgov, and Rylsk and for repairs of the vehicles in other centers;
- for remodeling and rebuilding work at the "Pirkko Homes" in Nikulino. The women have moved into the existing building. The current need is helping hands and funds to convert the nearby leader's home into the men's rehabilitation building, and then to start on the larger project of rebuilding the building that burned;
- for acquiring the rest of the video equipment needed for RCR's video recordings;
- for new hosts for video broadcasting, so the broadcasts would be diverse and useful for people seeking God.

