



Rejoice
in
HIM!



Russian Lifeline No. 209, June 2017

Bringing News of Richard & Judy Grout from Vyborg, Russia ragrout@gmail.com

serving with HOPE International Missions since 1993

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Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

You will notice in the photos above that two of the main landmarks that are major tourist attractions in Vyborg are now under renovation. Renovation and renewal is the subject of this letter.

New life in Christ is celebrated every week in the growing churches of Vyborg! In the photos below, on the left is pictured of a very recent group of men from the House of Hope rehabilitation center singing together in Pastor Valera's church. The photo on the right is the ladies' choir in Pastor Valera's church. The young lady in front is **Lena Bulatova**, who this summer is traveling around Russia holding children's meetings in eight different villages. We are happy to be able to help support her ministries and those of other young people who are dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus' love with those who need it the most.



Men from the rehabilitation center,
"House of Hope"



The Ladies' Choir:
Lena B. is in front



The first week we arrived in Russia we attended a funeral for one of the “orphans” from the children’s home where Judy held meetings for many years. Alexander was only 27 years old. He died of coronary thrombosis. Like many of the “orphans,” Alexander did have some relatives who came to the funeral. Even more impressive was seeing dozens of his former friends from the children’s home. Judy used this opportunity to make contact with a number of young people she hadn’t seen in a long time.

*On the right are **Sasha and Sergei**, two young men who have already come to our Christian Center to visit with us. We met both at summer camps for orphans in Finland. Sasha lives in Svetogorsk (northwest of us) and Sergei lives in St. Petersburg (southeast of us). The Christian Center is centrally located for guests who come from every direction.*



*We are also very happy to report that the mailing ministries have increased greatly this year. We are thankful for the effective ministry of **Anna Boldireva**, who co-ordinates the correspondence ministry involving more than twelve writers and reaches into hundreds of prisons all over Russia.*

*Others involved in this ministry include **Anna V., Tamara N., Marina Y., Jenya A., Natalia V., Slava and Julia**, and at least seven others. Your prayers for all of them are greatly appreciated. We are also grateful for your generous support, which makes the growth of these ministries possible.*

***Aleksey Glushkov** continues to lead the evangelistic meetings and operations of the Center’s building. **Aleksey Holmanskih** is the man responsible for managing the day-to-day bookkeeping and secretarial work for Pastor Valera.*

***Pastor Valera Tolkachev** continues to lead the Christian Center through the reorganization process, as well as his church planting projects and rehabilitation ministries.*



This final photo shows our first picnic, in our own backyard, after the snow melted!

Most of all, we deeply appreciate your prayers for all of us here in Russia!

Richard & Judy Grout

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