



Rejoice in HIM!

Hope International Missions

*Bringing News of Richard & Judy Grout from
Vyborg, Russia*



CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Russian Lifeline No. 215, Easter 2018

Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in me, though he may die, yet shall he live" (John 11:25). This promise of Jesus was validated by His resurrection from the dead. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; He was buried, and He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). No other religious leader ever died for all our sins and proved victorious over death and hell. Do you believe in Easter? Believing in the atoning death of Christ and His literal resurrection from the grave is essential to becoming a Christian. However, even the demons believe because they know it really happened (James 2:19). What guarantees our salvation and assurance of eternal life is repenting and forsaking our sins and receiving Jesus as our personal Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-10). The late and highly honored evangelist Billy Graham emphasized in his most popular book, *Peace with God*, "Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 18:3).



The pictures above are of the celebration held on February 28th for 25 years of evangelistic meetings in the Vyborg Christian Center. The first picture is of the ladies, the second picture is Pastor Valera receiving his letters of recognition and his award, and the third picture shows the men on that icy day. We expect the snow and ice to remain until Easter!



Judy with Natasha's baby Vera.



Dressing the baby for going out into the fresh, zero-degree air!

Why did we go to Russia in the middle of winter, the coldest time of the year? God called us here because He knew we were needed in this place. Knowing that you are in the center of God's will is the most wonderful feeling in this life. The pastors of both our Russian churches have been ill at times, as well as several other of our co-workers. Most serious of all is the condition of **Aleksey Glushkov** who has been our building manager and evangelist for the past ten years. Aleksey has been unable to work since the end of December because of an affliction with his back and nerves. His wife Aliya, a nurse who has been working in the ambulance service, is taking a leave of absence to stay home with her husband. Please pray for Aleksey, Aliya, and their two young children, Liza and Osip. Also, pray for **Erik Airian** who oversees the rehabilitation centers and has been too ill to work much of this winter.

ANSWERS TO PRAYER

With several of our key co-workers sick, it has been wonderful to have a very gifted new manager "on board" - **Alexander Tarasov** (pictured). Alexander is now managing the Christian Center building, humanitarian aid, the kitchen, and he helps with the mailing ministries to children and prisoners, along with more than 20 others!

Also a great help comes from Natasha's husband, **Aleksey Holmanskii**, Pastor Valera's assistant.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pastor Valera, our Director, and "Graduates" of the rehab centers: Timur, Dima, Katja, Natalia, Irina, and Anya.

Pray also for Anna Vasilevna, our longest serving lady in mailing ministries to prisoners!



"Enjoying the Journey"

All for Jesus,

Richard & Judy Grout

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