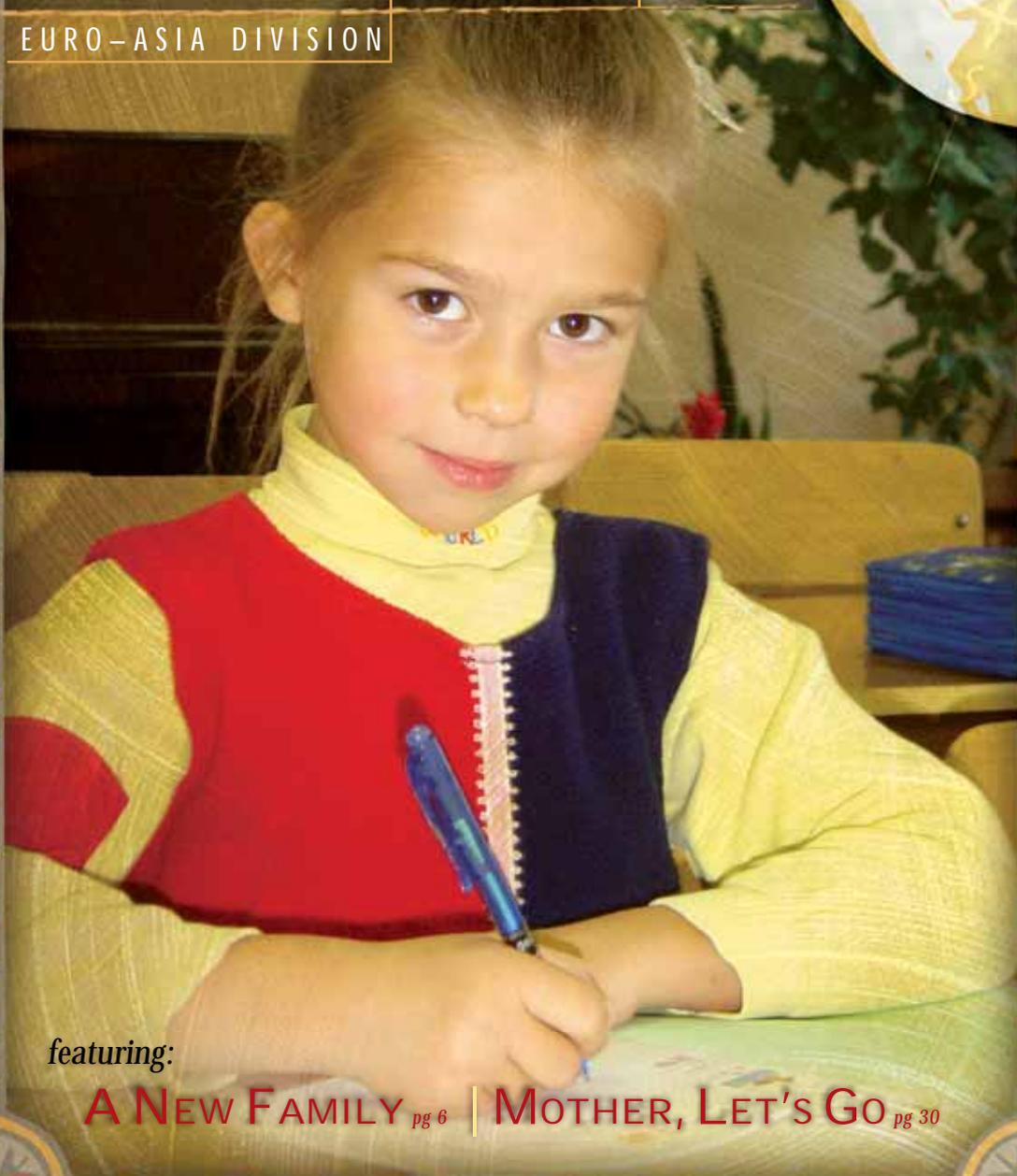


ADVENTIST CHILDREN
MISSION MAGAZINE QUARTER 1
2008

EURO-ASIA DIVISION



featuring:

A NEW FAMILY pg 6 | **MOTHER, LET'S GO** pg 30

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SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH®

DEAR SABBATH SCHOOL LEADER,

Welcome to the new *Children's Mission*. It's different on the inside as well as on the outside.

In redesigning the quarterly, we've tried to make it more user-friendly and more child-friendly, with larger photos and shorter stories. For the teacher we've included country notes with the first story from each new country or region, and with subsequent stories, notes on the lives of people in the area from which the story came.

The quarterly has been designed in such a way that every week's mission report can stand alone. Besides the country or region facts, each story contains a picture of the country's flag and an activity to do with the children, if you wish. These half-page activities take the place of most of the full-page activities in the old quarterly. But some full-page activities will be included as space permits.

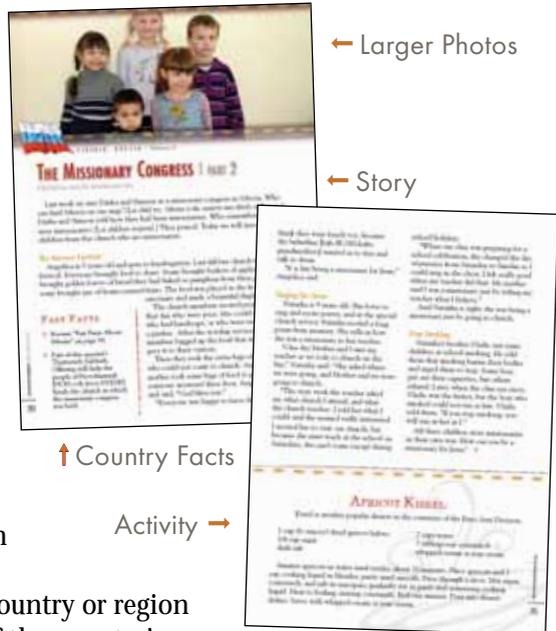
Because there is less room for activities, we have set up a Web site where you can find additional language activities, songs, and other activities that you might wish to incorporate into your mission program or use to enrich the children's mission experience in other ways.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions on what you like—and what you would like us to include. We will listen and do what we can to make *Children's Mission* better for our children and easier for you. You can reach us through the Web site or contact me directly at missioneditor@gc.adventist.org.

Yours for the kingdom,

Charlotte Ishkanian

Charlotte Ishkanian
Editor, *Children's Mission*





R U S S I A | January 5

LOST-AND-FOUND LUCKY

God cares about little things, even lost puppies.

FAST FACTS

- Russia is by far the world's largest country in terms of territory. It is almost twice the size of Canada, and more than twice as large as the United States. It covers 11 time zones and two continents—Europe and Asia. Yet its population is just 145 million.
- Most of the people in Russia live in the European part of the country, west of the Ural Mountains. Moscow, the capital city, has a population of about 10 million and is the heart of European Russia.
- Adventists in Russia number about 49,000, or one Adventist for every 3,000 people.

Alina lives in Moscow, Russia [*locate Russia and Moscow on a map*]. For as long as she can remember, she wanted a puppy.

One day Papa took Alina to town. They stopped their car in front of a pet store and went in. To Alina a pet store could mean only one thing—a puppy!

Playful Puppy

Papa and Alina walked past the birds and the fish, past the kittens curled up in furry balls, all the way to the puppies. Some puppies wrestled with one another; others barked at Alina, and some puppies just slept.

Papa stopped in front of a cage of brown and black puppies. One puppy scrambled to the front of her cage and stuck her paw through the wires, as if to say hi.

“Look, Papa! She likes us!” Alina said, touching the puppy’s paw.

“I think she does,” Papa said.

The clerk lifted out the wiggling puppy and gently placed her in Alina’s arms. The puppy gave Alina a big puppy kiss.

“Oh, Papa, can we get her? I want to name her Lucky!” Soon Papa and Alina returned home with a wiggly puppy called Lucky.

A New Home

The whole family loved Lucky and played with her until lunchtime. Then Papa put her outside, while the family ate.

After lunch, Papa went to check on Lucky. To his surprise, no puppy scrambled around the corner toward him. Papa stepped outside and called, “Lucky, Lucky!” But she did not come. *Maybe she is asleep*, Papa thought. He began searching for Lucky. He looked behind the bushes and around the corner, but she was not there. “Lucky, Lucky,” he called. But Lucky did not come.

“She’s not here,” Papa said to Mother, who had come to the door. “She must have found a way out of the yard.” Mother slipped on her jacket and joined Papa as he searched for Lucky. Papa walked one way, and Mother walked another, calling for Lucky. But Lucky did not come.

When Alina heard that Lucky was missing, she began to cry. Everyone felt sad that Lucky was gone. She had not lived with them long enough to know where home was. Would they ever get her back?

Let’s Pray

Alina’s brother, Oleg, said, “Let’s pray for Lucky.” The family knelt to pray for their missing puppy. As soon as the last prayer ended, the children ran to see whether Lucky had returned. But she was not there. Papa whispered to Mother, “Do you think someone stole her?”

Papa is a pastor, and he had to drive to another city for a meeting. “Please, children, keep praying for Lucky,” he told them. “I will pray too.”

All the way to the other city Papa prayed that God would send Lucky home so that Oleg and Alina would know that God hears and answers prayers. But when Papa returned home, Lucky was not there.

“Let’s make some posters and hang them around the neighborhood,” Papa suggested. He wrote L-O-S-T D-O-G on the poster and added the family’s phone number. The children helped Mother and Papa put up the notices.

When they returned home, the family went to bed. Before they slept, each one prayed one more time for Lucky.

Found Puppy

In the morning the children ran to the door to see whether Lucky had come home, but she was not there. Sadly they walked to school, and sadly Papa went to work.

About noon Mother called Papa with the news. “Lucky is home!” she said. “A girl found her on the street and planned to keep her, but when she saw our posters, she brought Lucky back.”

When the children returned home from school, they heard a puppy bark in their yard. They ran to play with Lucky and tell her how lucky they were to have her. That evening during worship they thanked Jesus for sending their puppy home.

Alina and Oleg told their friends that Jesus answered their prayers for their lost puppy and would answer their prayers too, if they asked Him. 🌍



R U S S I A | January 12

A NEW FAMILY

Kiril lost his family, but God sent him a new one.

LIFE HERE

- Children who live in the city usually live in large apartment complexes. Each apartment complex is like a small city and often includes an elementary school and a few small stores where people can buy food. In the villages people more often live in small houses.
- Summers in Moscow are mild and short; winters are longer and quite cold. It often snows from November to late March, but in the coldest parts of the winter the snow is too dry to form into snow figures or snowballs. Children like to play in the snow, most often going sledding or skiing.

Today's story is about Kiril, an ordinary boy in most ways. Kiril likes working with computers and making things with his hands. But Kiril believes that God loves him in a special way. Let's let _____ [*name of boy presenting the story*] tell Kiril's story.

Kiril's Story

"When I was little I lived with my mother and my grandparents in Moscow. [*Locate Moscow or Russia on the map.*] We lived near a firehouse, and I became friends with a firefighter. I liked talking to him. One day he even let me watch how they put out a fire.

"One day my mom went away and never came back. My grandparents drank a lot, and they did not spend time with me. So I often walked the streets by myself.

"One winter day when my grandparents were drunk, I went for a walk. I walked and walked. It was cold outside, and I began to shiver. I saw steam coming out of a heating vent, so I sat down on it to get warm. But I was still cold. I got sleepy and fell on the vent.

“When I woke up, I didn’t recognize anything. Someone told me that I was in a hospital, that two men had found me nearly dead on the heating vent and brought me to the hospital.

“I stayed in the hospital several days, then I was transferred to a children’s home, where I stayed while the people looked for my mother. I liked it there, for they gave us good food and I had a nice bed to sleep in.

“Then the matron told me that they could not find my mother, so I was going to a hospital for a physical exam before moving to an orphanage. I did not want to leave the children’s center, but I had to go.

A New Family

“While I was in the hospital, a man and woman came to visit me. They were so nice! They asked me questions and told me about their family. Then one

day they came and asked me, ‘Would you like to come and live with us and be our son?’

“I was so happy! I would have a real family again! I felt like crying, but I nodded my head yes. When I lived with my mother, I was the youngest of three boys. In my new family I am the oldest of five boys! We get pretty noisy, but my parents don’t mind.

“My new parents are so kind. They teach me about Jesus and show me how to pray. When I told my parents about the men who found me on the heating vent, my new father said that God sent those men to find me and save my life. Maybe they were angels, I don’t know. I just know that from that moment on, my life has changed. God brought me to a new family who has taught me to love and trust God in all that I do. Now I not only have a new family in Russia, but I am part of Jesus’ family too. 🌐

FUN WITH RUSSIAN

Review the song introduced last week (on page 30) and introduce the children to some Russian words and phrases. Vowel sounds are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter. Accented syllables are written in capital letters.

Common Phrases

Good morning
 Welcome
 to Sabbath School
 Happy Sabbath
 Goodbye
 Yes
 No
 Thank you
 Please

Pronounce It

DOH-bray OO-trah
 dah-BROH pah-ZHAH-loh-vahts
 vah soo-BOHT-nyoo-yoo SCHKOH-loo
 soo-BOHT-nyem dihn-YOHN
 das-veh-DAH-N-yeh
 hah
 niet (or nyeht)
 spah-SEE-bah
 pah-ZHAL-luh-stah (or pah-ZHAL’ stah)



K R A S N O D A R , R U S S I A | January 19



KATIA'S SUMMER CAMP ADVENTURE

God can turn even a rainy camp into a blessing.

Katia lives in southwest Russia [*locate Russia on a map*]. Although her family does not attend church, Katia's mother enrolled her in an Adventist summer camp program.

The campground was a rented park with tents set up for sleeping and a shelter for activities. The camp staff chose as the theme "From Egypt to Canaan." The children would learn how God helped Moses lead the children of Israel to the Promised Land and taught them to trust God. They had such great ideas for the week, including a burning bush, and "manna" from heaven.

LIFE HERE

- Southwestern Russia lies near the Black Sea. It has a warm and pleasant climate, and thousands of tourists go there from throughout Russia and Europe for vacation every year.
- Part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help build a health center in this region. The property may also be used for a summer camp, so children such as Katia can enjoy camping and learn more about Jesus.

Katia did not know about Jesus, but she eagerly joined the other children in the activities.

Summer Storms

On the first afternoon of camp, dark clouds gathered, and it started to rain. The campers gathered in the shelter for their programs. It rained all afternoon and through much of the night. But the next morning the sun shone, and hearts grew hopeful. Katia loved camp in spite of the soggy ground.

Then the rain clouds rolled in again, and activities moved to the shelter. The camp staff prayed that the rain would go away, and it stopped raining for a few hours, but soon it started again. The staff taught the children their lessons in the

shelter instead of outside on the ground. But Katia loved it.

With so much rain, the tents leaked, and campers got wet. Bible programs and craft times were held in the shelter instead of outside. The staff was disappointed that they could not use many of the programs they had planned because of the rain. But Katia didn't care; she loved hearing stories of Jesus and learning new songs, for she had never heard about Jesus before. And at camp, Katia learned to pray.

Who Will Pray?

One day when the staff asked for a volunteer to pray, Katia raised her hand. Everyone bowed their heads, and Katia prayed her first prayer. "Dear God, thanks for camp, for my friends, and for the weather. (Yes, Katia even thanked God for the rainy weather!) And most of all, I thank You for Jesus. I love Jesus. Amen."

And from that day on, whenever a leader asked for a volunteer to pray, Katia volunteered.

Katia's mother called to see whether Katia wanted to come home early. But Katia said, "No, Mama. I love camp, and I don't want to come home. I've learned how to pray, and when I come home I will teach you how to pray."

When camp ended, the leaders wished that the rain hadn't spoiled the camp. But Katia didn't mind. She thanked the staff for a wonderful time at camp. She thanked them for teaching her about Jesus, and especially for teaching her how to pray. Then the staff knew that camp had been a success.

Boys and girls, when we invite our friends to come to Sabbath School or to Adventurers or to sing in our children's choir, we are inviting them to learn about Jesus. Someone is waiting for you to invite them to learn about Jesus today. Who will you ask to come? 🌐

COUNTING IN RUSSIAN

Learn to count in Russian. Vowel sounds are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter. Accented syllables are written in capital letters.

Counting

one
three
five
seven
nine
eleven

Pronounce It

a-DEEM
tree
pyeh'ts*
SYEH'meeh
(*meeh is very softly spoken*)
DYEH-vyets*
ah-DEE-naht-sehts*

Counting

two
four
six
eight
ten
twelve

Pronounce It

dva
chih-TEE-ree
shehst
VOH-sehm
DYEH-syeht*
dvee-NAH-tsehts*

* Very soft T with a tiny tch sound.



K R A S N O D A R , R U S S I A | January 26

KIDS Do It!

Children make great missionaries!

Hands flew up throughout the congregation. “I’ll take 100!” one man said. “I want 50,” said another. “May I have 25, please?” a woman asked. “Please, Pastor, I want some too,” a young boy says. The pastor smiles broadly and gives Alexei a pile of newspapers. “I want to share these with my teacher and classmates,” Alexei [ah-LEX-see] says happily.

LIFE HERE

- In cities in Russia, people live in apartment houses. Hundreds of families will live in a single apartment complex made up of six to 12 apartment buildings. While people may not answer their door for a stranger, they will read the mail that comes to their letter boxes.
- Children living in apartment complexes usually play in the open space between apartment buildings. They call this area the yard.

Church members in parts of Russia give out literature each week. Sometimes it is a small tract to encourage people to trust in God. But once a month church members give away a newspaper that tells about church programs and invites people to take part. Alexei and his friends like to be part of this ministry. Some children give away newspapers and tracts in their apartment building, and others stand near a store or bank to give them away. People gladly take a newspaper or tract from a child that they may not take from an adult.

Where to Share?

Alexei filled his backpack with newspapers for his teachers and classmates. He gave some to his friends. But he still had a lot left. His family had given newspapers to the people in his apartment building. *Who can I give these to?* Alexei

wondered. Then he had an idea. *I'll put them into the mailboxes in the apartment house next door!*

Alexei grabbed the remaining newspapers and hurried down the stairs, out the door, and into the next apartment house. He entered the hall where people pick up their mail and began inserting newspapers into each letter box.* He worked his way across the bottom row, then he started on the next row.

As he was finishing the second row, Alexei heard footsteps approaching. He looked up and saw a stern-faced man standing in the doorway. "What are you doing?" the man asked.

Alexei swallowed his fear and said, "I'm putting these newspapers into the letter boxes. They're free, and they talk about Jesus!" Alexei held out a newspaper for the man to see. The man looked at it for several minutes, then he looked at Alexei. *Is he going to report me*

to the apartment managers? he wondered.

May I Help?

"May I help you?" the man asked. It took Alexei a moment to realize what the man meant. Then the man said, "These top boxes are too high for you to reach. I can put your newspapers into them if you wish."

Alexei smiled and gave the man a pile of newspapers. Soon they had given out all the newspapers. Alexei thanked the man for helping him tell the people in the apartment building about Jesus. Then he hurried home.

The next Sabbath when the pastor asked for reports on the missionary literature program, Alexei jumped to his feet, eager to tell how God sent a man to help him be a missionary. 🌍

** In some areas it is not legal to put papers into mail boxes. Check with the local postal service if you wish to do something such as this.*

FUN WITH RUSSIAN

Review the song on page 30 and learn the days of the week in Russian. Vowel sounds are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter. Accented syllables are written in capital letters.

Days of the Week

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

Pronounce It

vahs-kree-SEHN-yeh
pah-nyeh-DYEL-neek
F'TOHR-neek
sri'eh-DAH
chit-VYERK
PYEHT-nee-tsah
soo-BOH-tah



RUSSIA | February 2

SLAVA'S HELPING HANDS | PART 1

Slava helped a neighbor, found a new friend, and introduced her to Jesus.

Slava was lonely. His family had just moved, and he did not have any new friends. Most of the other children were in school, but Slava was too young to go to school yet.

Slava stood at the gate in front of his house watching people walk by. He wished he had someone to play with, but he could not see anyone who wanted a friend.

LIFE HERE

- Children can be missionaries in many ways. Slava made a friend with the only person around—an older woman. As he helped her carry bricks, he talked to her and shared Jesus with her.
- We can make friends for Jesus in many other ways too. We can pick up trash that has blown into the neighbor's yard or offer to play with a puppy that has too much energy for an older person. Jesus is happy when we make friends that we can tell about God's love.

A New Friend

Then a strange squeaking-rattling sound caught his attention. *What is making that noise?* he wondered. Then he saw it. An iron-wheeled wheelbarrow was rattling over the gravel road followed by a wrinkled old woman with a puff of gray hair.

Slava pushed open the gate and ran to the woman. "Where are you going? Why do you have the wheelbarrow?" he asked. The woman stopped pushing her wheelbarrow and smiled at Slava.

"I am going to get some bricks and carry them home," she said.

"May I help you?" Slava asked, his eyes filled with excitement at the thought of adventure. Before the woman could answer, Slava held on to the wheelbarrow and walked beside the woman.

When they reached the pile of old bricks near

his house, the woman began piling them into the wheelbarrow. Slava picked up a brick and carefully placed it in the wheelbarrow, careful not to chip it. As the two picked up bricks, the woman asked, “What is your name?”

Babushka Masha

“I am Slava,” he said, without stopping. “What is your name?”

“You can call me Babushka [bah-BOOSH-kah; grandma] Masha,” she answered. “Isn’t this hard work for you?” she asked.

“No,” Slava answered. “I am strong.”

“Who taught you how to work so well?” Babushka Masha asked, placing another brick beside Slava’s.

“My parents,” Slava said. “Mama reads me stories from the Bible. Jesus wants us to help other people.”

“I go to church,” Babushka Masha said. “But I have never seen you there.”

“I go every Sabbath, but we are new here. Maybe you did not see me.”

“Sabbath?” Babushka Masha said. “Who goes to church on Sabbath?”

“The Bible says that everyone should worship on Sabbath,” Slava said. The wheelbarrow was full, and Slava helped Babushka push it back to her house. Along the way he told her more about his church as he helped stack the bricks in her yard. Then the two started back to get more bricks.

“Do you read the Bible?” Slava asked his new friend.

“No, I do not have a Bible,” Babushka Masha said.

Slava was surprised that his friend had no Bible. As the two walked back to Babushka Masha’s yard, Slava stopped at his gate. “I hope you can go the rest of the way alone,” Slava said. “I have to get something. I will be right back!” And Slava raced through the front gate of his home and into the house.

Boys and girls, what do you think made Slava so excited? We’ll find out next week. 🌐

VEGETARIAN BEEF STROGANOFF

1 20-ounce can (12 cups) vegetarian steaks	2 tablespoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons oil	1 tablespoon chopped parsley
1 medium or large onion, chopped	1 cup hot water
¾ to 1 cup sliced mushrooms	⅔ cup sour cream
1 large clove garlic or ¼ teaspoon garlic powder	⅓ cup grated cheddar cheese
2 or 3 tablespoons beef-like seasoning	1 pound wide egg noodles, cooked
2 teaspoon salt	

Cut vegetarian steaks into bite-size pieces and coat with flour. Sauté in oil until lightly browned. Add onion, mushrooms, and garlic and continue cooking until onion turns transparent. Add beef-like seasoning, salt, soy sauce, and parsley to water. Add to vegetarian steaks and simmer for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally and adding a small amount of additional water if necessary to prevent sticking. Add sour cream and grated cheese; stir until cheese melts. Serve over noodles.



R U S S I A | February 9

SLAVA'S HELPING HANDS | PART 2

Slava's friendship with an old woman introduced her to Jesus.

Young Slava was new in town and was lonely. Then he saw Babushka [bah-BOOSH-kah; grandma] Masha pushing a wheelbarrow down the road. Slava ran to meet her and helped her load the wheelbarrow with bricks.

Slava learned that Babushka Masha did not have a Bible, so as they walked past his house Slava ran into the house and grabbed his mother's Bible. Then he raced to catch up to Babushka Masha.

LIFE HERE

- Children in Russia love to feel that they are part of God's church, just as children everywhere do. They enjoy helping pass out literature for evangelistic meetings, making friends for Jesus, and helping others who need their help.
- Children often can reach adults more easily than adults can, for adults will often listen to a child sharing their faith, even when they refuse to listen to another adult.

Mother's Bible

Slava did not see his mother walking toward him. But she saw him carrying her Bible. "Slava, stop!" Mother called. "Where are you going with my Bible?"

"To Babushka's!" Slava called over his shoulder. "She has never read a Bible before. She needs to read it right away!"

Mother hurried after Slava and followed him into Babushka Masha's yard. She found her son telling the woman, "You must read this book every day! It has wonderful stories in it!"

The woman looked up as Mother entered the yard. "I am Slava's mother," she explained. "Is Slava troubling you?"

Babushka smiled at Mother. "Slava is helping

me carry bricks. He told me about the Bible, and when I said I had no Bible, he brought me this one.”

Come and Visit Us

Mother smiled and assured the old woman that she could borrow the Bible for a few days. “And now that you know where we live, please come and visit Slava and me,” Mother added.

Babushka Masha did not visit Slava’s house, so Slava visited her almost every day. “Why don’t you come?” he asked her. She explained that one does not bother a busy priest, for Slava’s father was a pastor.

Every evening Slava’s mother or father read a Bible story to him from his Bible story book, and the next day Slava told Babushka the Bible story he had learned the night before. One day Babushka asked Slava, “Do you mean to tell me that every story you have told me is in this Bible?”

“Oh, yes,” Slava said.

Don’t Be Afraid

Slava and his mother often invited Babushka Masha to church, but she did not go. So when Slava invited her again, he added, “Don’t be afraid. I will sit beside you.”

Finally Babushka Masha agreed to visit the church with Slava. She liked it and continued going. Every Sabbath Slava walked to Babushka Masha’s house and held her hand as they walked to church. And always he added, “You do not have to be afraid, for I am with you.”

One day Babushka Masha asked Slava’s father if she could become a member of his church. On the day of her baptism, Slava stood beside her as she waited to be baptized. “Don’t be afraid,” he whispered as he squeezed her hand. “I’m right here.”

Boys and girls, making friends for Jesus, as Slava did, is one way to be a missionary. Another way is to bring our mission offerings every week. Let’s be missionaries this week, shall we? 🌍

SING A SONG IN RUSSIAN

Vowel sounds are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter.

GOD IS SO GOOD (*Sing for Joy*, No. 13, or *He Is Our Song*, No. 33)

bohɡ nahsh tahk blahɡ (God is so good)
(repeat three times)

on tahk blahɡ kah mnyeh

yah loo) bloo eh voh (I love Him so)
(repeat three times)

on tahk blahɡ kah mnyeh

loo beht ohn nahs (He loves us)
(repeat three times)

on tahk blahɡ kah mnyeh



S I B E R I A , R U S S I A | February 16

THE MISSIONARY CONGRESS | PART 1

Children enjoy being missionaries.

FAST FACTS

- The part of Russia that lies east of the Ural Mountains is called Siberia. It stretches all the way to the Pacific Ocean and from the Arctic Ocean in the north to China and Mongolia in the south. The name *Siberia* means “sleeping land.”
- Siberia’s winters are long and cold, lasting for seven or eight months. Temperatures can reach -40 degrees or colder, though the region usually gets little snow.
- Much of Siberia is covered with forests. Russia contains about one quarter of the world’s forested area. Lots of wild animals make these forests their home, including the famous Siberian tiger.

Today we will visit a church in the heart of Siberia [*locate Siberia on a map*]. Siberia is a large part of Russia. It is sometimes called the cold heart of Russia. Why do you think it would be called that? [*Let children respond.*] Yes, Siberia is very cold in winter. In fact, for more than half the year the rivers in Siberia freeze, and temperatures seldom get above freezing. [*If you live in a warm climate where children do not experience cold, explain that this would be like living in a huge freezer.*] Children in Siberia are used to the cold, and they go to school even when it snows.

Special Day

Today is a special day. It is the first day that the church members worshipped in their new church building. And their church is special, because it was built with the help of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings three years ago. The church is not quite finished yet, but members are eager to meet together after years of meeting in rented halls and in people’s homes.

The day is marked by a special Sabbath School and worship program in which the children take part. Some children sing, and one girl, Dasha, recites a poem from memory. After church the adults attend a training program to help them be better missionaries in their own neighborhoods. They want to share God's love with others.

While the adults meet in the sanctuary, we gather the children in another room and talk to them. We learn that these children are already being missionaries, even though they have not yet attended a missionary congress.

Dasha's Prayer

Dasha is 7 years old and in the first grade. She likes school and wants to be a teacher when she grows up. She has two brothers, Vladimir, who is 13, and Simeon, who is 4.

Dasha tells us that when she was 5 years old, she went to preschool. When it was time to eat, she bowed her head and prayed in her heart, asking God to bless her food, just as she had learned to do at home. The other children hardly noticed Dasha's silent prayers, but one of her teachers saw her.

This teacher watched her as she bowed her head before lunch every day. And one day she asked Dasha to pray out loud, so all the children could hear her prayer. Dasha was surprised, but she was glad to pray for the other children's meals too. However, another teacher did not like to hear her pray and told Dasha to stop. So Dasha again prayed silently before she ate.

The first teacher asked Dasha to tell her what she prayed, so she could write

it down. She wanted to pray with her own family before they ate.

Dasha told the teacher, "You must pray from your heart, not words that you memorize. God wants to hear what you want to tell Him." The teacher had never prayed before, so Dasha repeated her prayer, and the teacher wrote it down.

Dasha was glad that she had prayed in school, for it helped her teacher learn to pray.

Simeon's Prayer

Simeon is just 3 years old, but even he knows how to pray. One day the telephone rang. It was Father. Simeon listened as his mother talked and watched a worried look come over her face. After she hung up the telephone, Mother told Simeon that Father had hit some ice on the road and had slid off the road.

"We have to pray," Simeon said. So Mother and Simeon prayed that someone would help Father get back on the road. Soon after they prayed, Father called back and said, "You won't believe this. The road I am on has little traffic, and I did not expect a car to pass for hours. But within minutes of the time I called you, a truck driver stopped and helped me get back on the road. And he didn't even ask for money! That's amazing!"

When Simeon heard this, he said, "I prayed, Daddy! God sent that man to help you!"

Dasha and Simeon have learned that praying is one way to be a missionary. Next week we will hear how other children in this church in Siberia are missionaries. Be sure to come! 🌐



S I B E R I A , R U S S I A | February 23

THE MISSIONARY CONGRESS | PART 2

Children can be missionaries.

Last week we met Dasha and Simeon at a missionary congress in Siberia. Who can find Siberia on our map? *[Let a child try. Siberia is the eastern two thirds of Russia.]* Dasha and Simeon told how they had been missionaries. Who remembers how they were missionaries? *[Let children respond.]* They prayed. Today we will meet three other children from this church who are missionaries.

The Harvest Festival

Angelica is 5 years old and goes to kindergarten. Last fall her church had a harvest festival. Everyone brought food to share. Some brought baskets of apples; others brought golden loaves of bread they had baked or pumpkins from their gardens. And some brought jars of home-canned fruits. The food was placed in the front of the sanctuary and made a beautiful display.

The church members invited people to church that day who were poor, who could not work, who had handicaps, or who were too old to tend a garden. After the worship service the church members bagged up the food that was brought and gave it to their visitors.

Then they took the extra bags of food to people who could not come to church. Angelica and her mother took some bags of food to people. When someone answered their door, Angelica smiled and said, "God bless you."

"Everyone was happy to have the food, but I

FAST FACTS

- Review "Fast Facts" about Siberia on page 16.
- Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help the people of Novokuznesk [NOH-voh-kooz-NYESK] finish the church in which the missionary congress was held.

think they were lonely too, because the *babushkas* [bah-BUSH-kahs; grandmothers] wanted us to stay and talk to them.

“It is fun being a missionary for Jesus,” Angelica said.

Singing for Jesus

Natasha is 9 years old. She loves to sing and recite poetry, and at the special church service Natasha recited a long poem from memory. She tells us how she was a missionary to her teacher.

“One day Mother and I met my teacher as we rode to church on the bus,” Natasha said. “She asked where we were going, and Mother said we were going to church.

“The next week the teacher asked me what church I attend, and what the church teaches. I told her what I could, and she seemed really interested. I invited her to visit our church, but because she must teach at the school on Saturdays, she can’t come except during

school holidays.

“When our class was preparing for a school celebration, she changed the day of practice from Saturday to Sunday so I could sing in the choir. I felt really good when my teacher did that. My mother said I was a missionary just by telling my teacher what I believe.”

And Natasha is right; she was being a missionary just by going to church.

Stop Smoking

Natasha’s brother Vladic saw some children at school smoking. He told them that smoking harms their bodies and urged them to stop. Some boys put out their cigarettes, but others refused. Later, when the class ran races, Vladic was the fastest, but the boys who smoked could not run as fast. Vladic told them, “If you stop smoking, you will run as fast as I.”

All three children were missionaries in their own way. How can you be a missionary for Jesus? 🌐

APRICOT KISSEL

Kissel is another popular dessert in the countries of the Euro-Asia Division.

1 cup (6 ounces) dried apricot halves
2 cups water
1/4 cup sugar

3 tablespoons cornstarch
dash salt
whipped cream or sour cream

Simmer apricots in water until tender, about 20 minutes. Place apricots and 2 cups cooking liquid in blender; purée until smooth. Press through a sieve. Mix sugar, cornstarch, and salt in saucepan; gradually stir in purée and remaining cooking liquid. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Boil one minute. Pour into dessert dishes. Serve with whipped cream or sour cream.



M O L D O V A | March 1

NOBODY'S BOY

“Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me” (Psalm 27:10, NIV).

FAST FACTS

- Moldova lies west of Russia and is bordered by Ukraine and Romania. Population is 4.5 million. Chişinău (Kishinev), Moldova's capital and largest city, has roughly 1 million people. As of 2006, almost 12,000 Adventists lived in Moldova, or one Adventist for every 383 people.
- The official language is Moldovan, which is closely related to Romanian. However, most people still speak Russian from the Soviet era.
- The largest religious group is Orthodox Christian, with just under half the population. Other Christian denominations account for about 15 percent of the population.
- The country has rich soil and a warm climate, which makes it possible to produce abundant crops of fruits and vegetables, especially grapes.

Twelve-year-old Yura [YOO-rah]* knows what it is like to be homeless, unwanted, nobody's child. Now he is learning what it means to be loved and accepted by God and God's friends.

Difficult Life

Yura was born in a small village in Moldova. [*Locate Moldova on a map.*] Even as a little boy he had to work hard to help his parents. Life was not happy for little Yura. Then his mother died, and Yura's father sent him to a government boarding school for children whose parents could not care for them. The school had 600 other children, and no one noticed Yura. No one seemed to care that he was lonely, and no one noticed when he sat in a corner and cried.

Yura decided to run away from the

school and return home. But when he arrived, his father scolded him and took him back to the school.

Yura was so unhappy that he was sent to a children's center to live. But there he was treated badly, and again he ran away. Once more he returned home, only to find that his father had a new wife who did not want him there. Yura's father took him back to the children's center and signed papers saying that he did not want his son. Imagine being told that your father does not want you. How would you feel? *[Let children respond.]*

The Runaway

Yura was sent to an orphanage to live, but he was very unhappy. Once more he ran away and returned to his father. Once more he tried to tell his father how hard it was to live in the orphanage. His father allowed him to stay for a few days until he could find another home for the boy. *Doesn't anyone want me?* Yura wondered. *Am I nobody's boy?*

Yura's father took him back to the city. As the social worker drove him to his new home, Yura prepared himself to face one more dingy orphanage and the torments of the children who lived there. But to his surprise the social worker stopped beside a house—a real house. They stepped inside, where the floors were clean and polished; the walls were painted bright, cheerful colors. The house mother greeted him with a smile and introduced him to some of the children, who welcomed him and offered to show him around. *Wow*, he thought, *this place is surely different!* And it was.

A Home of Hope

Yura walked with the house parent to his new room. It was painted in shades of green, and had brightly colored beds and bed covers. He was given his own dresser to store his few clothes and space in a closet. He looked around at the big windows that did not have bars on them. *Am I dreaming?* he asked himself. But he was not dreaming. Rainbow Children's Home was to be his home until he found a permanent home.

"I like it here," Yura says. "The children are nice, and the house parents treat us well. If we do something wrong, they don't beat us. They talk to us and teach us what is right. And instead of being an only child, I now have 25 brothers and sisters. At last I have a real family!

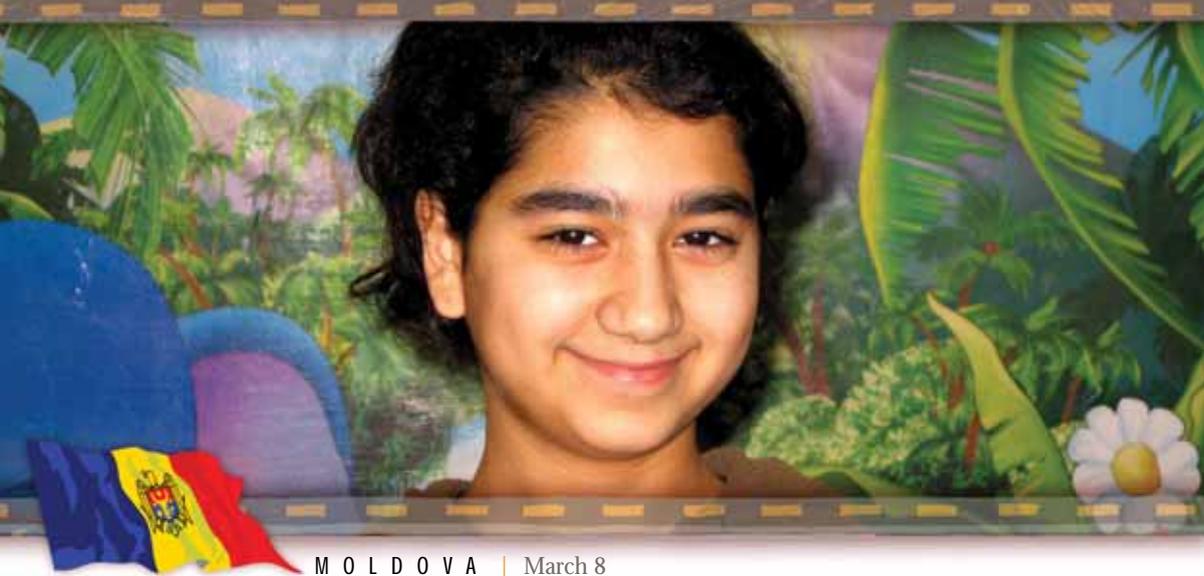
"On Saturdays, a group of teens come to visit. They teach us songs about Jesus and tell us stories about God. I am learning that when I felt alone and forgotten, God was with me. When I felt I was nobody's boy, God called me to be His boy. I am learning to pray and talk to God about stuff in my life. I'm so glad I have found a home at Rainbow Children's Home."

Boys and girls, we all are God's children, so Yura and the other children at Rainbow Children's Home are our brothers and sisters. Let's pray for them this week and ask God to help them meet their big brother, Jesus.

Next week we will meet other children who live at Rainbow Children's Home. Be sure to come and hear their stories. 🌍

**Not his real name.*

Choose an activity from pages 31-34.



M O L D O V A | March 8

A RAINBOW FOR GALINA

A special place offers hope for a better life.

Last week we met Yura, who lives in Moldova. [*Locate Moldova on a map.*]

Moldova is a pretty country, but for many people life is difficult. Some families cannot give their children the food they need to grow strong; others cannot send their children to school. And some children who have no parents must live on the streets, finding food and shelter wherever they can.

Some of these children have found hope and a new life at Rainbow Children's Home. Rainbow is a special place where children are loved and cared for so they don't have to live on the dangerous streets or search for food. Here children can forget their sad past and focus on a better future.

Galina

Before Galina* came to Rainbow Children's Home, she and her brother lived with their mother in a tiny room. Her mother washed bottles to earn money for food, but it was not enough. One day Mother was sent to jail, and the children came to live at Rainbow. When their mother got out of jail and saw where her children lived, she wanted them to stay, for she could never give them a nice home such as they have now. They miss one another, but Mother is glad the children have a good home and are able

FAST FACTS

- ADRA® International is a nongovernmental relief and development agency that helps people in 125 countries to have healthier, happier lives by providing clean water, job training, and literacy programs.
- Our mission offerings help support ADRA's work around the world.

to go to school.

“I like it here,” Galina says. “I share a room with five other girls, and we are like sisters. The older girls take care of the younger ones. We help them with their lessons and take them to school. We brush their hair and help them brush their teeth. And when they cry, we comfort them, just like family.

“When I first came here, the other girls showed me around and helped me feel welcome. It’s nice to live in a good place, where I feel safe and loved.”

A Special Gift

The children’s home was once housed in an old school. The rooms were cold and drafty, and the walls were bare. It was safe, but it was not cheery. Then a kind man and his wife visited the home. They liked the way the children were being cared for by the ADRA workers, but they thought the building was not

good for children. They decided to build a better home for children who had no families. They painted every room a happy color of the rainbow and even included a playroom. They named the new home Rainbow Children’s Home, and it is. It’s a rainbow of happiness.

Rainbow Children’s Home is operated by ADRA International, which is an arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. And our mission offerings help support organizations such as ADRA, so in a way we are helping make a happy home for Galina and her friends. And when the children who live in Rainbow Children’s Home send their love and a big “thank you,” they are really thanking you.

Let’s pray that Galina and the other children at Rainbow Children’s Home will learn that God is with them, no matter what happens in their lives. 🌍

[Close with prayer.]

** Not her real name.*

FUN WITH MOLDOVAN

Learn a few words in Moldovan this week. Vowel sounds are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter. Accented syllables are written in capital letters.

Common Phrase

Good morning
Happy Sabbath
Welcome to Sabath School
Please
Thank you
Yes
No
What is your name?
My name is . . .

Pronounce It

BOO-nuh dee-mee-NEE-tshah
SAH-baht feh-ree-CEET
boon veh-neet lah skoh-ah-lah deh SAH-baht
VUH-rohg
mool-tsoo-MEHSK
dah
noo
koom vah noo-MEHTS-eh
NOO-meh-leh meu YEHS-teh



M O L D O V A | March 15

A RAINBOW FOR THE CHILDREN

A special home offers love and hope for homeless children.

Last week we met a girl who lives in a special home, a home just for children. Who remembers what the home is called? [*Let children respond.*] Yes, it was called Rainbow Children's Home, in the country of Moldova. [*Locate Moldova on a map.*]

Rainbow Children's Home was a gift of love to homeless children in Moldova. Rooms are painted in rainbow colors. Perhaps that is where the name came from. And children who had no hope for a good life now live in a home where they find love and care and can go to school, just as you do, so they can have better lives when they grow up. Let's meet some other children who live at Rainbow.

Ivan

Ivan* is 7 years old and in the first grade. He likes school and is a good student. Ivan and his little sister, Irina*, have lived at Rainbow for three years.

"I like living here!" Ivan says. "I have lots of friends, and the older boys are like big brothers. They help me and protect me from the older boys at school. Here I feel like a normal child who lives in a house with a mother and father. We have house parents who love us like our own family."

Ivan has learned a lot while living in Rainbow Children's Home. "I have learned to get along with other boys of all ages

LIFE IN MOLDOVA

- Review "Fast Facts" on page 22.
- This quarter part of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help build a church in the capital city of Moldova.

while I've been here. On Saturdays some young people come to hold programs for us. We sing songs and hear stories about Jesus. I like that!"

Irina

Irina* is 9 years old and has been at Rainbow for three years too. She and her three sisters share a room with two other girls. "My biggest sister is like my mother," Irina says. "She makes sure I dress well, brush my teeth, and do my homework.

"I like everything about Rainbow Children's Home, but especially I like my beautiful room, and the playroom with its pretty decorations. I like the other children, and I really like the good food!

"We all have jobs to do at home, so we feel that it is our home. We want to take good care of our new home,

because it is so beautiful. The older children help us younger ones know how to take good care of our home!

"Here we have learned to pray before our meals and before we go to bed," she says. "And on Saturdays I like it when the young people come to sing for us and teach us about Jesus."

Mission

The children at Rainbow shower visitors with love. They draw pictures and give them to guests to let them know the children love them.

Jesus wants everyone to know that He loves them. He sends people into our lives to help us learn about God. Let's ask God to bless the children of Rainbow Children's Home right now. 🌍

**Not their real names.*

FUN WITH MOLDOVAN

Learn to count in Moldovan. Vowel sounds are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter; accented syllables are written in capital letters.

Number

one
two
three
four
five
six
seven
eight
nine
ten

Write it

unu
doi
trei
patru
cinci
sase
sapte
opt
noua
zece

Pronounce It

OO-noo
doy
trey
PAH-troo
chinch
SHA-seh
SHAHp-teh
ohpt
NOH-wah
ZEH-chay



MOTHER, LET'S GO!

A child's insistence changes his mother's life.

FAST FACTS

- Kazakhstan [KAH-zahk-stahn] lies south of Russia in Central Asia.
- Kazakhstan is dry with little rain; two thirds of the territory is desert. Summers are hot, and winters are cold, with temperatures falling well below freezing. During the winter most of the country is covered in snow.
- More than 15 million people live in Kazakhstan, most of whom are Muslim. Only a few hundred are Seventh-day Adventists.
- Most villagers live in brick homes with electricity, but without running water. Most city dwellers live in small apartments built during Communist times.

—Information adapted from Microsoft® Encarta® 2006. © 1993-2005 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Today's story comes from the country of Kazakhstan [KAH-zahk-stahn]. *[Locate Kazakhstan on a map.]*

Pastor Alexander stood at the door of the meeting hall to greet the people who had come to the evangelistic meetings that evening. A woman and her young son walked up. The pastor shook her hand as she said something unusual. "I don't believe in God. My son, Sergey [SEHR-gay], begged me to bring him, so I came." Then she walked away.

The next night Pastor Alexander scanned the auditorium and found the woman and her son sitting toward the back. He smiled, hoping they would see him. And after the sermon, he watched for them to so he could thank them for coming back.

Sergey and his mother returned every night. Pastor Alexander noticed that Sergey's mother was writing something as he spoke. Was she writing letters to friends? Drawing pictures to avoid listening? After

the meeting he saw the notebook she carried and realized that she was taking notes on his sermons. Once again he smiled and thanked her for coming.

The Invitation

One evening Pastor Alexander stopped Sergey and asked, “What made you want to come to these meetings?”

“One day a lady and her son were standing in the street, and the boy gave me an invitation to come,” Sergey said. “The lectures sounded interesting, and I asked my mother to bring me, but she said the lectures were about religion, and she did not want to know about religion because she did not believe in God.

“I really wanted to come and learn more about God, so I felt bad that my mom did not want to go. I decided to ask Mother every evening to please go with me to the lectures. Finally she agreed to take me to just one meeting.

“I liked that first meeting so much! The songs made me feel happy, and the pictures you showed were so interesting. I begged my mother to come the next night, and she has brought me every night.” Sergey looked at his mother and smiled, and Pastor Alexander thought he could see just the smallest smile on Sergey’s mother’s face as well.

Prayer Changes Hearts

The next day Pastor Alexander told the church members about Sergey and his mother. The church members prayed that God would speak to Sergey’s mother and convince her that God is real and alive and that He loves her.

Night after night Sergey and his mother came to the meetings, and Pastor Alexander could see her taking

notes. Then one night the pastor invited the people to give their hearts to God. Many people stood, saying they wanted to accept Jesus as their Savior. And among them were Sergey and his mother! How happy Pastor Alexander was to see Sergey and his mother give their lives to God.

The new believers studied the Bible with church members for several weeks. When it was time for the first baptism, Sergey’s mother was ready to be baptized. The new believers were baptized in a large river.

The Little Missionary

After the baptism, Pastor Alexander found Sergey and told him, “Thank you for bringing your mother to the meetings, son. Because of you, she has found Jesus and has started a new life. Soon you will be old enough to be baptized too, but already you are a missionary for Jesus, because you brought your mother to hear about Him.”

Sergey’s face broke into a big smile. “Really?” he said happily. “I like being a missionary!”

Boys and girls, God wants us all to be missionaries. We can invite our neighbors, our friends, our aunts and uncles and cousins to learn about God. We can invite them to special programs at church or to our homes. We can pray for them and tell them that Jesus loves them. And if we cheerfully obey our parents and our teachers, others will see that our lives are different and will want to know why we are happy. Then we can tell them, “It’s Jesus! He makes the difference in me!”

Let’s all try to be a missionary this coming week. 🌐

Choose an activity from pages 31-34.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH PROGRAM

If your division will present the Thirteenth Sabbath program for the adults:

- Practice the songs on pages 6 and 17.
- Give out parts for the skit (below) and practice several times before the Thirteenth Sabbath program.
- Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering the next week.

If your division will not join the adults for a special program, make Thirteenth Sabbath special by adapting the skit (below).

- Remind the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Make the offering appeal a big event in Sabbath School. Count the money and let the children know how much they have brought for missions during the quarter. Praise them for what they have done and let them know that their offerings will make a big difference to children just like them who live in the Euro-Asia Division.
- Invite a special guest to speak to the children about life in one of the countries of Euro-Asia. Encourage the speaker to bring items that will interest the children and help them to understand the culture and challenges of the people there.

Participants and Props: Ask seven children to take the speaking parts below. They do not need to memorize their parts, but they should be able to read them clearly. If necessary, ask some juniors to help you.

Create large signs listing the individual projects for children to carry across the stage.

Narrator: Today is Thirteenth Sabbath, and the children have spent this quarter learning about the people in the Euro-Asia Division. They will tell you what our offering today will do to help the people of this division share their faith with others.

Child 1: Russia is the largest country in the world. It stretches almost halfway around the globe and crosses 11 time zones. But most of the people in Russia live in the western third of the country. Russia has about 49,000 Seventh-day Adventist Christians. That is just one Adventist for every 3,000 people. So there is much to do here.

Child 2: The believers in southwestern

Russia give out tracts and church newspapers to tell others about Jesus. The children share in this missionary work. One boy, Alexei [ah-LEX-ee], was putting his papers into the mail boxes in an apartment house when a man saw him. He asked Alexei what he was doing, and Alexei told him he was telling people about Jesus. Instead of being mad, the man asked if he could help. Maybe someone will come to Jesus because of Alexei's work.

Narrator: [Child walks across the stage with a sign saying "Health Center."] This region of Russia is a popular vacation area. Thousands of people come here to rest and regain their health. Part of today's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

will help to establish a health retreat in the area near the Black Sea in southwestern Russia.

Child 3: East of the Ural Mountains is Siberia. Siberia is very cold in the winter, and life is hard. During Communist times many people were sent to Siberia. Just 6,000 Adventists live in Siberia.

[Child crosses platform with a sign reading “Church in Novokuznesk.”]
Our offering will help believers in Novokuznesk [NOH-voh-kooz-NYESK] finish their church, which they have worked on for many years.

Child 4: *[Child crosses platform with a sign reading “Church in Vladivostok.”]*
On the eastern edge of Siberia lies the city of Vladivostok. Years ago the government took away the Adventist church and gave believers a small room in which to worship. Now they have land and can build a new church. They are excited that we will help them to build their new church.

Child 5: *[Child walks across platform with a sign reading “Church in Moldova.”]*
The country of Moldova lies next to Ukraine. This small country has more than 11,000 members—one Adventist for every 340 people. While many of the people here are poor, their hearts are rich with love for Jesus.

Child 6: *[Child walks across platform with a sign reading “Church in Belarus.”]*
Belarus lies west of Russia. It also is a small country. Sharing the gospel

here has been difficult, but the church is growing. Today there are 5,000 believers, or one Adventist for every 2,000 people.

Child 7: The countries of Kazakhstan [KAH-zahk-stan] and Kyrgyzstan [KEER-gee-stan] are in the Southern Union of the Euro-Asia Division. Most of the people in these countries do not worship God. With just one Adventist for every 9,000 people in this region, there is lots of work to do.

[Child walks across platform with a sign reading “Community Center in Almaty.”]
In Almaty, the largest city in southern Kazakhstan, the church is opening a community center that will provide medical care, English language classes, and a church to visit.

[Child walks across platform with a sign reading “Upgrade elementary school.”]
In Kyrgyzstan we have only 1,350 Adventists. But we have opened an elementary school that needs to expand to include secondary classes. Part of today’s offering will help upgrade that school.

Narrator: *[Children with signs walk across front of church or down the aisles as narrator speaks.]* These are the projects for this quarter. Your children have learned about these countries and have given their mission offerings. Now it’s your turn to give. As the children sing, the deacons will collect the offering. Ask God what He would have you give to help Euro-Asia today.

[Offering]

SING A RUSSIAN SONG

DOBROTA

“Dobrota” means “kindness.”

Verse:

Mountains, sea, and hill, forest, field, and flowers,
Blue sky above me,
Wolves, rabbits, ground hogs, birds, fish, and elephants,
My Savior created all this for us.

Chorus:

Imagine that there were no sin on Planet Earth.
All people would be kinder,
And flowers more tender,
And the sun would never be dim.

D F#m
Gor-ree, mo-ray ee hol-mui, lyes ee poh-lyeh ee tsveh-tee Go-lu

Em A7 D D
boy-eh nye-bah nah dam m'noy Vol-keeh, zy-chick-ee, krah-teh, pu-teech-kee

F#m Em A7 D
rib-key ee slah-nee flyo sahs-dahl dl-yah nahs spah-see-til moy.

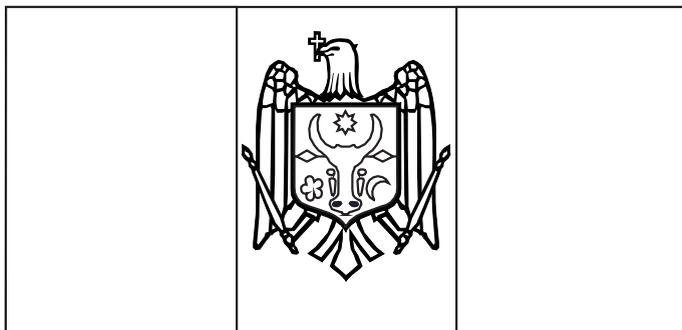
pp. G A Hm A G
Nah zem-yleh plah-niet-eh niet gri- ha. Tee pre-

D Em A7 D
eh-stahf, shtoh bwee-law bwee tahg-da Bwee-lib lyu-dee sieh da-bray Ah tsveh-

F#m Em A7 D
tee ye-shoh niezh-nay. Nyeh pah-mier-klah buh sohln ts-yeh nee-kog-dah.

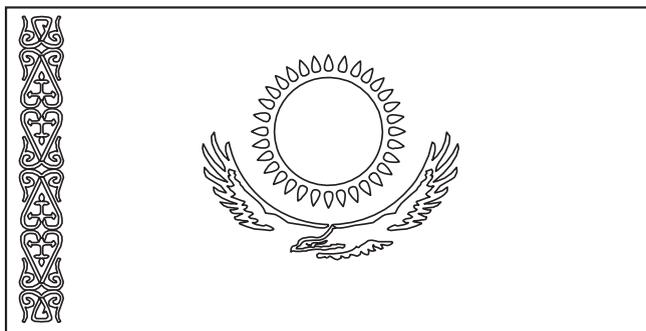
From “Singing Hearts,” published by Source of Life Publishing House, Euro-Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventists®, Zaoksky, Russian Federation.

FLAGS OF EURO-ASIA DIVISION



MOLDOVA

Left panel: slate blue, center panel: gold with red bird, right panel: red



KAZAKHSTAN
Blue with yellow design



RUSSIA

Top panel: white, center panel: dark blue, bottom panel: red

COLOR A MATRYUSHKA

Copy the pattern below onto heavy white paper stock or card stock for the children to color and cut out. Use as decorations on a bulletin board, or tape two together at the top to make a stand-up figure. To keep dolls in a standing position, cut a strip of poster board about nine inches long and one inch wide. Fold it into thirds and tape the two ends onto the back of the matryushka so that the middle section stands on the tabletop.



CRACK THE CODE

Below is a Bible verse written in code. The symbols are letters of the Russian alphabet. Can you crack the code and read the Bible promise? Check your answer by looking up Philippians 4:13 in the New King James Version.

A	B	K	D	Z	f	g	W	I	J
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
L	M	N	O	P	R	S	C	U	X
L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	W

I KAN DO ALL cWINGNS

CWROUGW KWRI SC XWO

SCRZNGCWZNS MZ.

PWI L. 4:13

MAKE A RUSSIAN BOOKMARK

These easy-to-make bookmarks are a favorite children's craft in the Euro-Asia Division. They make lovely prayer reminders. Perhaps your children would enjoy making them for the adults in your congregation or for shut-ins as well as for themselves.

FOR EACH BOOKMARK YOU WILL NEED:

- two pieces of paper (contrasting colors) 1 to 1½ inches wide and 6 to 8 inches long
- children's safety scissors
- colored ribbon in 8-inch lengths (optional)
- glue stick or liquid glue
- toothpicks for spreading glue

1. Fold the lighter colored piece of paper in half lengthwise.
2. Carefully cut 10 to 12 evenly spaced slits in the folded side of the paper at an angle (see illustration).
3. Unfold paper and lay flat on a table. Beginning at the bottom, carefully fold up every other V-shaped cut. Leave the alternate V cuts alone.
4. Using a toothpick, place a tiny dab of glue on each of the folded V sections to hold them in place.



5. Turn the cut paper over and apply glue to the back. Place it on the contrasting paper and press in place.
6. Punch a hole at the top of the bookmark and tie a piece of thin ribbon to the finished bookmark.
7. If desired, write a message on the bookmark paper that will be used for backing, such as "Thank you for remembering the Euro-Asia Division this Quarter."

Following are sources of information that have proved helpful in preparing programs for *Children's Mission*. You may want to order these for your own Sabbath School.

BOOKS

Jesus Loves the Children of the World and *Precious in His Sight*, Bev Gundersen (Monarch Publishing, 7113 Snow Owl Lane, Lino Lakes, MN 55014), contains reproducible drawings of children from around the world wearing costumes of their region.

You Can Change the World: Learning to Pray for People Around the World, Jill Johnstone (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993), volumes 1, 2. These books offer full-color illustrations and descriptions of people from Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Siberia, and Uzbekistan designed to help children understand about unreached people groups around the world.

COOKBOOKS

Adventurous Vegetarian, Colin Spencer (London: Adrian Morris Publishing Ltd., 1989).

Betty Crocker's International Cookbook (New York: Random House, 1980).

Vegetarian Cookery, Patricia Hall Black and Ruth Little Carey (Mountain View, Calif.: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1971), volume 5.

MISCELLANEOUS

Library: Browse through the children's and travel sections of a public library or bookstore for picture books on the countries of Euro-Asia Division.

Travel agencies often have colorful brochures on popular tourist destinations. Call or visit one and ask what they have available to help you portray the scenery and culture of Euro-Asia.

Embassies and Tourism Offices: Sometimes embassies operate tourism offices that can provide interesting information on their country. In North America contact the following:

Russian National Tourist Office, 130 West 42nd St., #412, New York, NY 10036, or the Russian Cultural Center, 1825 Phelps Place NW, Washington, DC 20008 (202-265-3840), e-mail: rcc@rccusa.org. Their Web site is www.russianembassy.org.

Embassy of Belarus, 1619 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20009. Their Web site is www.belarusembassy.org/.

Embassy of Kazakhstan, 1401 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202-232-5488), Web site: www.kazakhembus.com/.

Embassy of Moldova Web site: www.embassyrm.org/.

For further information on individual countries, check the CIA Factbook at www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/md.html.

The following Web sites contain cultural information and activities on Russia that may help you prepare for your mission programs this quarter. Russia: www.kidsculturecenter.com/russia/russia.htm or the kids' page found at www.kidsculturecenter.com/russia/russ_kidspage.htm.

MCHILDREN'S MISSION

FIRST QUARTER 2008
EURO-ASIA DIVISION

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Euro-Asia Division

ARCTIC OCEAN

Euro-Asia Division

UNIONS	CHURCHES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Caucasus	161	9,891	34,031,139
East Russian	97	6,077	22,346,752
Moldova	153	11,724	3,980,000
Southern	107	6,597	58,955,000
Ukrainian	896	61,427	46,755,000
West Russian	434	34,692	93,913,293
Belarus Conference	75	5,020	9,727,000
Far Eastern Mission	62	3,317	7,970,816

Totals June 30, 2006 1,985 138,745 277,679,000

PROJECTS:

- ① Churches in Brest, Belarus; Chişinău (Kishinev), Moldova; Irkutsk, Krasnodar, and Petropavlovsk Kamchatskiy, Russia.
- ② Community Outreach Center in Almaty, Kazakhstan



PACIFIC OCEAN