



CHILDREN'S MISSION



2014 • **QUARTER 3** • EURO-ASIA DIVISION



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On the Cover: Karina loves her school in Lviv, Ukraine, and hopes to continue studying there.


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Your Offerings at Work



Three years ago part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped provide Sabbath School lesson material in the local languages for children in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. Thanks to your generous offerings, the boys and girls in these countries can now enjoy their Sabbath School lessons and stories in their very own language. Thank you!



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Dear Sabbath School Leader,

This quarter features the people of the Euro-Asia Division (ESD), which spans across the polar regions of the Arctic Circle to the predominantly Muslim regions in the south. The map on the back of this magazine shows the countries of ESD. Most of these countries were part of the former Soviet Union, which for 70 years restricted religious freedom.

Today these countries are home to more than 316 million people, but with only about 120,000 Adventists. Our focus this quarter is on the city of Kazan, Tatarstan, Russia; Minsk, Belarus; and several places across Ukraine.

As the quarter begins, I encourage you to give an overview of the ESD region and special projects by showing the special 9-minute Thirteenth Sabbath video, "Faithful Members." The program is on your free Mission 360 DVD or may be downloaded at: www.adventistmission.org/DVD.

Opportunities

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help:

- build a church/center of influence in Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation.
- establish a church/center of influence in Minsk, Belarus.
- build or expand schools in Cherkasy, Lviv, and Vinnytsya, Ukraine.
- establish an educational complex in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine.

CHILDREN'S PROJECT: build a children's playground in front of the church in Kazan.



A special message to the children:
Isn't it nice to belong to a family? No matter how big or small your own family is, it's wonderful to know that we belong to a huge, worldwide family of more than 18 million members, living in 200+ countries. That's one, big, family!

Each quarter, you will get to meet some new brothers and sisters in a certain part of the world. Let's get to know them! Not every story will feature a mission project, but I hope you will feel like you know more about the children there, and that your heart will be touched to do all you can to help them carry out Adventist mission in their part of the world!



Your friend,
Miss Gina
Gina Wahlen, Editor, *Mission*

PS: I would love to hear from you! You can let me know which story was your favorite, or what you and your class do to help fulfill Adventist mission in your part of the world! You can email me at: childrensmision@adventistmission.org, or write: Miss Gina, editor, Adventist Mission, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904, U.S.A.



UKRAINE | July 5

Hungry for the Word

Volodya

When I was born, the umbilical cord was wrapped so tightly around my neck that it was choking me. Fortunately the doctor was able to unwrap it in time so that I could take my first breath.

By the time I was 3 years old, my parents divorced, and I did not see my father again.

Life became very hard for my mother and me and she often wished she could die. But she was worried about who would take care of me. Sometimes she would just hug me and cry.

One day all of the electricity in our small apartment was cut off because we couldn't pay the bill. It was so cold, but without electricity we weren't even able

“Would you be willing to go without food for two weeks, but have a Bible instead?”

to boil water for tea. We hardly had any food, and I often went to school hungry.

The Concert

We lived like this for many years, and my mother and I were always sad. One day when I was 12 years old, a friend invited my mother to a concert celebrating the birth of Jesus. The concert was at a Seventh-day Adventist church, and even though my mom didn't know anything about Jesus, she decided to go with her friend to the concert. It was during that concert that my mom heard the story of Jesus for the first time.

When she returned home, my mother told me that there was a God who loves us, who wanted us to live and to be happy.

Fast Facts

- More than 97% of the religious communities now registered in Ukraine are Christian. About half of these communities are of the Orthodox tradition. The other half is divided among Catholics and Protestants
- The population of Ukraine is 44.8 million. Ukrainians love to read, and the country boasts a 99.7% literacy rate.
- The Ukrainian currency is called the “Hryvnia.”

As she was telling me about the concert, her face was very happy, and I could see that she wanted to live.

We wanted to learn more about this God, and especially wanted to have our own Bible—but where could we find one? It wasn't easy to find a Bible in Ukraine at that time.

Bible or Food?

Then one day my mother learned where we could buy a Bible—but it would cost a lot of money—almost all of the money we had for two weeks. At that time my mom was working in a café, where she earned the equivalent of just two U.S. dollars per week. It was barely enough for us to buy food. We both understood that we didn't have enough money to buy the Bible and to eat.

My mother looked at me and asked, “My son, would you be willing to go without food for two weeks, but have a Bible instead?” I told her, “Yes, I'm willing to be hungry so we can have a Bible.”

She bought the Bible, and as she began reading it, I could see that my mother was changing. She was happier. She started

to punish me less and talk with me more, which of course made me happier, too!

Count the Cost

For several months my mom attended the Adventist church. But then bad things started happening with my neighborhood friends. They had heard that my mom and I had joined a “cult,”* and suddenly all of my friends were against me! They didn't want to play football with me anymore—when I came outside, they would all go home. I thought maybe if I tried smoking, like my friends, that would bring them back. But nothing worked—I didn't know what to do, and I felt very lonely without my friends.

Prayer Changes Things

Then one day the Adventist pastor invited us to stay with his family for a while. During worship time the pastor would pray for me, but I could feel a war in my heart—should I accept Jesus as my Savior, or should I try to be accepted by my old friends? Every time the pastor prayed for me, I would leave the room.

My mother was taking Bible studies from the pastor, and she often shared with me the things she was learning—about the seventh-day Sabbath, about how to live as a Christian, and other things like that. And I knew that my mom was praying for me.

Then things started to change in my heart. I could see how my mother was changing for the better. I was learning the Bible truths that she was sharing with me. I knew that she and the pastor were praying for me. All of these things had a big effect on me. I decided that I wanted to follow Jesus, and was baptized. 🌍

* a religion that is considered strange or dangerous



UKRAINE | July 12

André

Saved by the Sabbath

André grew up in the western Ukrainian city of Lutsk. At school, he became friends with a boy named Pavel. Pavel was different from the other students at the school. He was a Christian, but not like Orthodox Christians who went to church on Sundays. Pavel was a Seventh-day Adventist Christian who went to church on Saturdays.

Since Andre wasn't any kind of Christian, he didn't care about when or where people went to church. He and Pavel were just friends.

Pavel and Andre went to school together for many years. After they finished high school, they both planned to go to the city of Lviv to study at

“André really wanted to go to the air show, but he could see that his friend was serious about going to church.”

the Lviv National Academy of Arts.

In order to get into this school, all students had to take a test, so Pavel and Andre went together to take the academy's entrance exam. After

finishing the test, the two friends decided to explore the campus

Life-Impacting Decision

As they were walking around the school, the boys noticed a large sign on an announcement board. There was going to be a special air show commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the Ukrainian Air Force's 14th Air Corps. The event would be held at Sknyliv Airfield, just six kilometers (3.7 miles) from central Lviv.

Mission Post

Previous Thirteenth Sabbath Mission Offerings have helped our brothers and sisters in the Euro-Asia Division by providing:

- an evangelistic center, dental/physical therapy clinic, and primary school in Kishinev, Moldova
- a medical center in Kiev, Ukraine
- evangelistic centers in Almaty, Kazakhstan; Vitebsk, Belarus; Tbilisi, Georgia; and Khabarovsk, Russia
- youth centers in Podolsk and Krasnoyarsk, Russia
- a multi-purpose building on the campus of Zaoksky Theological Seminary in Zaoksky, Russia.
- churches in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Irkutsk, Krasnodar, and Petrapavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia; Luhansk and Sumy, Ukraine; Brest, Belarus; and Kishinev, Moldova.
- Sabbath School lesson materials for children in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Andre and Pavel were excited! They really wanted to go see the fast jets and amazing acrobatics at the air show!

But all of a sudden Pavel became quiet. He had noticed the date of the air show: July 27, 2002. Realizing that day was a Sabbath, he decided that he would not be going to the air show after all.

Turning to his friend, Pavel asked, “Andre, I’m going to church on July 27, would you like to come with me?”

Now it was Andre’s turn to think. He

really wanted to go to the air show, but he could see that his friend was really serious about going to church, and he became curious about why Pavel would rather go to church instead of the air show. He decided to accept his friend’s invitation.

That Sabbath the two boys went to church and spent the whole day there having a wonderful time with many other young people.

Terrible Disaster

What Pavel and Andre didn’t know was that while they were at church, the worst air show disaster in history was happening at the nearby air show. Just before 1:00 p.m. a very fast military jet, flown by two experienced pilots, crashed and exploded into the crowd of spectators. Seventy-seven people died. Another 100 people had to go to the hospital because they were badly hurt. Another 443 people were hurt but did not go to the hospital.

When Andre heard the news the next day, he was shocked. “If I had gone to the air show instead of going to church with Pavel, I could have died or been really hurt!” Andre became friends with many young people at the Adventist church, and after one year he decided to be baptized.

Later Andre wanted to become a pastor and help other young people to learn about the truth of Jesus. He is now a student at the Adventist university in Bucha, where he is studying to become a pastor.

By bringing your Thirteenth Sabbath Mission Offering to Sabbath School, you will help many more children and young people learn about Jesus and His wonderful Sabbath. Thank you! 🌍



UKRAINE | July 19

André

Good From Bad Part 1

André had a very difficult childhood. But even though life for him and his family was hard, God brought good things out of a bad situation. Here is André's story in his own words:

My family consists of my mother, myself, my older sister, and my younger brother. My father died when I was 2 months old. When I was 2 years old my mother married for the second time, and after that my younger brother was born. We were not Christians.

My mother's new husband was a good workman, but then he became acquainted with

bad friends and became a bad man. He started drinking vodka, and he lost his job.

My stepfather would often beat us and my mother left him each time he beat us. After the third time my mother left him, my stepfather sold our house for almost nothing.

Wandering Like Vagabonds

For the next 11 years we didn't have a home, and we became just like

vagabonds, moving from place to place. My mother left my stepfather again, and we rented a small apartment.

But he found us again. My stepfather apologized for what he had done,

"We had to trust in God, because we didn't even have a kopeck in our pockets."

and he moved in with us again. But the peace didn't last for very long. He started drinking and beating us again.

It was during this time, when I was 7 years old, that this man tried to kill my mother, but God saved her. We ran away to the home of my mother's friend in Moldova (a country between Ukraine and Romania), but my stepfather somehow found out where we were. We decided to quickly leave before he came to the house. As we were leaving, my mother's friend gave her a small book of Psalms from the Bible. It was the first time we had ever seen a Bible or part of a Bible. The friend told my mother to read Psalm 91 and God would save us.

We had to trust in God, because we didn't even have a kopeck* in our pockets.

We didn't know where to go, but we left because we wanted to be as far away as possible from that terrible man.

Free Rides

We got on a bus and told the driver about our problem, and he agreed to let us ride without paying anything. We got to the train station, and we were reading Psalm 91. Mother got acquainted with another woman from Ukraine who was also at the railway station. The woman persuaded Mother to come back to Ukraine, but my mother explained that we didn't have any money.

The woman said, "No problem. We should get on the train and go to Ukraine, and everything will work out." So we got on the train with this woman, and we continued to read Psalms. We were able to get to Ukraine without spending any money for the journey. When we arrived in Ukraine, the woman who was with us gave us five hryvnias**, and that money helped us travel to my aunt's house.

But somehow my stepfather found us again! And this time he brought a Bible with him that he had stolen from an old woman. He wanted to look good in my mother's eyes, and he wanted to show us that he was reading the Bible and was becoming a good person. 🌍

To be continued next week.

* Similar to a penny—the least of all coins.

** At that time, five hryvnias were equal to about one U.S. dollar.



photo: ThinkStock.com

André and his mother rode a train like this one from Moldova back to Ukraine.



UKRAINE | July 26

André

Good From Bad Part 2

Last week we learned how André grew up in a home where he, his mother, and sister were constantly having to run away from his stepfather who drank alcohol and would often beat them. One day a friend gave them a Bible and told them to read Psalm 91. God helped them to return to their home country, but then the mean stepfather found them again. We now continue reading André's story in his own words.

One day our stepfather told my sister and me that there was a rule in the Bible saying that we should not work on the Sabbath. He told us that if we didn't work on the Sabbath day we would see the angels. We were happy about that, so we tried not to work on that

day in order to see the angels. But after a while we forgot about it because we didn't see any angels!

After another situation with my stepfather we moved to another city, but he found us yet again! He began reading the Bible to us again. He read that we must not eat pork, so we decided to follow this rule and not eat any pork.

One day our landlord offered to bring some pork to our apartment and sell it to us. We decided not to have him bring it because the Bible said that we shouldn't even touch this meat.

"My mother wasn't interested in that information, but my sister and I were listening."

Special Visitors

Sometime after this my little brother was born. My mother thought that this would stop her husband from

beating us, but it didn't happen that way. After we left him again, some people came to our apartment and told us about God and the Bible. My mother wasn't interested in that information, but my sister and I listened.

When we discovered that these people kept the Sabbath and didn't eat pork, we became very interested because we didn't know that such people even existed. From that moment, my sister and I decided to go to their church. That family took us to church every week, and one year later we were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. After three years, our mother was also baptized. The family who visited us and took us to church had nine children. They had come to the village in which we were living because there were no Adventist churches there. They were Adventist missionaries, and they brought us and another family to Christ.

An Answer to Prayer

After becoming Adventist Christians, my sister and I earnestly prayed that our abusive stepfather would never come back. By this time I was 13 and my sister



This monument featuring horses is located in western Ukraine.

was 15. During the next four years, we did not see this man. We thought that maybe he had died. Then one day he showed up again. He was homeless, but this time our mother told him that he could no longer live with us. God answered our prayers, and we never saw him again.

Serving Jesus

Our church wasn't big, and after being baptized, I became a Sabbath School teacher when I was 13. After finishing high school I studied how to become a medical missionary. Then I moved to Uman, Ukraine, where I went to college and became a nurse.

I taught Sabbath School again in Uman, and then became head deacon of our large church and district. After a year, I became a lay preacher and was given my own district where I could be a missionary. After our church there grew, the conference invited me to become a pastor.

André is now a student at the Adventist university in Bucha, Ukraine, where he is studying theology. He is thankful that God can take even very bad situations and bring good out of them. 🌍

Fast Facts

- Europe's second largest country, Ukraine means "Land on the edge." It is an apt name for a country on the eastern fringe of the European steppe.
- The capital city is Kiev.
- The main language is Ukrainian, and Russian is also widely spoken.
- The horse was first domesticated in Ukraine!



UKRAINE | August 2

Always a Missionary

Yan

Yan wants to be a missionary wherever he goes. When he was about 7 years old, Yan and his family moved to the Philippines. They lived on the campus of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS, pronounced “EYE-us), where his father, and many other students from Ukraine and Russia were studying.

One day Yan and his father went with a group of people to a small, poor village. “There were about 20 children there,” Yan remembered. “They didn’t have much food, and they lived in very bad conditions. We gave them food and told the children Bible stories.”

A Missionary Program

When Yan and his father returned to their apartment, they decided to put

together a missionary program for the Slavic* community at AIAS.

“We started going to this village every Sabbath,” said Yan. “We had a special church service for them, because they wanted us to be with them. We told them stories and brought food, and we played with the children. We were all happy.”

The Slavic group also arranged for medical doctors to come to the village to provide care for the people.

Even though Yan’s father has completed his studies at AIAS and the family has moved back to Ukraine, they still heard from their Filipino friends from the little village.

Still A Missionary

Yan’s father, Felix, now teaches Old

*“Slavic” is a term used to describe people from Russia, Ukraine, and other Eastern European countries.

Testament and New Testament classes at the Adventist University in Bucha (near Kiev), and his mother, Liliya, teaches music. Yan is a musician, and at age 10 he is already an excellent violinist. Even though he is back in his home country, he still continues to be a missionary.

Yan has played his violin in some regional competitions, with his mother accompanying him on the piano, and he has done very well. One day his violin teacher signed him up for another competition, but it was being held on Sabbath. Yan told his teacher that he wouldn't be able to participate in that competition because it was being held on a Saturday, but she wrote his name on the list anyway. Not only that, but this time she arranged for him to be accompanied by the entire orchestra.

His teacher thought that since everything was arranged with the whole orchestra, surely Yan would agree to play in the competition on Sabbath. But he wouldn't.

Furious, his teacher exclaimed, "My mother goes to a Protestant church too. But she goes on Sunday. Why can't you be like others? You're going the wrong way against the whole world!"

Other Priorities

Yan and his mother calmly explained to the teacher, "We have other priorities. This is a holy time for us. We want to do what God wants us to do."

On the day of the competition, Yan and his family were at church while his

"We have other priorities. . . . We want to do what God wants us to do."

teacher and the other music students were at the competition. For a while after that the teacher was very cold toward Yan, but she's beginning to warm up again. Yan continues to

do his best on the violin and practices regularly, which makes his teacher happy. He hopes that one day she too will enjoy the blessings of knowing God and honoring Him on His holy Sabbath day.

A few years ago the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped to build a dormitory at the Adventist University in Bucha, Ukraine. Thank you very much for helping your brothers and sisters in the Euro-Asia Division. 🌐



Yan and his mother, Liliya Ponyatovskaya, at church in Bucha.



UKRAINE | August 9

Nastia and David

Praying for Our School

Lviv is a beautiful city in western Ukraine, very close to the border of Poland. It is an old city—more than 770 years old! Today, 725,000 people live in Lviv—including more than 99,000 children who are 14 years old or younger. That’s a lot of children! There are many schools for the children, but until recently there wasn’t a single Seventh-day Adventist school in the entire city.

Then one day an Adventist pastor in Lviv and two church leaders started talking about how wonderful it would be to have an Adventist church school in Lviv. They wanted a place where children could come and learn about

“God is here with us,
and the teachers tell
us about God and
His character.”

God, a place where they could have worships and sing and pray. A school that wouldn’t have classes on Sabbath. After they talked and prayed together, they decided to start a

church school in Lviv.

Starting Small

They started small, with just three students in the first grade—Nastia, David, and another child who has since moved away.

The children were so happy and loved their teacher and school. “At the beginning of each day our teacher would read a story to us from the Bible,” said Nastia. “Then she asked us some

questions, and we answered. Then we would pray.”

Praying for Students

As much as the three children enjoyed the school, they felt lonely. “We were only three students,” Nastia said. “There was nobody else to play with. We decided to pray about our school because we wanted to have more students to play and to learn with them.”

David added, “Every day when we came to school we would pray about this before our lessons, during our breaks, and even during long vacation breaks. We prayed every day about it.”

Now the school has grown to 48 students! Nastia and David both say that God did this. “We prayed for more students, and God answered our prayers!”

Continuing to Pray

The Lviv church school now offers grades 1-5, and the students and parents are pleading for more. “It’s very important to study in a Christian school,” David said. “God is here with us, and the teachers tell us about God and His character. This is very important in our lives and in our studies.”

The Adventists in Lviv are hoping to expand their school so that students can study there through high school. The problem is that there is not enough space for more grades, so they will have to build an addition to their school.

Nastia and David are now praying about the expansion for their school. “We are sure that God hears us and will give us all we need,” they said, “because he heard our prayers about more students, and He gave us more students. We believe that He will continue to help us and our school.”

Mission Post

- The Euro-Asia Division (ESD) was officially organized in 1990.
- There are 1,925 Seventh-day Adventist churches in ESD.
- Of the 140,000 Adventists in the Euro-Asia Division, more than 45 percent live in Ukraine.

We can help build a bigger school for Nastia and David and the many other children who would like to attend the Lviv Adventist School by giving generously to the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on September 27. 🌍



“I Want A Real School” tells the story about David and Nastia and the Lviv School. You can watch this story on this quarter’s *Mission 360 DVD*, or online at www.adventistmission.org/dvd.



UKRAINE | August 16

I Love This School

Alex

Alex is 9 years old and lives in the city of Lviv, Ukraine. Lviv is a very old city. It was founded in 1240 and for many centuries was part of the country of Poland. The buildings in the oldest part of the city are very beautiful—some people think the architecture in Lviv is the most beautiful in all of Eastern Europe. While Lviv is now in Ukraine, it is located just 31 miles (50 km) from the Polish border.

Although there are many schools in Lviv, until very recently there wasn't even one Seventh-day Adventist school in this city where more than 750,000 people live.

This made it very difficult for children such as Alex to go to school, because children

are often required to go to school on Saturday. If a student does not come to school on that day, he or she will get into trouble the following Monday, and their grades could go down. Many of the teachers and students are not Christians, and they don't understand why someone wouldn't come to school on Saturday.

When he heard about the Adventist school in Lviv, Alex was very happy.

Now he goes to a school that has no classes on Sabbath.

There are school worships and singing every day. He enjoys learning more about the Bible and is especially happy that all of the teachers love God.

"This is a good school," said Alex. "The students

He enjoys learning more about the Bible, and is especially happy that all of the teachers love God.

are good, and we don't fight here.”

His favorite subjects in school are math and P.E.—and he especially likes running. After school Alex and some of his friends enjoy playing football (soccer).

Alex's younger brother, Andrew, who is 6 years old, also attends the Adventist school in Lviv. Both brothers love the school.

However, Alex is worried because the Lviv Adventist school only goes through grade 5—there is not room for the school to offer more grades. He doesn't want to leave the Christian environment, and he is hoping and praying that they will be able to expand the school. If he had the materials, Alex said that he would build the school himself!

You can help Alex build the Adventist

Fast Facts

- Ukraine is known as the biggest wheat producer in Europe.
- The forests in northern Ukraine have many mammals such as wild boar, deer, and brown bears.
- Ukrainians eat a hearty diet including soups such as borscht, dumplings, and cakes.

school in Lviv by bringing your special Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to Sabbath School. Please remember to pray for Alex and the other students in Lviv who are hoping to continue attending the Adventist school. 🌍

Color the Ukrainian Flag



Top panel: royal blue
Bottom panel: bright yellow



UKRAINE | August 23

Friendly Together

Timothy and Karina

Timothy is in the fifth grade at the Adventist church school in Lviv. He has been going to the school since he was in grade 3. He went to a government school for his first two years, and while he learned many things at the public school, he was happy to come to an Adventist school where “all the children pray to God,” he said. He also enjoys the worships and Bible classes. “My favorite Bible story is about Jesus, because He is so very kind and He loves us very much.”

School begins with worship at 8:45 a.m. Classes start at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 3:00 p.m., with a lunch break at noon. Timothy’s favorite foods are soup and fruit salad.

While English is Timothy’s favorite

“We have a good atmosphere here. This school is calm—nobody is fighting.”

class, he also enjoys science, in which the teacher—who happens to be his mother—“teaches us about nature. During every lesson we do some experiments. It’s very interesting.”

His favorite things about the Lviv Adventist School is “that we all know each other and that we are very friendly together.”

Timothy, who hopes to one day be an architect, is praying about the school expansion. “We want more students to be able to come to this school,” he said, “so that they, too, can know God and study in this Christian atmosphere.”

I Love My School

Karina has also been coming to the Adventist school since she was in the

third grade. “I heard about this school from my cousin Sasha,” she said. “He encouraged me to come and told me that this was a very interesting school, with good friends. And he was right. We have a good atmosphere here. This school is calm—nobody is fighting.”

Karina’s favorite teacher is Alexander Koberniyk, the school’s director, who teaches Ukrainian language and literature. “He demands a lot,” said Karina, “because he wants us to have a



lot of knowledge. He explains things very well, and he gives good marks if we know something.”

Karina plans to be a doctor, architect, or designer someday, but for the near future she is hoping to be able to continue studying at the Lviv Adventist School. “I love my school,” she said. “We have very kind teachers and good friends. I love everything here.”

Let’s remember to bring our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter so that we can help Karina and Timothy and many other students continue to study at the Lviv Adventist School. Thank you! 🌍

Mission Post

- The Western Ukrainian Conference, where Lviv is located, is the largest in Ukraine.
- There are 111 churches and 6,659 Adventist members in the Western Ukrainian Conference.
- The capitol city of Kiev has its own conference, with 25 churches and 4,205 members.

Learn To Speak Ukrainian

COMMON PHRASES

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Sabbath

SAY IT

Nedilya
Ponedilok
Vivtorok
Sereda
Chetver
Pyatnytsa
Subota

COMMON PHRASES

Teacher
Mother
Father
Grandmother
Grandfather
House
School

SAY IT

vchitelya
mati
batyako
babusya
deed
boodinoke
schkola

To hear these words pronounced, or to have more fun with the Ukrainian language, visit http://mylanguages.org/learn_ukrainian.php



UKRAINE | August 30

First Day of School in Ukraine

A Plan for My Life

Yaroslav is a miracle child. When his mother, Mrs. Boloban, was expecting him, she became very sick and had to go to the hospital. After examining her, the doctor thought that he was going to have to remove the baby so that Mrs. Boloban could live.

That night Mrs. Boloban cried and cried. She did not want to lose her baby, and decided to ask God for help. “Dear Jesus,” she prayed, “if this child is going to grow up and live for you, please help him now.”

Very early the next morning the doctor came to see Mrs. Boloban in the hospital. “I couldn’t sleep last night because I was thinking about you,” he told her. “I’ve changed my mind. We’re going to try a different treatment, and if that works, you can keep your baby.”

Even though Mrs. Boloban had to stay in the hospital for three months, she was so

happy that God had answered her prayers and that her baby would live!

Dedicated to God

After the baby was born, Mrs. Boloban named him Yaroslav. She dedicated him to God and prayed that he would serve Him. As Yaroslav grew from a baby into a toddler and then into a young boy, Mrs. Boloban started thinking about where he would go to school. She realized that Yaroslav would probably have to go to the school closest to their home.

September 1, called the “Day of Knowledge,” is a very important holiday in Ukraine. That is when all students go back to school. Many of them bring their teachers flowers on that day, and parents and other visitors are welcome to visit the school. On September 1 Yaroslav washed his face and hands until they were squeaky

Fast Facts

- Every September 1—the Day of Knowledge in Ukraine—bells are ringing in every school, college, institute, and university, announcing the beginning of a new school year.
- In Ukraine, children must attend school for 11 years. About three-fourths of the teachers are women.
- In 1363, Duke Olgerd from Lithuania built a fortress there.

clean, combed his hair, and put on his very best clothes for the first day of school.

Like the other first-grade students, Yaroslav was excited to go to school. But after a few weeks he didn't like going to school anymore. There were many fights, and Yaroslav would often hear the children swearing and calling him names. Although it wasn't easy to be in school, Yaroslav remembered how God had protected him even before he was born, so he decided that there must be a purpose for his life.

A New School

One day when Yaroslav was in the second grade his mother heard that the Seventh-day Adventist Church was going to start a church school the next year in Vinnytsia, but that it would only be offering grades 1 and 2. Yaroslav and his mother prayed that somehow grade 3 would be included. Before the beginning of the next school year, their prayers were answered, and grade 3 was offered at the new church school. Yaroslav and Mrs. Boloban were so happy!

The school kept growing, and Yaroslav was able to continue the following year in

grade 4. More and more students wanted to attend the school, but there was no more space in the rooms at the Adventist church where they were meeting.

Yaroslav, his classmates, and all of the parents and teachers kept praying about the situation. Then a miracle happened! The Adventists were able to buy some beautiful land out of the city where they could build a bigger school. The land included many trees and open places where the children could play outdoors.

Parents, teachers, and church leaders have all come to help build the school. They want the children to be able to have an Adventist education all the way through high school. This is really important to them, Mrs. Boloban said, because “all of the students are treated fairly, and things are done according to the Bible. The students are taught how to love, to forgive, to be compassionate and understanding, and to make some sacrifices in their own lives.”

Yaroslav likes how the school will be out in nature. “I like going to the forest. And at this school you don't hear kids swearing and calling you names.”

You can help build the new Adventist in Vinnytsia. Please plan to give generously to the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter. Thank you! 🌍





RUSSIA | September 6

Alina, Karina, Yeva, and Masha

Sabbath School in a Closet

Every Sabbath Alina, Karina, Yeva, and Masha go to Sabbath School in a big closet. Since the Adventists who live in Kazan don't have a church of their own in the city center, they have to rent a room in a big building where they can meet for Sabbath School and church. Because there are so many people in Kazan who want to come to the Adventist church, they have to have two church services every Sabbath in the rented room.

During Sabbath School, which is held between the two church services, the adults and youth meet in the rented room, and the children meet in the storage closet area. Even though they are surrounded by hanging coats and stacked up tables and chairs and mattresses, they are happy to be at Sabbath School. They enjoy their Sabbath School lesson and play fun Bible games that help them remember their weekly memory verses.

Because there is no Adventist school in Kazan, the girls go to public school, which has classes on Saturdays. Their parents explained to the teachers why their children would not be coming to school on Sabbath, but it is still sometimes hard for the girls at school. They wish that they could go to a Seventh-day Adventist school, where they wouldn't have to worry about classes on Sabbath and where all of the teachers believe in God.

Sharing Experiences at Sabbath School

Sometimes during Sabbath School the girls talk about their experiences at school or share answers to prayer.

"One day I brought my Bible to school," said Karina, "and showed my classmate the Ten Commandments. I pointed out the verse about keeping the Sabbath holy, and my friend thought about it. Ever since

I was in kindergarten I've told my friends about my church and have invited them to visit."

"Me too," said Alina. "But they couldn't come."

Alina really wants Jesus to come soon. She likes to stand by a window for a long time, looking for Jesus. "I want to see Him personally," she explained. "I want to ask Him about some things that have happened to me."

Masha is eager for Jesus to come, too. "I want to see my little sister," she said. "Now there are three children in our family, but there should be four."

Yeva told the class, "When Jesus comes I want to say to Him, 'I've been waiting for You for a long time, and at last I can see You! Thank You for saving me.'"

"I want to hug Jesus!" Alina said.

"Me too!" added Karina. "I love Him because He listens to our prayers. He really can hear our prayers!"

Answers to Prayer

"Yes!" said Masha. "I remember when

Fast Facts

- Kazan is a multi-ethnic city famous for Muslims and Christians living side-by-side in peace.
- Kazan is considered the "sports capital" of Russia. From July 16-23, 2014 the city is hosting the World Fencing Championships, and in 2015 the World Aquatics Championships will be held in Kazan. In 2018 the city will host the FIFA World Cup.

Mama, my little brother, Lev, and I were alone in our apartment. Papa was away at work. There was a very strong wind, and all of the lights went out. We prayed, and God helped us not to be scared."

"Jesus helps me during my classes at school," said Yeva. "And when I'm not feeling well, Jesus helps me to get better."

Your special Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help build a church and playground in the city center of Kazan. Alina, Karina, Yeva, and Masha want to say: "Thank you for helping us!" 🌍

Sing A Song in Russian

JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE ONES (SAME TUNE) (E-SOOS LUBEET MALINKI)

ee soos loo beet mah leen kee kahk, yah, yah, yah
ee-soos loo beet mah leen kee kahk, yah, yah, yah
mah leen kee kahk yah mah leen kee kahn yah
ee-soos loo beet mah leen kee kahk, yah, yah, yah

ee soos loo beet ee bahl shee kahk, vee, vee, vee
ee soos loo beet ee bahl shee kahk, vee, vee, vee
ee bahl shee kahk vee, ee bahl shee kahk vee
ee soos loo beet ee bahl shee kahk, vee, vee, vee



RUSSIA | September 13

Artem

The Missing Student

Artem was an excellent student, and he liked going to school. He had many friends and would often help those who were struggling with their lessons. Sometimes, though, Artem had problems when his classes were held on Sabbath. Some of his teachers were understanding about him not coming to school on that day, but others were not.

One year he had some problems with his English class. There was a big test that all students had to take at the beginning of the year so that they would be placed into the right class level. Unfortunately the test was given on Sabbath. When Artem came to school on Monday, the director assigned him to a class without testing his English ability.

The class met two times a week—on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Artem tried to

be assigned to a class that didn't meet on Sabbath, but every time he tried to explain the problem, the teacher would say, "This is school. You have to be here. You have a class, you are a student, and you must be in your English class on your assigned days." Then she simply walked away.

Artem kept coming to class on Tuesdays and missing class on Sabbath. Whenever there was a test on Tuesday he did very well, but when it was on Sabbath, he failed because he was not allowed to make it up.

Even though it was discouraging, Artem didn't give up. He kept praying about the situation and decided to try approaching his teacher again.

"Please, let me explain," he told her. This time something was different.

Fast Facts

- In Russian cities, 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.

This time she was willing to listen.

“Ok, what’s the reason for not coming to class on Saturdays?”

“It’s a religious reason, ma’am.”

The teacher’s face softened. “Oh,

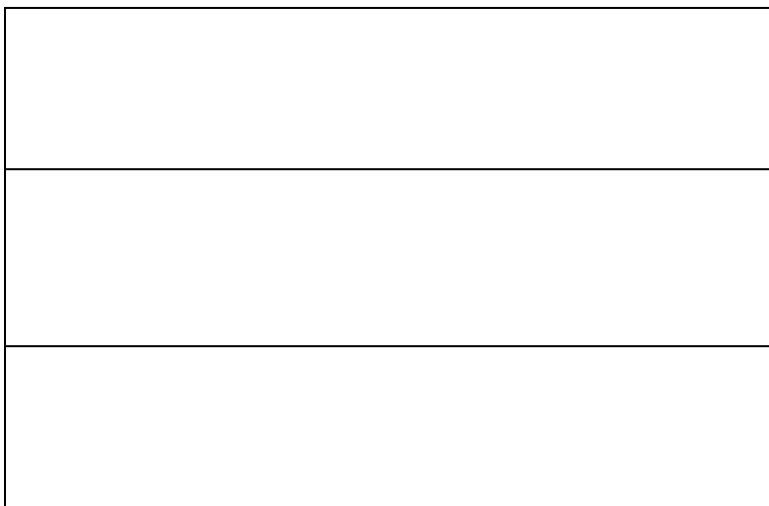
that’s good,” she said. “I thought that you were just trying to show everyone how good you are by only coming to class half of the time.”

“I’m not supposed to help you,” she continued, “because this is school—it’s not a religious place. It’s a secular place. But . . . when tests are on Saturday, you can take your test with a different group on another day.”

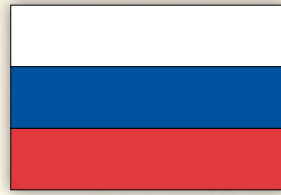
Artem was so happy! Now he wouldn’t have to miss any more tests. Even though he could only be in class on Tuesdays, God blessed him, and he finished with the top grade.

Since that time, Artem has graduated from Kazan State University. He now works as a computer scientist in geographic information systems, where he is a cartographer (a person who makes maps). 🌐

Color the Russian Flag



Top panel: white
Center panel: dark blue
Bottom panel: red



RUSSIA | September 20

Kids Do It!

Alexei

Hands flew up throughout the congregation. “I’ll take 100!” one man says. “I want 50,” says another. “May I have 25, please?” a woman asks. “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 says happily.

Church members in parts of Russia give literature out 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.

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.

Ю	Б	Ц	Д	Щ	Ф	Г	Ч	И	Й
А	В	С	Д	Е	Ф	Г	Н	І	Ј
Л	Х	Н	Ж	П	Р	С	б	У	В
Л	М	Н	О	Р	Р	С	Т	U	W

И Ц Ю Н Д Ж Ю Л Л б Ч И Н Г С б Ч Р Ж У Г Ч

Ц Ч Р И С б В Ч И Ц Ч С б Р Щ Н Г б Ч Щ Н С ХЩ.

П Ч И Л. 4:13

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Thirteenth Sabbath Program

Consider showing the special 10-minute Thirteenth Sabbath video, “Let’s Pray,” featuring this quarter’s mission projects. The program is available on your free Mission 360 DVD or may be downloaded at: www.adventistmission.org/DVD.

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

- Practice the Russian song on page 27. Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering the next week.
- Remind everyone that their mission offerings are gifts to spread God’s Word around the world, and that one fourth of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to help the people of the Euro-Asia Division. The children’s project is to build a children’s playground in front of the church in Kazan.

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.

Sharing What We Have

Participants and Props: Ask children, juniors, or teens to take the speaking parts below. They do not need to memorize their parts, but they should be able to read them clearly. If you have a small pool

of participants, arrange for two or three speakers to rotate through the parts.

Having a map projected on a screen can help the children see where the featured projects are located.

Narrator: Today is Thirteenth Sabbath. This quarter we've learned about some children who live in Russia and in Ukraine, two countries that are part of the Euro-Asia Division. *[Point out the Euro-Asia Division on a map.]* They have told us about some of their experiences at school, and at home, and what God means to them. Today we can share our offering to help children in these countries have much-needed Adventist schools, churches, and a playground at the church where they can invite their non-Christian friends to play.

Speaker 1: Russia is the largest country in the world. It stretches almost halfway around the globe and covers two continents—Europe and Asia. Russia is so large that when it is 9:00 in the morning in Moscow, it is 8:00 in the evening in eastern Russia.

Most of the people in Russia live in the western part of the country. Russia has about 46,000 Seventh-day Adventist Christians. There is just one Adventist for about every 3,000 people. So there is a lot of work ahead to teach people about Jesus.

Speaker 2: One of the Thirteenth Sabbath projects this quarter is to build a church and center of influence in the center of Kazan. The city of Kazan is the capital of Tatarstan, a republic within the Russian Federation. Kazan is a very prosperous city. It is also a place where Muslims and Christians live side-by-side in peace.

Speaker 3: There are Russian Orthodox churches and a huge mosque in the city center, but there is not an Adventist church in the center of this important

city. But there is good news—the Adventists were able to buy a good piece of land in a very good place near a central transportation center.

Speaker 4: They plan to build a church on this land. The church building will be more than a church, though, because it will also serve as a center of influence in the city of Kazan, where people can come during the week.

Speaker 5: Our brothers and sisters in Kazan are also planning to have a beautiful place in front of the church for community children to play, and for parents and others to be able to rest on park benches while the children play on the playground. Sometimes the church will provide music for them to listen to while the children are playing.

Narrator: That sounds wonderful! I'm glad that today we will be able to help our brothers and sisters in Kazan by giving our Thirteenth Sabbath Mission offering.

Narrator: Now let's turn our attention to the country of Ukraine, which is located southwest from Russia.

Speaker 1: Our brothers and sisters in Ukraine are planning to build or expand four very much needed Adventist schools from the Thirteen Sabbath Project offering.

Speaker 2: The schools are located across Ukraine (*if possible, show a map of Ukraine, and point to the following cities*). Dnepropetrovsk (den-EPPER-pet-trovsk) is located in the eastern part of Ukraine. That is where the Adventists would like

to expand their school for the many children who would like to attend. Right now the school only has two rooms, but they are looking to add three more rooms, a gym, and a kitchen/cafeteria.

Speaker 3: From there, if you travel west and a little north, you will come to the city of Cherkasy. The church members and children there are eager to have an Adventist school, and there are even teachers ready to teach the students, but they need a school building by their church.

Speaker 4: If you travel south and then west from Cherkasy, you will come to Vinnytsia. In September 2012 an Adventist kindergarten and primary school were opened in the church building. So many students wanted to come to the school, but there wasn't enough room for them.

Speaker 5: So the very next month an unfinished building was purchased on a beautiful piece of land in the country—but not too far from the city. All of the Adventists in Vinnytsia helped give money to buy this unfinished building, and many parents and church leaders are working on this building. They want to finish it soon so that many children can receive an Adventist education.

Speaker 1: Traveling west from Vinnytsia, we arrive in the westernmost city of Lviv. Lviv is very close to the Polish border, and actually used to be part of Poland. It

is a very old city and has many beautiful buildings. The church school in Lviv started with just three children. Although the children loved their school, they wished that there were more students, so they started praying about it.

Speaker 2: Every day the children prayed for more students. They prayed before school, during breaks, and even during school vacations.

Speaker 3: The children are very excited because Jesus answered their prayers! The school has grown from just three to 45 students, and more children would like to come, but there is no room for them.

Speaker 4: So the Adventists in Lviv would like to expand their school, so that more students can come, and they can offer more grades.

Narrator: This quarter we have met children from each of these countries. Adventist children around the world are giving their mission offerings today to help the children in the Ukraine to have Adventist schools and the children in Kazan to have a church and playground where they can invite their friends to play and visit their church. Let's help these children know that their Adventist brothers and sisters love them and want to help by giving a big offering today for Thirteenth Sabbath.

[Offering]

Bookmark Craft

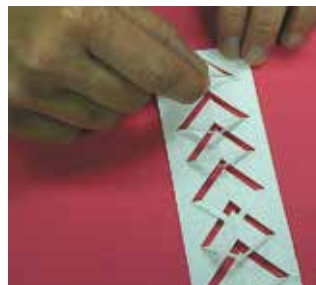
These easy-to-make bookmarks are a favorite children's craft in the Euro-Asia Division. They make lovely prayer reminders. Perhaps your children would enjoy making them for the adults in your congregation or for shut-ins as well as for themselves.

For each bookmark you will need:

- two pieces of paper (contrasting colors) 1- 1½ inches wide and 6 - 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.

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."



Euro-Asian Recipes

VEGETARIAN BEEF STROGANOFF

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 20-ounce can vegetarian steaks | 2 tablespoons soy sauce |
| 2 tablespoons oil | 1 tablespoon chopped parsley |
| 1 medium or large onion, chopped | 1 cup hot water |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 cup sliced mushrooms | $\frac{2}{3}$ cup sour cream |
| 1 large clove garlic or $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon garlic powder | $\frac{1}{3}$ cup grated cheddar cheese |
| 2 or 3 tablespoons beef-like seasoning | 1 pound wide egg noodles,
cooked |
| 2 teaspoon salt | |

Cut vegetarian steaks or gluten 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 and mix well. Pour into pan with gluten and continue simmering for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally and adding a small amount of additional water if necessary to prevent sticking. (If dish will be served at a later time, remove from heat and refrigerate at this point.) Reheat to boiling and remove from stove. Add sour cream and grated cheese; stir until cheese melts. Serve over noodles.

APRICOT KISSEL

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 cup (6 ounces) dried apricot halves | 3 tablespoons cornstarch |
| 2 cups water | Dash of salt |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar | Whipped cream or sour cream |

Simmer apricots in water until tender, about 20 minutes. Place apricots and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup 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.

Euro-Asian Recipes

BLINY (RUSSIAN PANCAKES)

These crepe like pancakes, filled with sweetened cottage cheese or farmer's cheese or with fruit and sour cream, are a popular dessert throughout Russia.

Pancakes

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 2 to 2½ cups wheat flour | 4 cups sour milk (or use sour cream diluted with milk to cream consistency) |
| 2 eggs, separated | Salt, to taste |
| 4 tablespoons clarified butter | 2 to 3 tablespoons vegetable oil |

Mix flour, egg yolks, clarified butter, sour milk, and salt in a bowl. Beat egg whites until stiff, and stir into the batter. Heat a frying pan over medium heat; add oil and spread evenly over pan surface. Pour in small amount of bliny batter; when pancake turns light brown on the bottom and bubbles show on top, turn it over. Spread butter on finished pancakes and stack on plate. To serve, drop a spoonful of filling (see recipes below) onto pancake and roll up.

Cheese Filling

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 raw egg, beaten | 1 cup small-curd cottage cheese |
| 1 tablespoon sugar | Raisins, optional |

Mix egg and sugar or raisins into cottage cheese. Drop large spoonful onto pancake and roll up. Lay in lightly greased baking dish and bake at 350° F for 10 minutes or until egg is set.

Fruit Filling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 cup water | 1 cup fresh fruit |
| 2 cup sugar | (strawberries, blueberries, etc.) |
| 1 to 2 tablespoons cornstarch | Sour cream or whipped cream |

Place water, sugar, and cornstarch in a saucepan and mix until dissolved. Add fruit and bring to a boil, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens. Remove from heat. Drop by tablespoons onto individual blinys, roll up, and serve with sour cream or whipped cream as garnish. If fresh fruit is not available, use strawberry or apricot jam as a filling.

SEND MISSION HOME!

LAST
CHANCE!



Send a missionary home with the children in your Sabbath School class each week. Adventist Mission Cards for Kids contains profiles of 12 children featured in the children's mission quarterly. Each card contains a photo, country information, and fun facts about where the mission offerings go each quarter.

This new product from the General Conference Office of Adventist Mission and Children's Ministries can make mission stories more tangible for kids.

**Mission Cards are just US\$7.49
per quarter for a pack of five sets.**

CARDS WILL BE DISCONTINUED AT THE END OF 2014.

For more information contact us by visiting www.AdventistMission.org or by calling 1-800-648-5824. Please use the information below to order the cards.

Place your order on the North American Division Sabbath School Standing Order Form or call 1-800-456-3991.

Leader's Resources

Following are sources of information that have proved helpful in preparing programs for *Children's Mission*.

Following are sources of information that may be helpful in preparing programs for *Children's Mission*.

For more information on the culture and history of the countries featured this quarter, look in the travel section of a local library or online. Type the name of the country you want information about into your search engine. The CIA World Factbook offers concise information on every country: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>. Click on "References" and then "Guide to Country Profiles."

Visit our website for additional photos, recipes, language pages, and other activities that you can download and print to make mission more fun for children. Go to www.AdventistMission.org. Click on "Resources" and "Children's Activities" in the pop-up menu. Go to first quarter and select the activities you want.

Mission 360 DVD is a free video that features stories from Euro-Asia, including the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering projects. Also included are a children's story and music video. You may obtain the material on the DVD free online at www.AdventistMission.org by downloading or live streaming. A free DVD is sent to Sabbath School Superintendents.

MISCELLANEOUS

Embassies and Tourism Offices sometimes can provide interesting information on their country. In North America, contact:

Embassy of Russia, 2650 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007. Phone: 202-298-5700.

Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M Street NW, Washington, D.C., 20007, U.S.A. Phone: 202-349-2920.

Remind Sabbath School members that the ongoing work of the world church depends on the *weekly* Sabbath School mission offerings. On the twelfth Sabbath, report on mission giving during the quarter. Explain that one fourth of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering is dedicated to the special projects featured this quarter. The remaining three fourths goes into the world mission fund to support the worldwide mission work of the Adventist Church.

ADVENTIST MISSION

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Euro-Asia Division

ARCTIC OCEAN



ORGANIZATION	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Belarus	65	29	4,058	9,463,000
Caucasus	130	78	7,610	18,252,310
East Russian	84	54	5,021	22,528,401
Far Eastern	50	20	2,306	8,035,608
Moldova	152	90	9,650	4,114,000
Southern	75	48	4,598	96,788,000
Trans-Caucasus	32	29	1,726	17,007,000
Ukrainian	900	299	51,683	45,513,000
West Russian	390	356	29,361	94,676,681
Total:	1,878	1,003	116,013	316,378,000

Statistics as of December 2013

PROJECTS

- Center of Influence, Minsk, Belarus
- Church in Kazan, Russia
- Adventist school in Cherkassy, Ukraine
- Educational complex in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine
- Adventist school in Lviv, Ukraine
- Adventist secondary school in Vinnytsya, Ukraine
- Children's Project: Missionary playground on church grounds near city metro station.