

## MISSION IN RUSSIA

Alex's father passed away earlier this year, he has had to travel some distance to take care of him during the last few weeks of his life. Alex, being the only child, had to deal with closing his father's estate, etc. This has been a trial for Alex, his wife Katya and two daughters. Currently they are recovering and all are feeling better.

Alexei (Alex) sends the following accounts of the work he is currently doing in and around St. Petersburg Russia.

"The local congregation in Saint-Petersburg was established in early 90's. There were several missionaries who helped; David Worley helped to get funds for the building so that local members could continue to meet. Charles Whittle spent many years working with St. Petersburg, Gatchina and Lemonosov. Joel Petty also helped. He came here years ago and married a Russian (Yana) and stayed to work.

### **Neva**

There was a time when there were two congregations, but they later join together and now is church of Christ on Neva, Neva is the name of the river flowing through the city. The current schedule at Neva is Sunday worship at 12p.m. followed by a meal, which is prepared couples in rotation. There are several age groups of children's classes, plus the baby's room.

Wednesday there is Bible class and we currently study book of Joshua, at present; Igor Egirev and Joel Petty take the lead as well as myself. Worships are arranged so that brethren rotate in their duties, so just like many other brethren I get to preach, lead singing (this one more often), and lead prayers. When Illusha Pekarev from Vyatskiye Polyany, is in St. Petersburg for treatments, he participates in the worship.

The church on Neva had couple of deaths this year. Maria, who was one of oldest members here. She was faithful Christian, who translated Christian literature and organized many ladies events. Both Mara and her husband were the kind of people who may not have been noticed while alive, but are missed so much. They are like the glue which is now missing to put some parts together.

### **Gatchina**

After the afternoon worship in Neva, I take bus to the satellite town of Gatchina, it is usually after 10p.m. when I get back home.

We gather at sister Alvira's place. She is a faithful Christian and a good friend. She is student at Syktyvkar Correspondence Bible School. I help her with her studies.

**We have covered 1 & 2 Corinthians and new course in Ephesians and Colossians. While I was away caring for my dad, she began video conferencing with some ladies from other places. Now they are studying all women of the Bible and prepare for that once a week.**

**I am thankful that the Lord has use for me in His Kingdom in both congregations I this area and pray he allows me to do more.**

## **Home**

**As a family we developed an evening habit of praying and studying with our daughters. We talk of something during the day that we thank God for and think together what we can ask Him about for tomorrow. Sometimes we use the audio version of Bible teaching. I am glad that I don't have to make the girls participate. They are willing to do so."**

**"To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen" (Jude 1:25)**