

JUNE 2007 MISSION REPORT

Dear Partner,

We are excited to be able to bring you some of the highlights from our latest mission (#70) to the Murmansk and Karelia regions above the Arctic Circle. Along the lengthy train ride from Moscow to Kandalaksha, our team engaged in seed planting and distributing gospel tracts both on the train and at stops along the way.

During our stay in Kandalaksha we had the opportunity to visit a Christian drug/alcohol rehab center for both young men and women located in Zelenoborskiy. We ministered to and encouraged the group through the sharing of God's Word. Team member Melissa Clark also played the piano for them. While in Zelenoborskiy, we also visited the inmates of prison #20. This prison currently has 1,000 prisoners; up 400 prisoners since the first of the year. We were blessed to have been able to minister to a group of approximately 70 of those inmates. We purchased 300 pens and tablets and took them to the prisoners who are illiterate and trying to learn to read and write.

Further north in Apatity we visited a home for children who have varying sorts of disabilities. We spent a couple of hours playing games with them, giving gifts and loving on them. While unable to verbally communicate with the group, one young man there was able to communicate through drawings in the dirt on the playground.

Next, our team traveled south by train to the town of Segezha where we were met by Pastor Sergei who pastors Light of the Gospel Church there in Segezha. Our original plans upon arriving in Segezha were to visit the village of Letniy and work with Pastor Valentine. However, God had other plans for us prior to going to Letniy. Pastor Valentine was unable to receive us in Letniy at that time due to family health problems. Instead of traveling to Letniy that day, we were invited to the home of Andrey, a member of Pastor Sergei's church. Andrey is a believer but his mother and younger sister were not. After eating dinner and enjoying a time of fellowship with the family, Debbie was able, by the grace of God (Ephesians 2:8-9), to lead both mother and daughter to the Lord. **Praise the Lord!** God's plans are always better ours.

While continuing our ministry in and around Segezha, we visited 3 orphanages where we shared Bible stories, gave gifts and fruit (something they rarely receive). The children are always glad to see their American visitors and we in turn were happy to be able to spend time with what we feel is Russia's future.

Also, while in Segezha, our team ministered God's Word in 4 churches through teaching, preaching, music and testimonies. During the invitation given at each service, people--young and old--came forward for prayer and to rededicate their lives to the Lord! We praise God for a very fruitful time in Russia and for safety given to us along the way. Last but surely not least of all, we praise Him for the prayer and financial support of our partners and fellow laborers in the field.

Mike and Debbie Bolick
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