

MOSCOW REPORT FOR JANUARY 2007

February 12, 2007

New Year greetings to you with prayers for growth in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Here is my report, which covers December and January.

WEATHER

The weather is changeable in Moscow. We saw the New Year in when it was warm (above zero) and children couldn't skate and ski. It was unusual for Russia to see the New Year in without snow.

MY FAMILY

We are doing fine. My daughter Dasha started to play the piano. We hired a musical teacher for her and now the teacher teaches her how to play and how to sing. The musical teacher says that Dasha is talented for music. Now Dasha sings spiritual songs in the church better because she knows how to do it according to the notes. My wife Natasha tries to play the piano too but she is not talented as Dasha and now Natasha is behind Dasha. Natasha and I continue teaching English Bible for children to Dasha, we as usual read and translate the children Bible and then discuss it. I continue working on a series of Bible lessons for children.

THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CLUB

Some words about English Speaking Club for brethren who started supporting me this year. The government equated terrorism with religion (unregistered churches) and that is why it is forbidden to give advertisements.

I know that teaching English is not the church's job, but there are some reasons for that. I decided to organize the English Speaking Club (I talked with brethren and they agreed to me) because I can invite people through advertisements (to do it is necessary to be legally registered) and we can start to read the Bible in English and people who are interested in the Bible I invite to the church. Several months ago I started to work on that project. The main purpose of the English Speaking Club is to spread the Word of God and encourage others to get involved in taking the Gospel. In December I received the documents which allow me to start English Speaking Club. I gave advertisements and received several calls from people. I met a young girl, Lena (about 17, she is a student) and two sisters Veronica (about 50), a programmer and Natalia (60), an artist. I explained them my plan of the English Speaking Club and Veronica and Natalia asked me to come to Veronica's flat. I started meeting them at Veronica's flat and we started English Club. I gave them a text concerning The Thanksgiving Day and when we read it we met different religious words and I offered them to start reading, translating and discussing the Old Testament the first book Genesis (because everybody wants to know how a man was created) and the New Testament The Gospel according to John. I chose the 4th Gospel for the reasons that these two ladies are the beginners and they first want to study English and to my mind The Gospel according to John is the most beautiful and understandable. John portrays Jesus' wonderful life, His humanity as the Son of Man, and at the same time John describes Jesus as the Son of God. John also writes about Jewish habits and customs that helps a beginner to understand better The Word of God 1:9 "the true Light which gives light to every man." The ladies agreed to follow my plan. Next time when we started Genesis they showed their interest to the Bible and I hope and pray God will open their eyes to the salvation. I am sure that with the help of John their hearts will be opened to the Word of God. Please, pray for Veronica and Natalia.

ATTENDANCE

The 2006th has passed and I'd like to summarize my work in the past year. At the beginning of the year (approximately from January to June the attendance was 7-8 people on the whole. And at the beginning of November the attendance was 13-14 people on the whole.

We have regular and irregular people who visit Sundays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Regular ✓ Anatoly (the scientist), Michael (the security but sometimes he works on Sundays) - Tonia and Aleksandr (Natasha's parents), Leva, Natasha, Dasha, and me. Irregular - Inna (English teacher), Vasily, Lena (the translator), - Amit (a student), Lena, Tanya, Irina, Galya, Kostya, Veronica & Natalia, Olga.

DAY & TIME OF CLASSES

Now we meet three times a week:

The church meets regularly every Sunday at 11 in the morning and at 7 in the evening (at summer time we meet at 6 or 7 in the evening). We meet two times a day because I go to Inna's flat on the other side of Moscow to teach and to preach there. On Friday at 7 in the evening (the English Speaking Club) and in addition to it on Saturday at 11 and at 5 (teaching the Bible) we meet to read and translate the Bible from English into Russian and we discuss it.

Unfortunately we have lost Vasily (a man of 25) he stopped coming and I don't know why, I called him but his telephone doesn't work, and Olga (a woman of 30) who left Moscow.

Kostya was very close to be baptized but he went to India to work there as a translator and he promised to be back.

PEOPLE

Michael (the security) comes to the church but sometimes he misses our meetings because of his work. As for Inna is concerned as I wrote earlier she became a granny, and now she spends a lot of time with a baby and I go to her flat on the other side of Moscow to teach and to preach there (I go to her on Saturdays and on Sundays).

In my previous letters I told you about Leva and Olga who repaired my new flat and they visited the church when brethren Mac, Vernon, Shannon, and Lonnie from America came to Moscow to help and encourage us here. Unfortunately Olga left Moscow. Leva (a man of 27 years old) continues to visit

the church willingly and more over he showed great interest in the Bible. First I had to dismiss him because he worked badly and I was afraid that our relationship would influence upon his coming to the church and he stopped coming for about a month but then he resumed to come. Anatoly (the scientist) comes regularly (he come several years).

Brethren, I would like to close this report once again by thanking all of you for your spiritual and financial support of the work here in Moscow. I appreciate the many prayers that are offered in our behalf, as well as those on behalf of the Christians in this country and those Muscovites that have not yet obeyed the Gospel.

Your brother and sisters in Christ,
Alex, Natasha and Dasha.

Сегодня удачный день, чтобы завести почту
на Яндексе <http://mail.yandex.ru>