



The Spiritual Resource Foundation

Supporting Christian Science activities in the Russian-Speaking Field

Post Office Box 7278, Olympia, Washington 98507-7278
info@spiritualresource.org • www.spiritualresource.org

Executive Board
Ralph W Emerson
William T Arnesen
Cathrine C Crossman
Richard L. Block
Leslie C Knowles

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Dear Friends,

Greetings from The Spiritual Resource Foundation (TSRF).

Good news! A new Christian Science group has sprouted in Pskov, Russia, bringing to eleven the total number. Two gentlemen who had listened to the short-wave radio broadcasts sponsored by TSRF asked for help starting Christian Science Sunday services. They have started a small Christian Science group and are studying *Science and Health* and other literature. They have asked for, and received, more copies of the book, saying there is a great need for it in their area.

More big news! We have never had a regular Russian Herald, but now there is a new improved Russian Herald web page on <Spirituality.com> on which two new articles will be posted each month. It is available for readers to copy and distribute articles free of charge. The St. Petersburg Christian Science Reading Room now has a computer and internet which allows visitors to read these articles on line. We hope to have a printer in the not too distant future, so they can also print out copies to take home.

We also have now a beautiful Russian website, produced recently by Elena Desyatova, a member of the Christian Science group in Moscow. It has a link to the Russian Herald website of the Mother Church and can be seen at www.christian-science.ru/. Workers at the Book Fair advertised the site, and people were thrilled to know that such a site is available to them. Everyone is excited to have access to a fresh supply of inspiration. At the Fair there were positive comments from people who have visited the site. They especially liked the fact that it links directly to the Mother Church Herald web page.

Gennadi Shcherbanov in St. Petersburg reports that church members in Berlin collected donations of 500 euros from a charity symphony concert to send to the Sunday School students in St. Petersburg. He has received many letters from the various countries where the radio broadcasts are heard, a large percentage of the writers being new respondents. He sends a great deal of Christian Science literature to those writing.

"Soul has infinite resources with which to bless mankind" – Mary Baker Eddy

Excerpts from the report by Marie Helm, CSB,
on CS activities, 2009, in the Russian-speaking field

The Christian Science Societies in St. Petersburg, Russia and Kherson, Ukraine are doing well and continue to hold regular services, including Sunday School classes. The informal group in Moscow, after being without a meeting place for several months, has found a new location near a busy metro stop. The office the group is renting belongs to philosophers and psychologists and they are delighted to have the Christian Scientists meet in their space. They also asked if they might attend the meetings - and of course were invited to do so.

The St. Petersburg CS Society, as usual, participated in the Moscow International Book Fair and sold one hundred copies of *Science and Health* and about twenty copies of Mrs. Eddy's biography, *Persistent Pilgrim*, by Richard Nenneman. Marie Helm, CSB, gave a lecture there to about twenty attendants. All but two were new to Christian Science. Two were University professors in philosophy and religion. They were thrilled with the experience. They include Christian Science in their classes, and said the lecture has opened the door to a fuller understanding of Christian Science. A woman that was present, an editor of a religious newspaper, asked to have articles sent to be published in their newspaper.

There was a wonderful atmosphere at the exhibit this year - an atmosphere of openness to new ideas - and we had many interesting conversations with people of different backgrounds and faiths. Even an Orthodox priest visited the exhibit and bought a copy of *Science and Health*, because he wanted to understand Christian Science more fully. We're seeing a rippling effect of growing respect for Christian Science through our participation in the Book Fair and we're cherishing the progress it shows.

In Yerevan, Armenia, the group that started several years ago never made the leap from seeing Christian Science as a philosophy to an understanding of its spiritual meaning and power. But two young people saw the possibilities and last year took class instruction. They have been sharing Christian Science in their daily lives. Some of their relatives became interested and several have also become members of The Mother Church.

The CS Society in Almaty, Kazakhstan had no meeting for nearly a year. They now have a new meeting place and are again holding weekly services. They are also hoping to add Sunday School classes this year.

The number of people visiting the Russian Herald web page at spirituality.com is growing. In September when our new Russian language web site about Christian Science came on line, the number of visits to the Russian Herald web page of the Mother Church nearly doubled. The "visits" increased from fourteen in April to 151 in September.

We wish to express our deep gratitude to all who support these Christian Science activities in support of the Russian-speaking world. Whether through donations of labor, prayer, or money, all your gifts are invaluable and are bringing the blessings of Christian Science to many individuals directly, and to the world in general. They do much to let the light of divine Love shine on Earth and move us closer to that day when "... the earth shall be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea."

Loving best wishes to all,

The Spiritual Resource Foundation

Ralph W. Emerson, President