



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

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DEAR FRIENDS! Дорогие Друзья! December 2011

We felt that a little drama was needed to begin this Newsletter! Those of you who are mathematicians will recognize some of the Russian letters. The first letter, Delta for the D sound, the third letter P, Rho for the R sound and the fifth letter, gamma, for the G sound. The backwards R is the Russia vowel sound 'ya'. It is also the Russian personal pronoun 'I' which causes some interesting confusion when English speakers absent-mindedly want to say yes in Russian and come out with 'Ya' instead of 'Da.' But ... That is enough Russian lesson for today, and not the reason we are bringing this to you. We want to share with you some of the excitement of recent developments and some of the on-going projects we support. And the key word is really 'support.' The Foundation supports activities in the Russian Speaking world, but your support for the Foundation is the key.

The Foundation provides financial support to cover travel costs for students coming from great distances to Associations, radio broadcasting, book fairs, translation work, technology equipment, and many other projects.

We should tell you that church services in Russia have evolved a bit differently from the usual process in the US. No one leaves their seat after the service until the music has stopped, and the Wednesday evening services are delightful. Expressions of gratitude for healings flow freely and evolve into discussions that resume after the postlude. Enthusiasm and joy just seem to build during these times.

Last winter, we helped with the expenses of a booth at the International Book Fair in Minsk. A class-taught Christian Scientist living there met a new reader of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* who wanted to start holding services. Many new people were introduced to *Science and Health* and the *Herald of Christian Science*, and Marie Helm's lecture attracted a nearly full house of people who didn't want to leave when the lecture was over.

Recently, the Foundation again helped fund the International Book Fair in Moscow. Marie Helm gave a lecture during the fair, and there were sold or given away 108 copies of *Science and Health*, 20 copies of the Mary Baker Eddy biography: *Persistent Pilgrim* by Richard Nenneman, and 350 copies of literature.

Those receiving the blessings included a former scientist in mathematical modeling; a former cosmonaut; a publisher; a designer developing military computers; a physician who teaches at the Medical University, and who already has a copy of *Science and Health* and recommends it to his fellow doctors, a scientist and academician; a psychologist who teaches at a university and who previously bought a copy of *Science and Health*, an actress; a professor of religion; a physicist; a surgeon from St. Petersburg, a philosopher; and many others."

There have been many healings. Here's one example: Gennady Shcherbanev, our faithful worker in St. Petersburg, shares this: He awoke one morning with severe back pain just as he was about to take a group of young people to a summer camp. It was obvious to all that he had a difficulty, and since they all knew that he relied on spiritual means for healing, they watched him closely. He reported that he prayed daily and was grateful for time each day to read the Bible Lesson. He reports:

“In my prayers I said that God controls my body, in the hands of God, and thought I not moving, but he moves me and that my back is mentally like a frame which rests on the inner rod, which is God. And that helped me a great load in my work with children, which I thought was an obstacle to my metaphysical work. A few days later I suddenly came to realize that I was quite well and had no more worries. I am thankful to God that we have a drug called spiritual healing, which is always at hand. Each of these is the overcoming of obstacles to healing called mortal mind, which overcomes, gets the crown as a reward from God in the form of healing, restoration of inner harmony and peace of mind.”

Finally we must mention the ongoing projects which are far-reaching in their effect. There are the radio broadcasts of the Bible Lesson which includes a three-country effort, all supported by the Foundation. The lessons are typed in Russia, recorded in the Ukraine and broadcast from a short-wave station in Germany. Requests for literature come from these broadcasts. The Foundation pays for some of the translations of articles from the periodicals to be used for the online Russian *Herald*. Another important project that requires professional help is the maintenance of our own website and also the Russian website with links to The Mother Church sites. Also, there is always the need for help with the many complex administrative duties involved in keeping a growing foundation in compliance with state and federal regulations.

Wonderful fruitage from the book fairs and reports from Christian Science Lecturer and Teacher Marie Helm, will be coming soon on our website. www.spiritualresource.org

The activities, publications and outreach in and to the Russian field continue to expand and the fruitage from this work continues to grow. Our budget for the near future includes support of further translations of Mrs. Eddy's writings, continued underwriting for the radio broadcasts, new ways of sharing the weekly Bible Lessons, and support for the work of teachers, practitioners and lecturers in the Russian-speaking field.

We are continually grateful for the gifts from Christian Science Churches, Societies, Associations and individuals who see the value of the growth of Christian Science in Russian-speaking countries and want to share in the work through prayerful and financial support. All past needs have been amply met and we are sure this will continue since we all know so well from past experience that Divine Love is ever present and Divine Mind ever governing. What precious Divine Truths we have been given!

Please visit our website or write to us with any questions or comments you may have. We are all united in this exciting and joyous mission to support -

Christian Science Activities in the Russian-speaking Field!

www.spiritualresource.org

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