



P.O. Box 1065
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RUSSIA CONNECTION

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. James 4:8

Dear friends & family,

In our last newsletter we asked for prayer in knowing if we should move to another city in Russia or Ukraine to continue our mission work with HIM. We are trusting in God to lead us where and when He is ready. Until then, we shall remain here in Yoshkar-Ola doing the work He has already given us to do.

DEPUTATION UPDATE

We will be coming to the U.S. For deputation from November 2010 through April 2011. We would love to have the opportunity to share with you about what God is doing in Russia.

If you would like to have us come to your church for a service or even if you would like us to try to stop for a visit, please let us know as we are working on our deputation schedule.

You may contact us by e-mail: Motovilov6@aol.com or by phone 772-675-3103. This is a Florida number which is connected to us here in Russia through Vonage.

We are 8 hours ahead of EST so the best time to call is your early morning hours through early afternoon.

We are looking forward to seeing and talking with as many of you as we can while we are on deputation. Thank you for your prayers and support! God bless you!

Maude Motovilov

Valera will be helping with Christian summer camps for children (two this year) in July. It is a joint effort of churches from different cities. There are many needs and details to take care of before it can happen. Please keep this work in your prayers!

Praise God for His answers to prayer!

We mentioned Galina in our last newsletter. She is a new Christian, and she has been taking discipleship classes with Maude. She has been wanting to go to the U.S. this summer with "the work and travel" program and has been VERY worried about getting a visa because many students



have had their visas denied this year. She had her interview in Moscow this past week and out of 100 people applying for visas, she was one of only five who received it! Thank you to those who prayed especially for her! It has increased her faith greatly and she has "No doubts that God helped!"

She comes from a family where no one is a Christian. Her father is having heart problems and is possibly going to have open heart surgery soon in another city, 600 kilometers from here. He is scared about this operation. We encourage Galina to witness to her father and mother, but it is difficult for her; she has never talked about such personal things with her parents. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Praise be to you, O Lord...

These past several months we have had some sicknesses coming and going in our family. The biggest challenge for us was

Valera's skin problem on his face. For more than two months his dermatologist doctor has been trying different therapies and medications until finally she said that there was nothing else she could do - it was only getting worse! It was a time when Valera finally had to give it all to God and to spend more time in fasting and prayer. Valera can testify that this time of physical affliction has brought him a spiritual revival which he needed the most. *In the words of David I could say: "It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees" (Psalm 119: 71).* We know that many of you prayed for this problem as well. This past week all the sores on his face started healing and it is basically back to normal. God is good!

Our students, updated

Through our English meetings we have come to know some more about our students and their specific struggles and needs. They need your prayers! We have several new students, and God also keeps bringing past students like Ann and Aloyna across our paths. God is the only one who is able to help them! Please help us pray that they will come to know Christ as their personal Savior! On the next page we have some information and pictures that you can use as a prayer list.

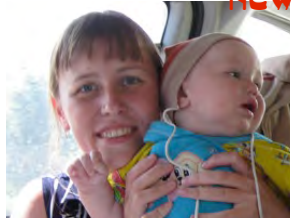


Helen Kazakova



Helen is an x-ray doctor. She was divorced a year ago and is a single mother of a three year old boy. She regularly comes to our Bible studies and is very open in discussing her specific problems, but doesn't want to accept God as the solution. She has been emotionally hurt too many times.

Tatiana – neighbor



One day in early spring when we took our children outside to play, we met Tatiana and her two boys, ages three and six months. She heard us speaking English. We invited her to our women's meetings and she came several times. Pray that God will also become her personal friend.

Valya



Dmitri brought Valya to our class. She does not speak English very well, but has a desire to learn. She seems open to studying and discussing the Bible. She has attended both the women's meetings and Bible classes. Pray that she will make God an important part of her life.

Ludmila



Ludmilla was one of Maude's beginner English students. She has come to our classes from time to time. She has a boyfriend in England and has attempted to get a visa to go there several times with no success. Pray that she will understand and accept God's love for her.

Alexey



Alexey has been a faithful student. He is a photographer by hobby and a Christian by grace. He loves to discuss the Bible with us and is always ready to admit his struggles with doing what is right. Pray that God will help him with temptations he faces and that he will be a shining light to others.

Andrey



Andrey is a student at the university. He is majoring in French with a minor in English. Since January he has not been attending our classes - either because he is busy with his studies or because he is afraid he will be convinced that there really is a God.

Dmitri



Dmitri has been a student for a long time. Unfortunately he took a job in another city far away from here. His wife and two boys are living here in Yoshkar-Ola. Please pray for them as they make decisions about their future. We keep in touch through e-mails.

Anna - teacher



Anna is an English teacher who worked in the same school as Valera two year ago. She recently started attending our women's meetings and has already brought another girl with her. She seems to agree with what we have read from the Bible together.

Anya



Anya is another of Maude's beginner English students and a friend of Ludmilla pictured above. She studied in agriculture but has not been able to find any jobs in that field and has had several other jobs. Please pray that she will be open to the things of God.

Ann – student



Last year when the TLC team was walking in the park, they met Ann. She has been attending the women's meetings very faithfully. She is a student at the university studying English and French. She often asks for advice when she does not know what to do about something.

Olga Lebedeva



Olga studied to be a lawyer and is working as a secretary at the court. She has come to the women's meetings two times. In the last meeting, she asked if I was trying to change them. I told her only God can change people. Please pray for her.

Kate - teacher



Kate is an English teacher and long time friend. She is divorced and has an eight year old son whose father has not visited him for a year. Whenever she hears something she thinks she needs to change, she really tries to work on it. She prays to God about her needs.

Sveta - teacher



Sveta is a philosophy teacher at the university whom we met on the train. She has not been able to come to our class recently because she has a boyfriend she is spending time with on the weekends. She has always been interested and open to talking about the Bible.

Nadeshda - teacher



Nadeshda is an English teacher who is taking a leave of absence because she had a baby girl about a year ago. As a new mother, she really enjoyed our discussions in our women's meetings about motherhood. Please pray for her and her husband.

Tatiana - teacher



Tatiana is an English teacher at the technical institute. She is a single mother of a 6 year old boy. Her son gets sick quite often so she is not able to come all the time. The last time she came we discussed love and she said she did not believe in love. Please pray that she will know God's love.

These are some of the people who come and show interest in our classes. Maude has several new ladies coming to her Women's Classes where they address Biblical issues through discussing relationships between people. All of these students have other English speaking friends that they can invite to our classes and they do so from time to time. Please pray that God would give us wisdom to reach them with the Gospel of Christ.



Children talk

"I don't need a night light by my bed because God gave me glow in the dark eyes."

— Zarina

While driving from the orphanage we saw some people smoking, I was telling Zarina that it's not good to smoke and that she should never do it. She said she wouldn't because she was not even human yet. (She meant grown up.)

As we were bouncing along in the van over some potholes, Alexander said, "Daddy's drumming." I couldn't understand what he was saying at first so he started showing motions as if playing a drum. I guess he thought the van was going up and down as if we were hitting a drum.

My mom sent us the ingredients to make chocolate covered peanut butter eggs. We hadn't had time to make them yet. One morning when I asked Zarina what she wanted for breakfast, she told me peanut butter eggs. I told her no she can't have candy for breakfast. She told me she thought peanut butter eggs were eggs with peanut butter on them.

Alexander after picking up one of his daddy's ties that had fallen on the floor. "I'm a nice big boy."

Alexander had been asking me to make him some pumpkin pie for several days. He decided to try a new tactic when he told me, "Pumpkin pie likes me."

Zarina told Alexander the story of Jonah in the lion's den.



Pet turtle

A few days ago when we came in from playing outside, I took Alexander's hat off and told him he was cute because his hair was curled and standing up. For some reason, he didn't like it and since then he's been very concerned about his hair standing up. He kept looking in the mirror to see if it was up.

Alexander wanted to talk to his babushka (grandmother) on the phone while eating some noodles. When she asked him what he was eating, he said "etta" (this) and held a spoonful of noodles to the phone so she could see.

Zarina told me I need to check Nicolas' diaper. I asked if he was messy and she said he was the mailbox. I looked in his pants behind his diaper and found a piece of paper with the message, "Mom, I love you!"

Nicolas is learning to speak Russian because of spending time with Babushka and Daddy. The other morning he woke up saying preekhaly (we've arrived).

I told Alexander "I love you." He wanted me to say it again and said, "I can't hear you." He put his ear to my ear so he could hear me better.

When mama asks Zarina to do something, she responds: "Yes, mom, anything you say -- because you are the boss." It doesn't happen every time though.