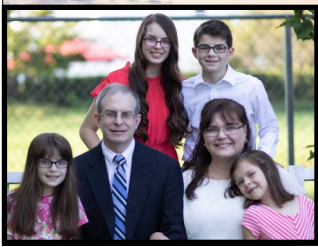


600,000 Russians in New York City need a church that speaks their language...



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Dear Friend,

Winter 2020-2021

*Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
In working or in waiting, another year with Thee;
Another year of progress, another year of praise,
Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.*

*Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace,
Another year of gladness in the shining of Thy face;
Another year of leaning upon Thy loving breast;
Another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.*

*Another year of service, of witness for Thy love,
Another year of training for holier work above;
Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
On earth, or else in Heaven, another year for Thee.*

Francis Ridley Havergal wrote these words almost 150 years ago. We still sing them today. May they reflect the desires of our heart and motivate us to be faithful and fruitful.

What will this new year hold? We may be able somewhat to influence global health, world peace, national prosperity, and political stability, but we cannot control these things. They remain, as they always have, in the omnipotent hands of our loving God, Who knows the end from the beginning and works all things after the counsel of His own will.

Likewise, even the state of our individual health and personal wealth are not exclusively ours to determine. You can write a perfect budget and plan a perfect diet, but may be unable to implement them. Health surprises, job loss, product shortages, mechanical malfunctions, and the decisions and actions of other people may overturn our plans. *A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.* (Proverbs 16:9)

He that hears and does the words of Jesus is like a man who built his house on the rock. *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable,*

always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

(1 Corinthians 15:58; 1 John 2:17; Psalm 46; Isaiah 40).

Although the disruptions stemming from Covid-19 are ongoing, we finished 2020 on several positive notes. We expanded our church's ministry on the Internet. We mentioned, in our previous letter, that we had resumed in-person church services on Sunday and Thursday evenings; by year's end, we had also resumed Sunday morning church services. We held in-person services on Thanksgiving (but without our traditional meal), Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve. We returned to the streets of Brighton Beach to distribute gospel tracts. Yesterday on the street we gave away wall

calendars for 2021 with Scripture on each page. One of our supporting churches sent us a box of handmade scarves. Those expressions of our Saviour's love for sinners will soon be distributed along with the Gospel. Sherry and Shastya began teaching an online ESL class at the beginning of December, and although they began with people from our church, one of our ladies' nephews joined in last week from the Ukraine. A visitor from a month or two ago came back last night

for our evening service. We will have a baptismal service soon. God has provided for us, kept us, and given us opportunities to serve Him.

On a personal note, our two oldest children both got engaged on Christmas Day! One wedding is planned for December 19. The date for the other has not been determined. We see the Lord at work in the lives of our children and praise Him for that!

Will this be the year when the Lord Jesus returns? The stage is certainly being set. May the Master find us busy for His glory!

Serving our Saviour,

Dan, Sherry, Symphony, Lacey,
Shastya, Gabriel, Emma, & Kelsie

