

600,000 Russian-speaking people in New York City need a church that speaks their language...



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Dear friend,

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“Christ is risen!” That is the traditional greeting you hear from many Russian-speaking people on Easter. The traditional response is, “He is risen indeed!” Although these joyful expressions of faith are widespread among born-again believers and members of the Roman Catholic and Russian Orthodox traditions, the majority of the Russian-speaking peoples here in New York City don’t belong to any of these faiths. Instead, most are Jewish, or Muslim, or simply atheists. Nevertheless, Christ IS risen! We also add another line in our church: Christ is coming!

ХРИСТОС
ВОСКРЕС!

In addition to Easter, we have many other special days on our minds at this time of year, and this is especially true in 2024. Five of our children have “milestone” birthdays this year. Our daughter Symphony celebrated her 25th in February. In March, Shastya turned 18 and Kelsie turned 10. Also in March, Emma became a teenager (13) on Palm Sunday. Gabriel will be 16 in May. Thank you to all of you who make an effort to remember the birthdays of our children! Please remember them in prayer as you pray for us!

Two other events are on the calendar for May. Bayfest is an annual neighborhood street fair that usually occurs about a week before Memorial Day. As we have done for several years, our church plans to have a booth there and engage passersby. This has been fruitful in the past.



A week later (Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day), we will celebrate a unique event: the 25th anniversary of Bethel Baptist, our partner/mother/host church here in Brooklyn! We will be having a “block party” (an outdoor carnival in the street) with music, preaching, puppets, games, and food as an outreach to our community... and Pastor Bickel has asked Sherry to organize the event. She certainly has a lot of irons in the fire!

Although we haven’t been here for all 25 years of Bethel’s existence, we continue to meet in the same rented spaces the church has occupied almost from its inception. We would really like Bethel to own our current meeting space or a nearby building that is even larger.



Would you pray with us about this? And would you pray right now for the salvation of Eugene, Abdulsalem, and their families?

Looking backward a little bit, one of our supporting pastors and his wife came from Illinois for a really great visit in January. We also expect a church in Indiana to bring a group here this summer!



In February, we headed westward to Ohio for a missions conference. From small beginnings, this dear church recently passed the one-million-dollar mark in their giving to world missions! We are always glad to visit our supporting churches. If we haven’t seen you in a while, please contact us! We’ll be glad to find a date that works.

We could list the names of many other people who need God to do something mighty in their lives, but we will only add two: Alex and Rod. Alex professes to be saved but has allowed alcohol to devastate his family. He is currently enrolled in a Christian 4-month residential addiction recovery program and seems to be doing really well. Rod is a high school student who is using marijuana. His family used to attend our church regularly. Both men need deliverance, and both of their families need our risen and victorious Lord to transform them. He is able!

Serving our Saviour,

Dan, Sherry,