

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Standing Firm and Taking Action for God

Come and see what our God has done!



Sergey Rakhuba
President

*“... The people who know their God
shall stand firm and take action.”*

— Daniel 11:32, ESV

Dear Friend,

It takes courage to represent Christ in this dark world! That's why I'm so proud of the dedicated Next Generation leaders who have made Mission Eurasia's efforts fruitful throughout the region. These are truly people who “know their God.” And as the prophet Daniel predicted long ago, they're “standing firm” and “taking action!”

In this report, you'll discover the wonderful ways these faithful believers have shared the gospel and demonstrated Christ's love in 2019.

You'll read about our **School Without Walls** (SWW) program, which is preparing young leaders to carry the banner of Christ for years to come.

You'll rejoice as you learn about our **Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative** (NGPLI), which equips young professionals to share God's light in the workplace.

Of course, nothing is more important than getting God's Word to as many people as possible. So, you'll be glad to see how our Next Generation leaders are using **Scripture** as effective evangelistic tools in their ministry outreaches throughout Eurasia.

As you know, there is still much tension and conflict around religion in Eurasia. Our **Religious Freedom and Reconciliation Initiatives** are addressing these issues in straightforward, practical ways. And they're bearing fruit. As James wrote, “A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace” (James 3:18).

As always, we focused last year on several groups that deserve special attention:

War continues to wreak pain and heartache in eastern Ukraine, so our **Ministry to Refugees and Displaced People** has taken on even more importance.

There are still thousands of people groups across Eurasia who have never heard the gospel. So, our Next Generation leaders are continuing our **Ministry to Unreached People** with vigor.

I think you'll take special delight in reading about our **Children's Ministries**, which are bringing the hope of the gospel to young hearts through *Gifts of Hope*, *Summer Bible camps*, and the *Home for Every Orphan* program.

Last, but certainly not least, the primary unit for God's work in the world is the Christian family. So, our **Family as Mission** initiative is addressing the unique needs of families in Eurasia.

As you read about the wonderful things God has done in all these areas, I hope you'll rejoice with me at His goodness and faithfulness. I never forget that it's all possible because of your kind support. None of this would have happened without the steadfast, generous help of our partners. And I'm delighted and grateful to count you as our partners in this work together.

Gratefully in Him,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Rakhuba'.

President, Mission Eurasia

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SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS (SWW)

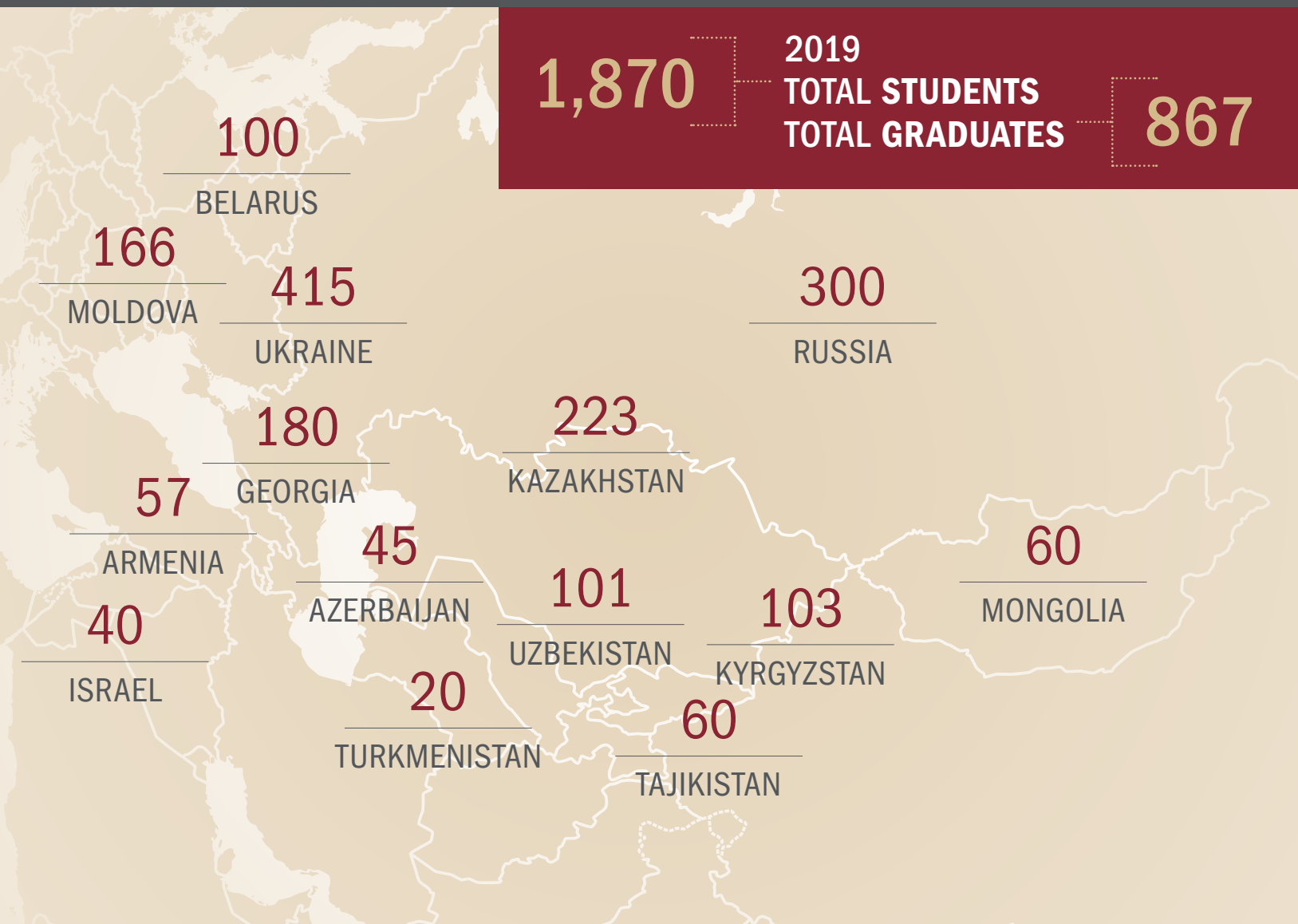
“Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.”

— 1 Timothy 4:12

Preparing God’s Future Leaders

As the Scripture says of those who “know their God,” the young leaders of **School Without Walls** are *standing firm* and taking action. They’re reaching the world through *youth ministry, family ministry, media ministry, education, and outreach* to at-risk people groups. Thanks to your prayers and financial support, their efforts are bearing fruit throughout Eurasia.

NEXT GENERATION LEADERS ARE TAKING THE GOSPEL TO EURASIA—AND THE WORLD.



God's Message Knows No Boundaries

Erkhan is a young man in the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan. Like most Kazaks, he comes from a Muslim background. He is also deaf. But none of that stopped him from receiving the glorious news of God's salvation. Here's his story:

"... God touched my heart for the first time in 2017 when I attended a School Without Walls (SWW) conference for the deaf community in Astana. Some of my friends from university invited me to this event ... I was surprised to see so many young people from all different parts of our country, along with Russia and Uzbekistan, who boldly and sincerely confessed their faith in God. Some of them shared their testimonies, and I was so moved that I began to cry. It seemed like everything they shared was meant specifically for me to hear. At the time I didn't realize it, but the Holy Spirit was trying to get my attention."

After the conference, Erkhan met with some of the other attendees. They shared their personal stories with him. And, right then and there, he says, *"I put my faith in Jesus."*

After that, Erkhan immersed himself in things of God, attending every SWW program he could find. And today he's boldly sharing his faith with others in the deaf community.



NEXT GENERATION PROFESSIONAL LEADERS INITIATIVE (NGPLI)

Making an Impact for Christ in the Workplace

Young Christian professionals are using their skills and training to change the world for Jesus.

Professionals have a unique opportunity to influence their world for the gospel. And more and more young Christians in Eurasia are entering professional fields. NGPLI trains them to share Christ effectively with their clients, colleagues, students, and patients. As they participate in NGPLI seminars, conferences, and forums, they're equipped to bring the truth of the gospel to the workplace.

Through your support, **11,800** Next Generation leaders received NGPLI training in 2019.

"... In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect ..."

—1 Peter 3:15

THESE
CHRISTIAN
PROFESSIONALS
REPRESENT
CHRIST IN THE
FIELDS OF:

Medicine: **3,000**

Education: **2,800**

Law: **1,100**

Business: **2,500**

Science and technology: **1,000**

The Arts: **800**

Media: **600**



Creating a Culture of Giving

NGPLI is training entrepreneurs and professionals who understand the importance of growing God's Kingdom, practicing generosity, and supporting important ministries.

In conferences, roundtables, and panel discussions, these young leaders are learning about biblical stewardship, sacrificial giving, and business ethics. The participants represent important fields, such as agriculture, construction, education, marketing, and medicine. Last year, this training enabled 300 leaders representing Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Moldova to return to their communities and train others. They hosted lectures, prayer breakfasts, and mentoring seminars, influencing another 3,000 of their colleagues and clients on how to practice and cultivate generous giving for the sake of God's Kingdom.

NGPLI plans to host at least four more of these events in 2020.

As a young Christian growing up in Uzbekistan, Islam had the opportunity to attend university where he studied economics. After graduating, he was hired by a Christian company where he and his Christian co-workers prayed before and after work each day. However, when the Uzbek government learned of the company's Christian activities, they closed the company. Islam suddenly found himself unemployed and was unable to find steady employment for the next five years. As Islam searched for God's direction, his church hosted a Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative (NGPLI) seminar. He shared:

"Since I had a lot of free time, I decided to go, and the message completely changed my life. I realized that God was calling me to start my own business so I could serve Him by using my business to influence others with the gospel. I was so excited to get started, but I had no idea what to do or how to get the funds needed to start my business. As usual, God performed a miracle. My former boss called me and said that he and his friends would provide the start-up capital I needed for my business and would also advise me throughout the process! At the same time, Uzbekistan elected a new president, who extended greater religious freedom to businesses. So, with the help of my former colleagues, I started a construction company. Today, I have more than 50 employees, and I invite them all to pray with me before and after work every day. I also have breakfast with my closest colleagues once a week to talk about our faith. I am so grateful to the Lord for NGPLI and the way He is using my business to grow His Kingdom."



SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION AND EVANGELISM

The Word of God Is Spreading throughout Eurasia

Next Generation leaders are sharing the Scriptures everywhere. And lives are being transformed.

The prophet Amos spoke of a time when there would be a famine, “not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord” (Amos 8:11). The lands of the former Soviet Union experienced a scarcity of God’s Word for decades under communism. But Mission Eurasia is making up for those lost years by working with partners like **ShareWord Global**, **Bibles par Internet**, and **Pocket Testament League** to spread the Word of God throughout the region.

TOTAL
SCRIPTURAL
RESOURCES
DISTRIBUTED: **1,025,800**

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

— Hebrews 4:12

Taking God’s Word to the Streets

Oleg is a School Without Walls (SWW) leader from Ukraine, and he regularly distributes Scripture, including the *Gospel of John*, to those in need. “I recently met a homeless man named Zhenya,” he shared. “Someone had recently given him food, and he was eating it ravenously. I felt compassion for him, so I gave him a copy of the *Gospel of John*, and to my surprise, he started quoting Bible verses. I asked him where he had learned these verses, and he shared that he had taken Bible classes when he was younger. We continued talking about a variety of topics until I had to leave for work.”





“The next day, I wanted to find Zhenya again so I could talk with him about Jesus, but he was no longer in the place where we had met the day before. The following day, I remembered the story of Jesus healing the demon-possessed man, who then became an evangelist, and I immediately prayed that God would bring about a similar transformation in Zhenya. To my surprise, when I arrived at the place where I had first met Zhenya, I saw him standing with the Gospel of John in his hand, preaching the Good News to other homeless men. I was so moved that my eyes filled with tears, and I thanked the Lord for how He is using Zhenya to reach the homeless community for Christ.”

A National Day of Thanksgiving in Ukraine

The capital city of Kyiv was the scene of Ukraine’s *National Day of Thanksgiving* on September 15, 2019. About 300,000 people came from around the country to participate. SWW leaders took advantage of this unique opportunity to distribute scriptural resources, share the gospel, and pray with those in attendance.

“This celebration and the freedom of sharing the gospel were a great opportunity for us,” said Denis Gorenkov, Mission Eurasia’s director of Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative (NGPLI). “At the same time, it was a challenge as more and more people were coming and we had to put all our efforts into providing [spiritual] help to as many people as possible. I was so happy to see the energy of our young leaders who rose up to the challenge.”

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND RECONCILIATION INITIATIVES

Defending the Right to Pray, Worship, and Share the Gospel in Eurasia

The forces of darkness continue to oppose the spread of God's message. Mission Eurasia is working to make sure it's still available.

Our freedom to preach the gospel in Eurasia is continually under threat. The hostility is coming from two very different sources. In the Central Asian republics, militant Islamists oppose the gospel at every turn. They have tried to intimidate Christian leaders, closing their churches, fining them, arresting them, and worse. These brave Christians need our continued prayers.

Another type of oppression is happening in Russia. It is a nominally "Christian" country, but that description hides the brutal truth. In fact, all religious activity not associated with the government-sanctioned Russian Orthodox Church is discouraged, if not outright prohibited. Christians are routinely harassed, surveilled, arrested, fined, and forbidden from sharing their faith outside government-approved places of worship. The most important response to these challenges is prayer. Mission Eurasia is encouraging our network of Christian partners throughout the world to pray for God's Word to prevail.

WE'RE ALSO TAKING ACTION

HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS WE RAISED AWARENESS ABOUT THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES IN 2019:

2019

- A roundtable discussion on religious freedom was held in Kyiv, Ukraine with 70 participants, including religious leaders, NGO representatives, scientists, and other experts.
- A presentation on "Freedom of Religion in the Occupied Territories of Crimea and Donbas, Ukraine" took place, which culminated in a resolution supported by 50 participants representing churches, human rights organizations, and other NGOs.
- A presentation on "Religious Freedom for All" was made to 70 university students from nine Eurasian countries.
- A roundtable discussion was held in Kyiv with 80 participants on "Combining the Efforts of Civil Society to Release Ukrainian Citizens Illegally Deprived of the Liberty in the Occupied Territories of Crimea and Donbas."

CHURCH PLANTING

“Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored...”

— 2 Thessalonians 3:1

Building Strong Foundations through Church Planting

New believers need a stable, healthy environment where their faith can mature. That’s what Mission Eurasia’s church planting ministry provides.

These new churches serve as islands of hope and light in places where darkness and misery reigned.

2019 was an extraordinary year for church planting, as Mission Eurasia’s Next Generation leaders focused on building up the Body of Christ throughout the region.

Here are some of the activities your support made possible:

- 30 training seminars on church planting
- 3 church-planting roundtables
- A church-planting conference in Russia

The result? **52 new churches** were planted in Eurasia, thanks to your support. Praise be to God!

Here is where new churches have been established:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Russia (22) | ■ Kyrgyzstan (1) |
| ■ Israel (7) | ■ Tajikistan (2) |
| ■ Georgia (2) | ■ Turkmenistan (1) |
| ■ Moldova (1) | ■ Uzbekistan (4) |
| ■ Kazakhstan (2) | ■ Ukraine (10) |

School Without Walls (SWW) leaders and graduates helped to plant **18** of these new churches—inspired by the training they received at church-planting conferences and seminars.

And **34** of those new churches started SWW groups of their own. The unstoppable growth of God’s Kingdom continues!

“And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.”

— Colossians 1:18

2019 MINISTRY AT-A-GLANCE

Your prayers and support are making an unmistakable impact throughout Eurasia! Despite continued opposition, the Word of God is still going out and changing lives.

Here's a summary of Mission Eurasia's ministry achievements in 2019.



SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS (SWW)

SWW equipped **1,870** students and **867** graduates to take God's message to people in **14** countries.

"Before SWW, I didn't know how to share the gospel or explain the Scriptures to others, but now I feel confident when I share my faith. Thanks to SWW, I am delving into some of the most important Scripture passages, and I have even written a few sermons. The recent 'Leadership in Ministry' SWW session also taught me about effective leadership and the importance of following God's call for my life." — Subkhan, SWW leader in Azerbaijan



NEXT GENERATION PROFESSIONAL LEADERS INITIATIVE (NGPLI)

11,800 young professionals were equipped to share the gospel through **60** training events, **15** conferences, **3** forums, and **4** roundtables.

During an NGPLI forum in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, Jamilya, a young medical professional from Kazakhstan, shared: *"I want Christ's Kingdom to be manifested in my church, my office, and even my public transportation stops. To that end, I am using my professional skills to fight for people in my country, and I can see that God is using my faith-centered efforts to impact the lives of others."*

Today, Jamilya is one of the leaders of the NGPLI community of Christian medical professionals in Kazakhstan, through which she encourages her fellow medical workers to share their faith in their spheres of influence. For Jamilya, there is no greater encouragement than seeing the members of this community grow in faith.



SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION

Thanks to you, **1,025,800** Scripture resources reached children and adults in Eurasia. Those materials included Bibles, New Testaments, gospel booklets, and other literature.

"The Scripture you gave me is helping me to rediscover my former joy. The war in Chechnya has claimed the lives of many of my family and loved ones. We were stricken with so much grief, but because of this Scripture, our hearts are being filled with faith, hope, and love. Best of all, I am learning about Jesus Christ, who I've never been able to read about before." — Zura, North Caucasus region of Russia

As Paul exulted in his letter to the Colossians, “The gospel... is bearing fruit and growing since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth.”

— Colossians 1:6



“I CARE” MINISTRY TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PEOPLE

In the midst of the tragic ongoing war in Ukraine, **915,000** people were impacted through the humanitarian aid you helped provide. In addition, the Bread of Life Bakeries served **42,120** people, **450** pastors received training through “I Care,” and **1,500** refugees received counseling.

“A few years ago, I buried my husband. After he was struck by shrapnel from an exploding shell, he lost his mind and would often wander aimlessly around our village. One day, he was found dead on the street. Thankfully, I still love my life, and I enjoy caring for others, so I pray every day that God would let me live a little longer. I find such joy in having guests over and reading my Bible every day. It is the only thing that gives me hope when the bombs fall. Thank you for not forgetting about our village! I am so grateful for the fresh bread and food you bring me, because now I don’t have to worry about what I’ll eat.” — Raisa, eastern Ukraine



GIFT OF HOPE

Christmas was brighter last year for **81,746** children who received Gifts of Hope and Scripture resources through your generous help. In these efforts we also reached an estimated **124,070** parents and others with the gospel. It all came about through the dedicated involvement of **5,029** SWW leaders who partnered with **491** churches. And in the process, **105,910** pieces of Scripture were disseminated.

“Thank you for coming to our hospital! No one from outside our village ever visits us. If you hadn’t visited, these children would never have heard about Christ. We believe that the amazing story of Jesus’ birth at Christmas will give hope to our children!” — Elina, head physician, children’s tuberculosis hospital in Russia’s North Caucasus



SUMMER BIBLE CAMPS

In all, **12,428** children went to our **199** Bible camps, which took place in **14** countries. There, they learned about the God who loves them and took home **25,800** copies of God’s Word.

“This summer, I went to my first Bible camp ... I learned a lot about God, how He created the earth, and the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. For me, all of this was new, and it has deeply impacted how I want to live the rest of my life. I hope I can come back to camp next year!” — Chinbolor, 14 years old, Mongolia

“I Care” Refugee Assistance Program— Helping Victims of War

As the war in Ukraine drags on, Mission Eurasia is bringing comfort and practical help.

War is horrible and the ongoing trauma it causes can be devastating. In Ukraine, even as the fighting continues, the suffering has spread to every area of life. Millions of people have been forced out of their homes. They experience hunger and psychological distress. Many resort to crime, drugs, and suicide. In this bleak setting, the “I Care” program is bringing the light and hope of the gospel.

In 2019, Mission Eurasia workers demonstrated God’s love by providing **8,000** family food packs, **1,632,980** one-cup rice meals, and **150,000** pounds of clothing and other goods.

Feed My Starving Children. One of the inevitable consequences of war is widespread hunger. Through the **Feed My Starving Children** program, Mission Eurasia is meeting the need, providing Manna Pack rice meals to hungry children and families.

New Churches. School Without Walls (SWW) leaders partnered with local churches and communities in Ukraine to plant 10 new churches. Five of those churches are in the Donetsk region, which has been so devastated by war during the past several years. But the believers in these new congregations are bringing light and hope to their desperate neighbors. Along with regular church services, they’re hosting home groups, family events, evangelism training sessions, and classes for children. All of this, of course, is in addition to one-to-one personal evangelism.

“It would not be an exaggeration to say that almost everyone in our area is in some way familiar with our churches,” says Igor Tunik about the new churches in war-torn Donetsk. “We continue to serve in the villages and cities in our region, and we believe that the Lord will produce a harvest. Also, the young people at these five new churches visit local nursing homes every week to sing songs, talk about God, and bring nutritious food to the elderly.”

Bread for the Body and Soul. Jesus recognized the spiritual hunger that all people experience when He offered Himself as “the Bread of Life.” He also acknowledged our need for physical bread when he fed 5,000 people with just a few loaves. The **Bread of Life Bakeries** are following His example, providing spiritual and physical bread to the hungry people of eastern Ukraine. In 2019 alone, **42,120** people were impacted by this ministry, receiving **15,000** loaves of bread and bread products, along with scriptural resources.

Mobility for the Disabled. Wheelchairs are a common sight in Western countries. But in Eurasia, they’re a rare luxury. Yet, there are many disabled people in these countries who desperately need them. In 2019, Mission Eurasia partnered with **Free Wheelchair Mission** to bring the gift of mobility to **1,650** people living in hopelessness and despair.

Aleksandra is 94 years old, and she lives in Volnovakha, a small village in Ukraine’s turbulent Donetsk region, where the ongoing conflict continues to rage. Aleksandra has been blind for three years, and for the last five years, she hasn’t been able to walk on her own due to weakness in her legs. And because her family couldn’t afford a wheelchair, she was often stuck in bed all day, unless one of her relatives could carry her where she needed to go.

When our SWW students heard Aleksandra’s story, they decided to bring her a new wheelchair provided by our faithful partners at **Free Wheelchair Mission**. Now, Aleksandra can move around on her own, so she no longer feels like a burden to her family! “God bless the kind people who work for **Free Wheelchair Mission**,” she exclaimed with joy when our SWW students gave her the wheelchair. “You are bringing irreplaceable gifts to those in need. I’m so grateful for this wheelchair. Thank you for all you are doing for the disabled in our country!”

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

— Psalm 23:4



MINISTRY TO UNREACHED PEOPLES

Taking the Gospel Where It Isn't Known

**Millions haven't yet heard the message of God's salvation.
With your help, we're reaching them.**

The vast region of Eurasia contains thousands of distinct people groups, many of whom have their own languages and customs. Tragically, millions of those people have never heard the Good News of Jesus Christ.

With your support, Mission Eurasia is reaching as many of them as we can.

GOD IS USING A VARIETY OF MINISTRIES TO TOUCH THESE UNREACHED PEOPLES:

- Church planting
- Sharing Scriptures in native languages
- Training missionaries and leaders
- Children's ministries
- Social services for those in need

In 2019, Mission Eurasia shared the gospel with 20 people groups in Russia alone:

In the **North Caucasus** (Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, and Karachay-Cherkessia): The *Digor*, *Lezgin*, *Dargin*, *Ingush*, *Chechen*, *Balkar*, *Kabardin*, *Circassian*, *Karachai*, *Avar*, and *Ossetian* peoples.

In **Kalmykia**: the *Kalmyk*, who practice Buddhism.

In **Northern Russia** (Komi, Karelia, Tyumen, and the Yamal Peninsula): The *Nenets*, *Khanty*, *Mansi*, *Selkup*, *Sami*, *Komi*, and *Forest Nenets* peoples.

In **Western Siberia** (Omsk): *Siberian Tatars*.

In **Azerbaijan** we ministered to the *Udi* people through delivering Scripture, summer Bible camps, and Gift of Hope evangelistic Christmas program. And in **Ukraine** we shared the gospel with the Roma (Gypsy) people through delivering Scripture, presenting the Gift of Hope evangelistic Christmas program for children, and making preparations to organize SWW training events.



*“Those who were not told about him
will see, and those who have not heard
will understand.”*

— Romans 15:21



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Taking Special Care of God's "Little Ones"

Children represent the future of God's work in the world. Investing in their spiritual development is vitally important.

Jesus had a special love for children. And He reminded all of us to treat them with care! Mission Eurasia is sharing God's love with young people throughout the region through a variety of effective ministries.

Gift of Hope

Imagine being a poor child in a bleak, war-ravaged environment. Then a Christmas gift arrives, with colorful toys, delightful treats, warm mittens—and a Bible storybook! That's what **81,746** Eurasian children experienced in 2019, thanks to you. Suddenly, their Christmas became joyful—and filled with hope.

But it wasn't just the children who benefited. After all, we adults need Christmas joy, too! The Gift of Hope program also blessed an estimated **124,070** parents, family members, caregivers, and orphanage workers. We are so grateful to the **491 churches** and **5,029 dedicated workers** who made it happen—and to **you**, for your steadfast support.

"... Along with my gift, the Christians gave me a Bible. I love to read, so tonight I will ask my mom and brothers to read the Bible with me. The gift I received is very beautiful, and there were a lot of delicious things in it. I would like the Christians to visit us for every holiday. Thank you!"

—Nikita, 10 years old, Ukraine



"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

—Matthew 19:14



“To you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless.”

— Psalm 10:14

Summer Bible Camps

We call it “Summer of Hope” and that’s just what it is for the thousands of young people who attend our Summer Bible camps. Here they enjoy fun activities with other young people in a healthy, beautiful environment. And they learn about the wonderful love of God. For many of these precious children, camp is a welcome respite from a dreary life of poverty, war, and hopelessness. There is no ministry more important—or more rewarding.

From Israel to Mongolia—and **12** other countries in between—our 199 Bible camps shared God’s love with **12,428** young people in 2019. They went home with **25,800** copies of Scripture. This is the powerful impact your generous gifts are having!



A Home for Every Orphan (HFE0)

Thousands of children in Eurasia have been orphaned or abandoned as a result of war, poverty, and other forms of spiritual darkness. Some end up in orphanages, but these facilities are often overcrowded, underequipped, and understaffed. Others live on the streets, where they’re vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

That’s why **A Home for Every Orphan (HFE0)**, launched by Anita Deyneka, Mission Eurasia’s co-founder and director emeritus, serves to place homeless children in Russia, Ukraine, and other countries into loving Christian families. In 2019, in partnership with A Family for Every Orphan (AFFE0), your support helped **20,789** children and families in nine countries including:

- **397** children, who were placed in families
- **4,604** families, who were strengthened or reunited
- **3,159** foster and adoptive families, who received support or counseling.

In addition, **9,032** social workers received training on orphans and adoption, and **500** lawyers and judges received training on the judicial protection of children. In addition, **13,720** family-based care resources were distributed to **14,978** people who attended motivational and training events. In total, **1,372,000** people were reached with the message of adoption in 2019. With your support, more vulnerable children will be placed into loving Christian homes in Eurasia and beyond.

FAMILY AS MISSION

“... Though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

—Ecclesiastes 4:12

The most important mission field is in the home.

For Christians, our most important ministry starts where we live—in our homes. The way we relate to our spouses and children is vitally important in God’s plan. Christian families can also be a powerful witness for Christ in their respective communities. Mission Eurasia’s **Family as Mission** initiative gives Christian families essential tools to represent Christ in all their relationships.

For several years now, Mission Eurasia has hosted **Family as Mission** events in various locations. During 2019, 10 conferences, forums, and seminars designed to strengthen the family were held in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova, reaching **1,544 parents, pastors, and others** involved in family ministry. In addition, **11,000 copies of four specialized resources for families** were printed and distributed.

In May, a **Family as Mission** training event took place in Minsk, Belarus, in partnership with the Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches of Belarus. Over two days, Christian leaders from around the region provided vital instruction on a variety of family-related topics, including:

- **The State of the Family in Belarus** (presented by Yakov Timofeev, pastor, Bethlehem Church, Minsk)
- **How to Raise Children to Pursue Faith and Mission in Modern Culture**, (presented by Mikhail Britsin, pastor, Grace Evangelical Church, Melitopol, Ukraine)
- **How Can a Family Influence Society and Carry Out God’s Mission?** (led by Konstantin Teteryatnikov, director, School Without Walls (SWW) in Ukraine, coordinator of Family as Mission movement in Kiev, Ukraine)
- **Experiences in Premarital Counseling** (presented by Dmitry Lazuta, pastor, Light of Truth Church, Minsk; with his wife, Alena)

Participants came away equipped, encouraged—and eager to attend next year’s conference.



“Thank you for hosting such a great conference! We are a young couple, so it is very important that we build a good foundation for our marriage. We are especially grateful to Konstantin Teteryatnikov for his lecture about the importance of each family’s unique mission. After hearing him speak, we decided to follow his example and start adopting children in need. We had already thought about doing this, but we were always too afraid to actually do it. However, after hearing Konstantin speak, we realized that adoption is God’s mission for our family. Thank you again for this amazing conference!” —Yuri and Inna



“I loved the seminar about raising teenagers. I have a teenage daughter, and it is very challenging to know the best way to raise her. That is why I am so thankful for this teaching, which I know will help strengthen my family.” —Svetlana



“We recently started going to church, and this was our first time attending a Christian conference. We are so thankful that we were able to come, because we are a young couple, and we have two small children. At the conference, we realized that we weren’t raising our children to follow God, and it was very helpful to learn about Christian family values.” —Eugene and Victoria

“A family without a mission will disintegrate, and a mission without a family will not materialize. The Lord can bring harmony to both family and ministry by bringing them together.”

—Konstantin Teteryatnikov, coordinator of Family as Mission movement

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A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIRMAN



Wayne Shepherd
Christian Radio Host
Chairman, Mission Eurasia Board of Directors

Dear Friends of Mission Eurasia,

There's a word used in our English Bibles that we don't often use in conversation—the word “steadfast.” I like the way the word even sounds when we say it. Steadfast. Steady. Strong. Sure.

It is used by the psalmist to describe God's love. *“But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation”* (Psalm 13:5).

And it is used in the New Testament to call believers to stay the course. *“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him”* (James 1:12).

But while it is true that we are to remain steadfast in our faith, it is also true that we are to be people of action when it comes to sharing the gospel. God calls us to be proactive in telling and teaching others. *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age”* (Matthew 28:19-20).

For this reason, we are training young leaders in Eurasia to hold firm to their faith while, at the same time, to reach out and make disciples of everyone God places in their path. They are remaining steadfast in holding to the truth of the gospel and, at the same time, they are active in carrying out all that God is calling them to do.

As you read through these pages and see the results of ministry this past year, I hope you will rejoice with us in all that has been accomplished for the glory of God!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Mission Eurasia, thank you for your steadfast, faithful support, which enables the ministry to go forward. Your prayers and generosity are accomplishing great things for God's Kingdom in Eurasia and beyond!

OUR MISSION

To train, equip, and mobilize Christian leadership throughout Eurasia, who will engage in indigenous evangelism, church-planting, holistic ministries, and church growth by developing creative and strategic ministries and by facilitating partnerships between nationals and Western Christians.



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