

Siberia Field Director Report
submitted to Dale Smith
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There's something about witnessing the power of God's hand at work amid chaos and darkness that draws the soul out of suffering and into the awe of the Lord's goodness and might! Looking back at the past six months we have witnessed:

- The Lord has used our team in a time of fear and anxiousness after the mobilization was announced in Russia as we compassionately walked alongside our brothers and sisters, pointing them to Christ.
- After some disunity issues over the past year, we witnessed biblical reconciliation, and a combined youth group gathering among 3 churches in Kyzyl.
- The Russian church we attend in Krasnoyarsk reached out to Pastor Ayas's Tuvan church to help with their building project (without our suggesting it!). A group of men from the church have made two trips down and new relationships have been built. This is something we have been praying for the past decade!
- Frankie and Ira may be stuck outside of Russia as they apply for documents, but God has brought Buryat ministry to their doorstep as they housed and hosted church family fleeing the mobilization.
- Micah and Georgie and their daughter, Anastasia, are fully supported and plan to arrive in Russia in April and begin their language study.

In the midst of these joys, our team has had a year of struggles.

- The Emricks continue to wait and slowly move through the process of getting documents.
- The church in Buryatia saw its pastor and most elders flee the country during mobilization.
- There is a heaviness to working in a context that could see people you disciple called away to combat at any time or the possibility that we receive notice that we must leave the country.
- Changes have impacted numerous areas of life for our team.
- For the fourth year in a row we have had to cancel EnGage! and the prospect of recruiting full-time workers seems slim (although we have not forgotten how God brought the Costanzos).

Above are real challenges we face on the Siberia Field and, yet, they are no surprise to the Lord and we trust that through the changes and political situation that He will continue to bless our faithfulness and ministry.

This year I have a goal of leading our team through the concepts of biblical counseling as they apply to relational discipleship. As I finish up my Master of Art in Biblical Counseling, I have seen rich benefits in my discipleship ministry.

Here are a few ways that people can be praying for the Siberia Field:

- That God would grant us perseverance during the current trials we face in the midst of the military operation in Ukraine and the many ways it has impacted our lives. Pray that our focus and foundation would be the Lord and that He would supply for our team financially, protect our team physically, and grow us spiritually to be more like His Son.
- Pray specifically for Micah and Georgie as they prepare to leave for the field and deal with last minute details, grieving the departure from family, and take on the task of learning language and culture in the year ahead.
- Pray that God would provide a way for Frankie to live in Russia and for Ira to visit the U.S.
- Shawna will be on SpA in the U.S. until May. Pray that it is a time of spiritual rest for her.
- Pray for wisdom for me as I lead the field and my family eagerly anticipates the arrival of the Costanzo family.

Joyfully Serving Christ!

Lucas Orner

Siberia Field Director

InterAct Ministries.