

Place  
Stamp  
Here



Mission to Russia at ICOM  
in Peoria, IL in November

Mission to Russia  
PO Box 755  
St Peters, MO 63376



The theme for the 2017 International Conference on Missions (ICOM) was "Together." Mission to Russia personnel were encouraged by the opportunity to be together with Christians from around the world. We were inspired by challenging messages. We enjoyed visiting with friends at our booth. We also were able to refine our mission as the directors were able to hold a number of strategy meetings with ministry partners. The 2018 ICOM will be held in Cincinnati, OH, November 15-18. We look forward to seeing you there.

-Mike Pabarcus  
Ministry Director  
Mission to Russia

## Reflections on Light to the World Trip

Between October 6 and November 6, two students and four adults from Light to the World Christian Academy travelled the midwest visiting about ten churches and three Christian schools. Thank you so much for hosting and encouraging our friends from Kostroma. Here is what they say about the trip:

"...As usual Jesus blessed us more than we could expect. We visited so many wonderful churches, we met so many faithful Christians, who by their personal example inspired us to work for the Lord even better. Steve and Cindy, Mike and Deb, Dan and Ann and many other brothers and sisters, you all made our trip fruitful for the ministry here and comfortable for us. You all taught us a wonderful lesson of Christian hospitality, generosity, faithfulness .... Thank you very much and God bless you and your families abundantly".

-Written by Alexey Gribov (LTTW School Principal)& Mikhail Korytov (worship leader)

"..It was such a joy to see old friends and to meet new people! Being far away from home, you start realizing how great our God who created the entire universe is. You start realizing that



all these people who were born and raised in another country and who speak different language are your brothers and sisters in Christ no matter what. And this feeling is indescribable. We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

-Written by Natasha Likhacheva & Helen Morozova (LTTW Christian school teachers)

"...We enjoyed everything in America: food, weather and people of course. We visited several museums, a zoo and a lot of other interesting places. We enjoyed meeting new people and though we live in different cultures, we worship the same God! We enjoyed every minute of our stay in America and we thank God for giving us such an opportunity".

-Written by Danil Gailit & Iliya Kudrin (11th and 7th graders of LTTW Christian school)



# Church Planting Conference

For the second time I was privileged to attend a Church planting conference in Belarus. This time it was held in the suburbs of Minsk (the capital of Belarus). We had 3 great days of study, practice, worship and fellowship experience. There were about 120 people, leadership teams from over 30 churches in Belarus and Russia. The conference was focused on the theme: "How to multiply disciples." In this respect the main speakers (from Russia and the US) spoke about how to plant new churches.

This year there were 6 churches from among the Association "Unity" (one of MTR's ministry partners), the number that has grown over the last three years. I believe the greatest benefit of this conference is practical application, as church teams take almost half of the day to work on their vision, values, goals, strategy and accountability.

By Sasha Lukmanov  
MTR Field Director



## Learn Russian

С РОЖДЕСТВОМ! Merry Christmas!

Srozh dest vum!

(Remember to roll your r's!)

## MyWay Camp 2017

Each Summer, Kostroma Christian Church youth hosts a church camp experience and many students grow in their faith.



# I have decided...

Kostroma Christian Church is celebrating 5 baptisms since August. Three of these are Light to the World Christian Academy students.

Maria Shkerdina (18) has been attending Kostroma Christian Church for about 3 years. Last spring her mother died unexpectedly. Maria stayed strong in her faith and was baptized on August 20, 2017 by a youth sponsor in the Kostroma river.

Lilyann Golikova (17) moved to Kostroma from a little town to study in the local university. After attending for one year, she was baptized during the worship service by Misha Korytov, one of the church leaders. "Our worship team helped me to make the decision. I love music and I know that though it we can worship and glorify our God. There are some other people in the church as well as my parents who influenced me to make the decision to accept Jesus. And now after I was baptized God's love overfills me even more. I know He is always right next to me. And this is great for I am sure He is good!!!"

Olesia Zhurina (14) grew up attending Kostroma Christian Church. Her dad is former church staff and her mom teaches at the academy. "I understood that I am a sinner and I was ready to give all my life and all myself to my Creator. Last August I was baptized in a small river near Kostroma. When I received God in my heart, I felt free. I can't say that my life became easier, but I got peace in my heart for sure."



Anastasia Krasavina (18) began to study in the Christian Academy Light to the World in 2006. Helen Morozova, our English teacher, taught Anastasia and had discipleship classes with her last year. This was instrumental in her decision to be baptized. "I decided that it was time to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior into my heart and dedicate my life to Him. I was baptized on August 5 of this year. It was the best decision of all the decisions I had made before. Now I know that God is always close to me and He makes me calm and happy. I am happy to be a part of God's big family."

Julia Trostina (9th grader at LTTW) came to Jesus through her study at the Christian Academy Light to the World as well. First she attended TJ Studio (teenage group) at church. "I went to MyWay Camp in 2015 and it was a life-changing experience for me. The camp counselors told me a lot about Jesus and His love and it impressed me a lot. I decided that I want to know more about Him and that's when my life started to change. During the next 2 years I could observe the changes in my life. I found many new friends who testified to me about their lives in Christ, which was very encouraging. In the summer, I realized that I wanted to give my life to our Lord and I was baptized."

## 2017 In Review

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

- Colossians 3:17

- January - A group, including three MTR board members, travelled to Belarus to visit the new churches planted in Gomel and Mogilev. The group also met with church planters in Babrusk.
- February - Hired Mike Pabarcus as Ministry Director. Mike assumed responsibilities in July.
- May - Class of 2017 graduated from Light to the World Christian Academy
- June - MyWay Camp
- September - Several leaders and members of Kostroma Christian Church attended a church planting conference in Minsk, Belarus.
- October - A group from Light to the World Christian Academy visited the U.S.
- November - International Conference on Missions

We send email updates every month. If you haven't signed up to receive our updates, please go to [www.mission2russia.org](http://www.mission2russia.org) and subscribe to our mailing list with your email address.