

Dear brothers and sisters!

This is just a brief letter with some news from the Ural deanery.

This Summer is very hot in our region – it has been above +30 C most of the time for several weeks now! It is also a very busy time for us here as we have lots of children’s camps and seminars in this period.

In June I was truly blessed to organize and conduct English language camps for children in the congregations of Lupersola (Mari El) and Birsk (Bashkiriya). There were about 30 kids in each camp. These were children of both: parishners and local people who live nearby. So the camps were aimed at inviting children and their parents to church. This time I was assisted by a volunteer from Finland – Machael Halleen – who was of great help.



Another language camp we organized for children of a rehab center (a kind of orphanage) in Cheboksary (Chuvashiya). 30 kids attended this one too. And although we were not allowed to preach God’s Word there openly – I hope we did it with our care and love that we tried to show. We also tried to preach to the young volunteers who helped us. These were the volunteers of the “Christian volunteer league” that we had organized before in order to invite students to join the deaconia of the church.

On 21-23 June we had a missionary camp of the Ural Deanery in the city of Kazan (Tatarstan). Pastors and active congregation members of almost all congregations were present at the event. There were some lecturers from Kelltto who led the seminars. Now when we are focused on missionary work it was of extreme importance.



We also had another pastors’ meeting where we discussed the most important issues of the Deanery and our missionary work. There were 7 pastors/deacons present at the meeting.

I also managed to visit the congregation in Yoshkar-Ola and our group in Kirov. It is inspiring to see the group in Kirov growing: people keep inviting their friends and relatives to out Bible studies and services. The “core” family of the group is renovating the place where we have our services and they are planning to make a new altar and an altar picture.

The group in Ufa started their regular meetings – every Wednesday the Deanery is renting the German Lutheran church for our Bible studies and a pastor from Birsk comes for a Sunday service once a month.

I thank you for all your prayers! We have already received a very clear answer to some of them. For example we managed to find a good place for our congregation’s meeting in Cheboksary. And the group in Ufa has started their regular meetings – every Wednesday the Deanery is renting the building of the German Lutheran church for our group’s Bible studies and a pastor from Birsk comes for a Sunday service once a month. These were prayer requests from the previous time!

I beg you to continue praying for our ministry in the region of Udmurtiya. We still lack a full-time missionary pastor there. Please pray for the pastors and deacons of the Ural Deanery – you can never imagine how important these prayers are! Here is a list of our ministers:

Sergey Elfimov (pastor in Syktyvkar)

Vasiliy Popov (temporary not serving as a pastor in Troitsko-Pechorsk)

Vladislav Abdullin (pastor in Birsik)

Aleksey Alyoshkin (pastor in Saranks)

Andrey Vladimirov (pastor in Saransk)

Sergey Pershin (pastor in Yoyskhar-Ola)

Vladimir Bochkov (retired pastor in Yoyskhar-Ola)

Aleksandr Mityakov (deacon in Lupersola)

Anatoliy Pogasiy (pastor in Kazan)

Igor Kuznetsov (temporary not serving as a deacon in Kazan)

Vladimir Vasiliev (deacon in Kazan)

Marat Fazlullin (Gurez-Pudga)

Konstantin Subbotin (pastor in Cheboksary and the Deanery)

Nikolay Dekker (congregation member in Kirov)

Sergey Kochetkov (congregation member in Ufa)

Blessings!

Yours in Christ,

Konstantin Subbotin

*Dean of the Ural Deanery of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia*

