



RCR №3, 2014

REPORTER

Reaching Millions For Christ



The newest Pirkko Home has opened in a small church in the village of Kokino.

Kokino - New “Liberation” Pirkko Home Rehab Center

By the grace of God, on July 20, 2014 a new “Liberation” Pirkko Home rehabilitation center was opened in the village of Kokino, about 12 miles southwest of the city of Bryansk, Russia. For a long time we have prayed about opening a second rehab center in the Bryansk region. The first one is located in the city of Dyatkovo, 30 miles north of the city of Bryansk. The Lord answered our prayer by blessing RCR through a small church in Kokino, who would like to utilize most of their building for a new men’s rehab center! He is blessing this region and has given RCR the opportunity to work with some very difficult categories of people: those released from prison, chemically-dependent, homeless, and those suffering from gambling. God made special hearts and lives to contend in this type of work, and called Oleg Murashev with his wife Oksana to start this new center and serve in this area. Nikolai Nozdrin was chosen for Oleg’s assistant. Oleg would like to share with you about this work.

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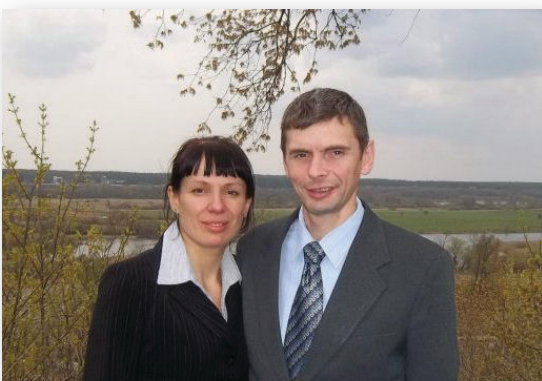
The church will need remodeling to include living space.

two, who are already going through the adaptation process, are here because they agreed to come and help with the development of this new center. Our day begins with Bible study and prayer, then we work on remodeling the building to provide rooms for housing and on the grounds, and we conclude the day with studying the Bible and prayer.

“Because people have different needs and each man has his own wounds, we have to devote plenty of time to spiritual care and communication with each resident. I still live in Dyatkovo, and commute to Kokino. Nikolai Nozdrin, my assistant, lives here at the center with the other men, which is much harder, but he is not discouraged, and does a good job. I talk and pray with him a lot. We pray for the ministry to addicts and their families in this region. May God help us! My wife Oksana also helps a lot; she often comes to the center to help with needs and to do things to make it feel more like a home.

“Every Saturday evening we attend a Bible study at ‘Church of the Transfiguration,’ in the city of Bryansk, and take the opportunity to post flyers about the center around the city. On Sundays we attend morning worship service in Kokino and then attend an evening service at one of the various churches in the Bryansk region, where there are at least 70 churches!

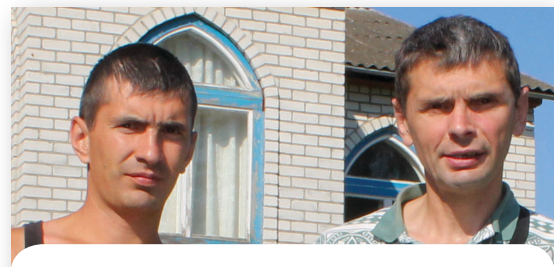
“There are definitely some needs as this ministry is just beginning, and the abilities of the local church to help us are very limited. The most urgent task facing the ministry is some major remodeling of the building because originally it was not designed to include living space. We will need to build a kitchen, a bathroom, an office and some bedrooms.



Pray for a housing solution for the Murashev family.

“This new ministry is starting in the building of a small Baptist church with seven elderly members; some of them cannot even come to services due to their old age and illnesses. The opening of the rehabilitation ministry here is a great blessing for this church, because the church and our rehab center hold Sunday morning services together - worshiping God with hymns, preaching the Gospel, offering prayers, poems and psalms, and sharing and encouraging one another with testimonies. We have formed a good relationship with them because we share this church service.

“Currently in this new center we have six residents, plus two leaders. One man came on the day we opened, July 20th! - brought to us by people from a church in Bryansk. Most of the residents have come from other Pirkko Homes;



Oleg (on the right) and Nikolai are the new directors.

“There is also a special need for housing for my family. To rent an apartment in Kokino is very expensive because of a large school located in the village, Bryansk State Agricultural Academy. The church in Kokino has given their permission for an addition to be added to the church building for our family’s living quarters, and we are very grateful. We are currently commuting to Kokino from Dyatkovo every day, and the round trip is 84 miles. [Since they previously both assisted with the Pirkko Home ministry for men and women there, they still have housing available in Dyatkovo.] But we do not lose heart and we see that the hand of God directed us here. We believe that the Lord will give His help soon.”

Currently, this is the most significant and urgent prayer need for them. Please pray for a temporary housing solution so they can stay in or near Kokino. Will you join us in praying for this need?

Freedom is the Topic Explored in the Next Issue of the Prison Magazine



This issue is devoted to the theme of “Freedom.” What is “freedom”? Permissiveness? The world is open before you - take whatever you want, it’s all provided to you. No. From what were we then released? God offers to rid us of our addiction to sin and give us full spiritual freedom. God invites us to make a choice - a choice in favor of God. God offers to give us real freedom - the freedom to do what is good for us, the freedom to do what edifies, the freedom to do things which do not drag us deeper into the abyss caused by sin. As believers, we know that every man is by nature a slave to sin, and only God can release him from this slavery through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on Calvary. Freedom in Christ - it is a choice between good and evil, between the eternal and the earthly. The Lord invites us to decide how to use our freedom, while offering His path for our good.

Freedom in Christ brings joy, elation, and gratitude to Him for all He has given; it creates conditions in which the human soul is in a State of Life. We are free from sin, in the sense that we are free from its guilt, our sins are forgiven and forgotten by God, “... and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more” (Heb. 8:12). Through the blood of Jesus, we are free from the penalty of sin, which is spiritual death (Rom. 6:23). How wonderful that our Savior is Jesus Christ! How wonderful that because of Him and His gospel we have true freedom!

Soul Cry from a Prisoner

Nikolai N. Fedotov (Russia, Khabarovsk Region)

“*The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazine got into my hands. I want to express my feelings and the fact that reading this magazine from cover to cover caused my outlook on life to change. You know, my dear brothers and sisters, after reading the contents of the magazine and stories of other Christian brothers, I sincerely thought about my own life. What is the purpose of my life? What good is in it? What do I have now to hold on to? And somehow further thoughts scared me even more – what about the future and how will things turn out? Behind barbed wire again? And then what? I’ve never thought about these things. This is not the first time I’m serving time in prison. Of course, just like all normal people, I want a family, a steady income, work, children, but in my life everything does not go how I want it to go. In my life right now there is some kind of battle going on that I can not describe. I attended a local church at the prison camp, but for some reason being there and reciting the prayer makes me sweat a lot. I do not know why this is so, but the fact remains. Now reading this magazine, I felt like something made me turn to you. I am an uncommunicative man, but it has its reasons - prison. There is no one to whom I can share what’s on my soul. All the problems have been piling up in me for years, but to complain to someone, I can not do, that’s just not me. I can not explain the fact that I took a pen and a piece of paper and am now writing these lines to you. I sincerely wish that someone would push me a little to learn more about the Gospel, because I know myself, I would once again get lost in the stream of life and its many other pursuits.

“I want to draw to the attention of Christian brothers and sisters that I genuinely want to gain more knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and I’m sincerely asking you to help me with this. Please do not ignore my soul cry, the cry of a drowning man in the darkness.”

New Testimony for RCR’s “Choice” Radio Program

A successful athletic career and orderly family life did not deter Kamil from becoming dependent on drugs. “Inside was a feeling... that I had reached my goal. I’d seen a number of other people using drugs, and I wanted to start the same easy life.” Throwing aside a successful career, Kamil started using drugs, thinking that he was just “relaxing.” But such “relaxing” completely ruined his life, sowing a desire to end his life by suicide. “I did not notice that I had rolled to the bottom. In a very short time I found myself at the store begging for money.”

Kamil Aisin shared the story of his path to God in our Russian Christian Radio studio. Many testimonies (in Russian) are available on our Russian website; they can be heard at www.rcr.ru.

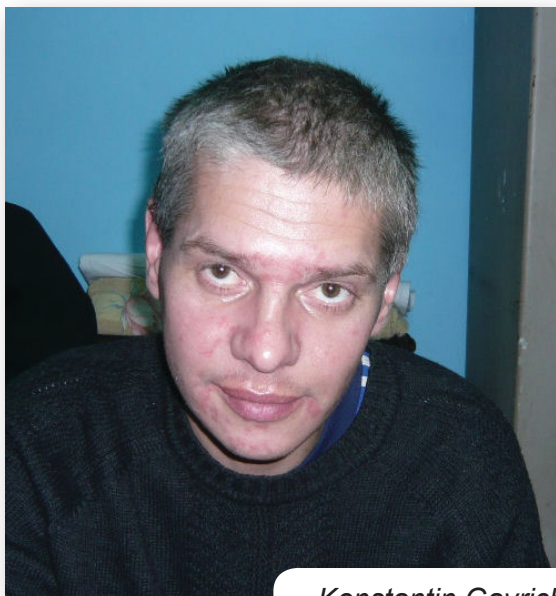


Kamil giving his testimony.

New Russian mp3 CD Is Now Available

Fourteen Russian sermons by Earl Poysti on the topic of “The Holy Spirit” are now available on a new mp3 CD being offered by RCR for \$10. Purchases of this CD help to support the ministry of RCR.

Konstantin Gavrichenko – Saved to Serve Others



Konstantin Gavrichenko, Before and After Rehab

My name is Konstantin Gavrichenko. I am now 40 years old. I was born in Zheleznogorsk (Kursk region) in a good, full-fledged family. Mom and Dad always tried to provide for our family and always taught me to be good. I grew up as an ordinary kid; I played sports and had good achievements. In 1992, I was drafted into the elite “Kremlin Regiment.”

When I returned home I got into a bad group of friends. Our desire was to get money and drugs by any means possible. But the time came when I realized that I was in bondage, and would not be able to quit by myself.

Among my relatives and even friends there were no believers that could tell me what to do. I turned to doctors: twice I stayed in Drug Dependency Clinic in Kursk; twice in a rehab center in Orel (in a neighboring province), and once a huge amount of money was paid so I could go to the drug treatment center in Ivanovo, but upon returning home it all started again. I had no hope. I was just simply waiting for this hellish life to end.

One day a friend came to me, now one of my brothers in Christ, who was a drug-addict for 11 years; he told me that God delivered him from this horror. I believe that God can change people’s hearts, but I did not believe that God could touch my heart and help me. I had used drugs for 19 years, and all of the young guys that I was surrounded by just kept dying. Someone died every month, and the time came when I couldn’t walk anymore - my whole body was in pain. In order to take drugs, I had to be lifted with the help of towels, and I knew that I had only about a week left. Then this same friend came to visit me; he had become a believer, and he said that I should at least die as a normal human. I agreed, and the guys took me to the Pirkko Home rehab center in Dyatkovo. I was very surprised that when the brothers prayed for me, I did not go through any withdrawals, which had happened to me multiple times in rehabs before. I felt the hand of God that healed me, and began to change my mind and my heart.

After finishing the rehabilitation program I returned home. By that time, a Pirkko Home adaptation center had opened in my city of Zheleznogorsk (led by Aleksey Dudikin), and I went and asked to help out with this ministry. On July 1, 2012 I entered into a covenant with God through water baptism.

God has blessed me abundantly. Now I have a family. I have friends who would not leave me in times of trouble, and we always try to encourage and help each other. And now, when I look back at my old ways of life without God, it feels like it was a horrible dream almost as long as my whole life!

May God bless us all! Praise be to Him forever!

