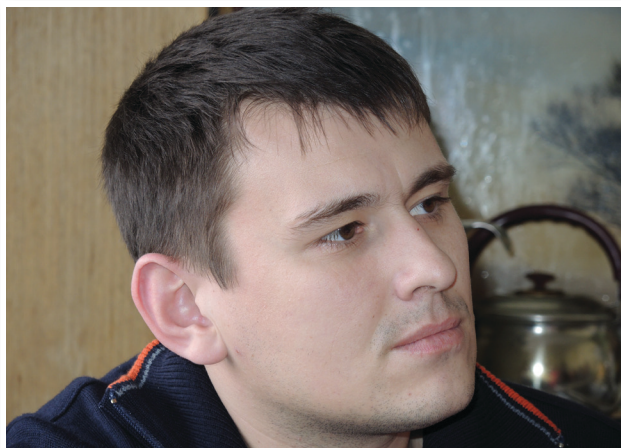




REPORTER

Reaching Millions For Christ



Pirkko Home Ministry in the Kursk Region

Today we want you to meet Aleksey Dudiken, who helped with the start-up of two of RCR's Pirkko Homes and now ministers at RCR's adaptation center in Zheleznogorsk (in the Kursk region), which he also helped to build and establish.

I'm 30 years old. I was born in Dedovsk, near Moscow, and grew up in a caring family. At the age of 13, street life got a hold of me. Gateway drugs showed up in my life, and later - hard drugs. You might ask, 'Where were your parents looking?' I'll tell you... they did not know anything for three years. I was good at home, a perfect son, but on the streets - I was sinking deep into the mud of sin. Till about 23 years of age, I was destroying myself, and my relationships with family and friends, at an incredible rate. Understanding came to me that I was in a self-destruction mode - but I so wanted to live! I decided to seek help from a Christian rehabilitation center. I had heard about it a long time ago, but only now, at this point, did I feel a great need and a desire in my heart to go there. I understood that God had plans for me... and my salvation!

When I came to the center, I was surrounded with love and care, and the Lord began to soften my heart, which had grown very hard from sin. I began to understand spiritual truths. Two months later I repented, realizing how sinful and helpless I was before Jesus Christ.

I went through the full Pirkko Home rehabilitation and adaptation program, and I really wanted to help others in the same situation as I was. The Pirkko Home leaders offered to let me stay and minister in that rehab center, which I gladly accepted. My ministry there lasted 10 months, but I wanted something more. I started to pray that God could use me. The Lord answered my prayer quickly; within three days I was assigned to the Kursk region, to open a new rehabilitation center in the city of Lgov. That started a new phase of my life. As the ministry in Lgov was developing, God brought new people to the center, and we built relationships with the churches. In Lgov we had an old house without gas and water, but with help from the Lord, we have worked on this house, and now all needed services are connected and fully functioning.

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“Who Will Give Me Wings?” – An Invitation



Our meetings with the Pirkko Home leaders and some businessmen were at the Ruchiyok Christian Camp (& adaptation center), outside Moscow

In late April a group of nine team members, representing five churches, went to Russia in order to serve the needs of the Pirkko Home ministry. The goals of this trip were: first, to discuss the possibility of beginning vocational training for the men and women exiting our Pirkko Home rehabilitation centers, and second, to help the leaders of the Pirkko Homes learn leadership techniques.

Our first goal was clearly established and we hope to start our first job skill training this coming fall with courses in plumbing and carpentry. We are actively looking for churches willing to send trainers and welcome your inquiries about how this can come about.



Leaders from all 12 Pirkko Homes in their new T-shirts, which say "Pirkko Homes – Liberation"

Brothers and sisters, there are so many men and women who have come to the Lord and rid themselves of the burdens of sin while residing in our Pirkko Homes. Many find re-entry to society difficult because their past lives of drug and alcohol abuse prevented them from learning the skills you and I might have in order to provide for our families. It is our sincere belief that, with proper job training, these young men and women can provide for themselves and their families, and help support their churches by having good jobs. Job training is critical if we are to succeed. Surely we cannot do this without the help of Christian men and women committed to sharing their experiences and expertise. Imagine for a moment, a team of people from your church going to a very nice training center just outside Moscow where you will meet, fellowship, worship, and train people how to provide for their families. YOUR life experience providing for YOUR family can become YOUR ministry.

If you are looking for a ministry opportunity like this that will bring joy to your heart... please contact us and let us know. We will be happy to provide details and assistance.



As for the second part of our mission, professional trainers presented the leadership program known as G.P.S. (God's Plan for Success) to the leaders of all of our Pirkko Home Rehab and Adaptation Centers. Leaders learned how to use 'strength assessment' and 'core values' to benefit their work and ability to teach and lead with more effectiveness. Already we have these professionals willing to return and teach the leaders how to provide this same training to others.

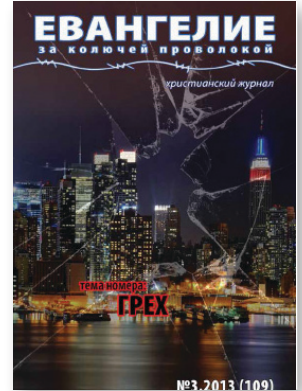
It is our hope that this trip will open the door to other Christians who may be seeking a way to serve. The door is open, the fields are ripe for harvest, and the invitation is yours. Will you come?



From the Mail Bag:



Sergey Gaidym, Ukraine, Dnepropetrovsk region, city of Krivoy Rog: “Warm greetings to you, staff of RCR and editors of the magazine *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire*! We received your package with 33 copies of your latest issue of *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazine, for which we are grateful to you. May the Lord reward you for more than 20 years of care for our ministry among prisoners and the criminal world. In the near future we plan to distribute them in correction facilities 26, 45, & 122. With love, brother Sergey (on behalf of associates of the prison ministry and our local churches and families).”



Yuri Konovalov, Kemerovo region, Correction Facility 4: “I want to thank you for the magazine, *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire*, with the theme of “Sin.” I actually thought about the fact that sin overwhelms you, even though you don’t want it to. But thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, we Christians can break the chains of sin.”



Julia Dmitrienko, city of Kurgan: “Hello, my dear and beloved editors! I received your Christian magazine, *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire*, with the theme of “Family.” I saw my photo there inside and could not believe my eyes! Thank you for not leaving my letter unanswered and for printing this letter about my family! Your magazine arrived just before my birthday. Thank you for everything!”

Latest News from RCR’s Radio Ministry

We are glad to share some news from Russian Christian Radio’s recording studio. We continue recording evangelical programs that help people find saving faith in Jesus Christ. These radio programs are sent to inmates in prisons along with *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazine, which are delivered by people who minister in prisons. Rehabilitation centers and churches that provide social services in Russia use these programs as well. All recorded programs can be found on our Russian website www.rcr.ru, where sermons of Earl Poysti are also available (in Russian only). There are 721 sermons available for streaming and downloading and we are currently working on over 200 more sermons, which will be added to the archive in the near future.

During the last six months our radio program online-streaming audience has doubled. Our online streaming includes RCR’s programs and programs from other Christian studios that are working with us. As this project dynamically develops and our broadcasting database is constantly updated, we are glad that there is feedback from our listeners and requests to replay their favorite programs.

Please pray for new people who can participate in the creation of relevant and interesting audio programs based on God’s Word.



- Alexander Zakharov, RCR Director in Russia

Alexander Zakharov and Ray Brumbeloe

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Christian brothers and sisters helped us in our needs with food and finances. And in return, we also helped them with whatever they needed. Besides all of this, we still had to earn living wages, as well. God also softened the hearts of unbelievers - doctors were seeing our men in need of treatment without the necessary IDs and documents.

As we went along, we saw a need for opening another rehabilitation center. It was decided to open one in the neighboring town of Rylysk, where the local church had a house they could provide and expressed a desire to participate in the life and development of a new rehab center. God blessed this endeavor! The Pirkko Home rehabilitation center in Rylysk has now been open for three years!



Along with growth of the ministry, the Lord began to arrange my personal life. He miraculously brought to me my future wife. Our paths crossed in the ministry, we started to communicate and fell in love. In May 2010, we got married before God and man and our family life began. The Lord started testing us right away. We lost two children before they were born and our grief knew no bounds. But through all of this, God taught us to trust Him completely. And once again, we were waiting for a baby. We were overwhelmed by excitement and fear. But one day, during prayer, God spoke to me telling me that this child would be born, and we would rejoice! And that is how it happened! On June 1, 2012 our first-born arrived, the son of promise - Matthew! And on November 29, 2013, God also gave us a lovely little daughter, Ksenia. We do know that all of this was in His holy and strong hand, by His providence! Praise the Lord!!!

As the rehabilitation ministry continued to grow, there was an urgent need to open an adaptation center in the Kursk region. [After five months in the rehab center program, the graduates are encouraged to continue with a three month program in an adaptation center.] The best place for it was in Zheleznogorsk. One of the local churches in this city is actively involved in the life of the rehab center in Lgov. On the church's property we've built a building for adaptation. Thank God, He always helped us and blessed us with everything. Finances came in on time, people came willing to help with construction, etc. Our adaptation center has been running for a year-and-a-half, developing and getting used to the life of the church. And besides this, every day brothers from the church visit us. Together we are studying the word of God and they are helping us to solve some everyday issues. This strengthens our people in the adaptation center. Some continue to live in Zheleznogorsk after completion of the adaptation program, getting baptized and ministering in the church. This is great! God wonderfully leads us!



We do have a need: we are young, we have two children, but we do not have our own place to live. Now we live in a small rented apartment. Please pray that the Lord would provide for this need.

During those short five and a half years of our ministry in the Kursk region, we have seen how God saves sinners and gives them a new life, lights up their eyes with joy, restores their families and blesses them with the birth of their children! From the first days of ministry, I never cease to admire how God transforms people by breathing a new, holy life into a broken person, disfigured by sin. Glory be to Him!

