



Pressing on toward the goal

SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS



SERGEY RAKHUBA | PRESIDENT

In a difficult time, **School Without Walls** is pressing forward with new approaches to ministry.

“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

— Philippians 3:14

This past year has been anything but normal, with an unexpected global pandemic that affected nearly every area of our lives. Rather than seeing the crisis as an obstacle, our leaders used it to develop a “hybrid” approach to ministry, employing a mix of in-person and online events.

These new challenges made me think of my childhood in the Soviet Union, when the atheistic authorities restricted our ability to worship openly and wanted to isolate us behind church walls. We sometimes had to gather in small groups, meeting in houses and other places out of public view. In other words, we adapted—and thrived. School Without Walls (SWW) leaders have drawn inspiration from the courage and creativity of those previous generations, adapting their methods to the changing times.

When times are darkest, God’s people are at their best. As the Scripture says, “... Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever” (Daniel 12:3).

My colleague, Dr. Michael Cherenkov, who serves as our executive field director, reflects on our unique calling as believers in a troubled world:

While helping national churches train the Next Generation of ministry leaders in the post-Soviet countries of Eurasia, we understand our special responsibility during this difficult and dark time of global pandemic, war and conflict, attacks on religious freedom, endless economic crises, and humanitarian catastrophes. When darkness descends, God’s faithfulness shines even brighter. Our goal is to help in this effort by training, equipping, and supporting the Next Generation with all needed resources.

I hope you’ll continue to support our courageous leaders with your prayers and financial help. And keep in mind this inspiring Scripture: “Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and whoever waters will be watered” (Proverbs 11:25).

As my colleague Morty Lloyd, vice president of development, puts it, “Our School Without Walls leadership training program is a great investment that analysis shows **has a phenomenal rate of return.**” May God bless you as you read on and discover the amazing things God has done, thanks to your support, over the past year.

Gratefully,

Sergey Rakhuba | President

“I would like to express to you my appreciation and gratitude that during this difficult time when the pandemic has paralyzed the ministry of many churches, ministries, mission organizations, you continue to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth.”

— Sergey, Pastor, Russia



Dr. Michael Cherenkov
Executive Director
Mission Eurasia Field Ministries



Morty Lloyd
Vice President of Development

“.. And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

— 2 Timothy 2:2

SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS LEADERS ARE MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGHOUT EURASIA

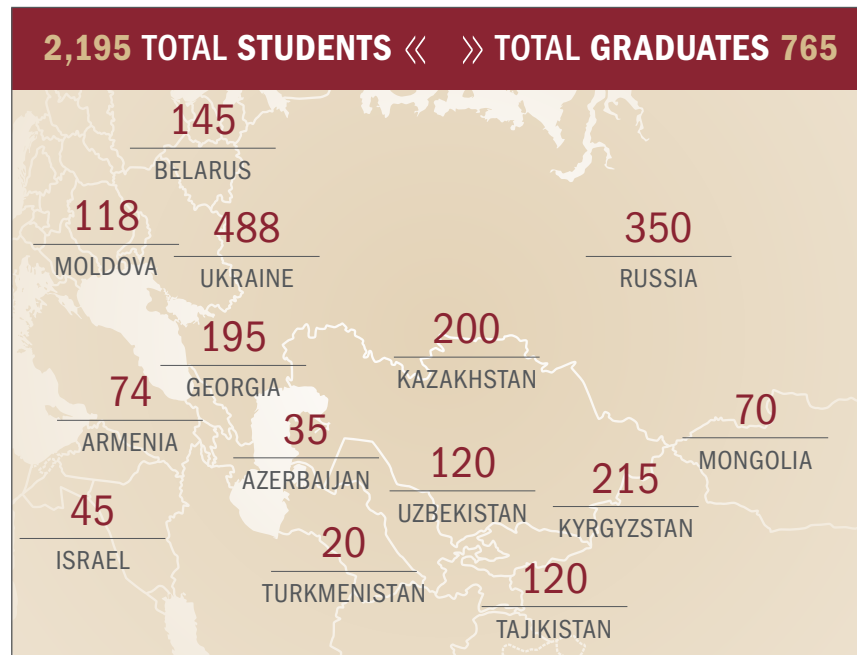
The young leaders of School Without Walls (SWW) are pressing forward faithfully for Christ in their communities and nations. The COVID-19 pandemic led them to explore new ways of ministering. They began using online meetings and other technological innovations to keep God’s work moving forward when in-person meetings were impossible. God has blessed this hybrid approach to ministry, bringing yet more disciples into His Kingdom.

As Alexandr Belev, SWW international director, says, “School Without Walls has been continuously training Next Generation leaders for the evangelical church in post-Soviet countries during the past 16 years. The goal of this program is to teach biblical principles and provide practical ministry experience in the church and society for those who are able to serve and teach others.”



Alexandr Belev
International Director, School Without Walls (SWW)

SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS AT-A-GLANCE			
Country	Students	Graduates	Locations
Armenia	74	26	3
Azerbaijan	35	34	3
Belarus	145	18	5
Georgia	195	65	6
Israel	45	24	2
Kazakhstan	200	124	10
Kyrgyzstan	215	80	6
Moldova	118	53	5
Mongolia	70	0	4
Russia	350	25	13
Tajikistan	120	36	5
Turkmenistan	20	0	1
Ukraine	448	170	17
Uzbekistan	120	110	9
Totals	2,195	765	89



“Every day I see more clearly that the COVID-19 pandemic is an opportunity for the church to go beyond our walls to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus as we care for the deep hurts of those in need.”

— Dimitry, SWW graduate

SWW LEADERS PRESS AHEAD WITH INNOVATIVE AND STRATEGIC OUTREACHES

Children’s Ministry (Up to 17 years):

- Bible camps for children (under 12)
- Bible camps for teenagers (12-17)
- Gift of Hope children’s Christmas outreach
- Ministry to street children
- Work with orphans and social orphans

Youth Ministry (17 years and older):

- Bible camps for young people
- Sports ministry
- Christian youth meetings and clubs
- Extreme camps for youth

Family Ministry:

- Marriage ministry
- Ministry to foster parents
- Family mentoring and counseling
- Ministry to women who have had abortions
- Ministry to single mothers

Ministry to At-Risk Groups:

- Ministry to the homeless
- Ministry to refugees, victims of war, and natural disasters
- Ministry to people addicted to alcohol and drugs
- Ministry to people with disabilities
- Ministry to people with HIV/AIDS and their children
- Ministry to the elderly
- Ministry to Holocaust survivors (Israel)
- Prison ministry (men, women, and youth)

Evangelism and Missions:

- Personal evangelism
- Short-term missions
- Long-term missions (missionaries)
- Gospel/Christian literature distribution
- Chaplain ministry (army, police, medical institutions)

Education and Spiritual Formation:

- Home Bible study groups/church planting
- Prayer ministry
- Spiritual development and counseling
- Mentoring/leadership training
- Promotion of healthy lifestyles/Christian values in schools

Creative Outreach:

- Outreach through secular and Christian media (audio and video broadcasting on the internet, websites, blogs, etc.)
- Music ministry
- Outreach through other art forms (visual arts, dance, drama)



Denis Gorenkov
International Coordinator
Next Generation Professional
Leaders Initiative (NGPLI)

“For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.”

— Colossians 1:16

Christian Professional Leaders

are sharing their faith in the marketplace

Young professionals are moving ahead in using their professions to influence society for Christ.

As Denis Gorenkov, Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative (NGPLI) international coordinator, notes, “This verse [above] is a good reminder that God has created all spheres of life, authority, and the professional world. It is encouraging to realize that He reigns in all of these spheres, which is why Christians can serve Him anywhere, bringing transformation and impact.”

Even in the face of a worldwide pandemic, Christian professionals involved in NGPLI are finding ways to share the good news effectively. They’re using their skills, talents, and high-profile positions to bring the light of Christ to a desperate world. Online meetings and digital communications sometimes take the place of in-person encounters. But as Paul wrote, “the Word of God is not bound” (2 Timothy 2:9).

In the past year, NGPLI provided specialized training for **14,700** young Christian professionals who represent the fields of:

- Medicine/healthcare **4,000**
- Education **2,500**
- Law **1,300**
- Business **3,000**
- Entrepreneurship **1,200**
- Science and Technology **1,000**
- The Arts **900**
- Media **800**



NGPLI conducted a variety of training and motivational events in several locations including:

- **75** training events
- **20** conferences
- **2** forums
- **6** roundtables



Dr. Jamil is a young Christian doctor from Kazakhstan who is part of a community of medical professionals that was launched in Kazakhstan several years ago with the support of Mission Eurasia. These young medical professionals completed our School Without Walls (SWW) program and meet regularly to pray for each other and their patients. Along with their SWW training, these young leaders receive training through our Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative (NGPLI), which is equipping them for effective ministry in this time of crisis. When people in Kazakhstan began to suffer from COVID-19, Dr. Jamil and her colleagues continued working, despite the danger. As the situation grew more serious, they began

praying together, and now these faithful young leaders are praying with one another every day. Each time she starts a new shift, Dr. Jamil tells her patients and colleagues that she would love to pray with them. Many people in the hospital, including several Muslims, have accepted Jamil’s offer for prayer, and we know that God is working in the hearts of these hurting people.

“For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.”

— 1 Corinthians 3:9

Church Planting

Young School Without Walls leaders are helping to establish churches where the need is the greatest.

Many places in the former Soviet Union/Eurasia lack a strong local church presence. Leaders trained through SWW are bringing the light of God to places that once languished in spiritual darkness.

Over the past year, SWW workers planted **64 new churches**. We also held **13 seminars** for church planters with **221 people** participating. Additional seminars on church planting attracted **31 SWW students**. Four additional conferences drew **240 participants**. And a web conference on “Church Planting in Eurasia” was attended by **2,000 listeners**.

Working together with the Father’s House movement, we printed and helped distribute 1,000 copies of the church-planting manual called Father’s House: Multiplying Disciples and Churches.

A number of countries in Eurasia are suffering from the effects of unrest, the pandemic, and ongoing warfare. But they are suffering even more from a lack of the good news about Jesus Christ. Young leaders trained through SWW are working to establish new churches in the most troubled regions. Here are a couple of examples.

- Your support helped the new church in **Krasnodar, Russia** construct a new worship hall to accommodate new believers. This church now serves as a regional church-planting training center for the North Caucasus region that will impact this entire predominantly Muslim region of Russia.
- In **Novogradovka**, one of the poorest areas of eastern Ukraine torn apart by the ongoing war, SWW graduates/missionaries from a nearby town began holding Christian meetings. At first, the local children came. Then they brought their parents. Now, the meetings draw about 100 people every week—even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through your faithful support, these meetings have become a new church that now serves as a church-planting center for the entire region.



With your support, our Next Generation leaders have established new churches in these locations:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| ■ Armenia: 2 | ■ Kyrgyzstan: 7 |
| ■ Azerbaijan: 4 | ■ Mongolia: 1 |
| ■ Belarus: 2 | ■ Russia: 19 |
| ■ Georgia: 3 | ■ Tajikistan: 2 |
| ■ Israel: 3 | ■ Ukraine: 9 |
| ■ Kazakhstan: 6 | ■ Uzbekistan: 6 |

“I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

— Matthew 16:18

Family as Mission

Glorifying God by Uniting Families

“He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents.”

— Malachi 4:6



Healthy, thriving families are an important part of God’s redemptive plan. But in these times, families are threatened as never before. SWW is responding to the need with godly teaching that helps and heals broken families.

Over the past year, SWW continued our **Family as Mission Initiative**, holding **13 major events** focused on reaching out to families and online training for **11,910 people**.

The restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic created challenges—but could not stop the progress of this important ministry. Responding to the changing times, Family as Mission combined online meetings with live events. Trainings took place in several countries, including Russia, Ukraine, and Georgia.

Prominent Christian teachers expounded on a variety of family-related topics, such as:

- How your family can get involved in missions
- Five reasons for spiritual apathy in adolescents
- Quarantined family: principles of survival
- Family at home, on the street, in the country

“Our mission starts with the family, continues through the family, and ends in the family!”

— Konstantin Teteryatnikov (shown on left side in picture)
SWW Director Ukraine;
Coordinator Family as Mission Initiative



Don Parsons
Director for
Unreached People Groups

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

— Matthew 24:14

Reaching the Unreached

with the Gospel

Hundreds of People Groups Are Still Waiting for the Good News

- Of the 16,510 people groups in the world, **6,671 groups** (40.4%) have yet to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.
- **373** (5.6%) of those people groups live in the former Soviet Union and Israel—the places where Mission Eurasia is ministering.
- That’s more than **93 million** people that we hope to share the gospel with.

In spite of difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, SWW leaders are continuing to bring the gospel to Eurasia’s unreached peoples. They’re using technology and going where the people are—including remote regions such as Arctic Siberia, Mongolia, and Buryatia; and Islam-dominant regions such as Kabardino-Balkaria, Chechnya, Ingushetia, Dagestan, and Karachay-Cherkessia.

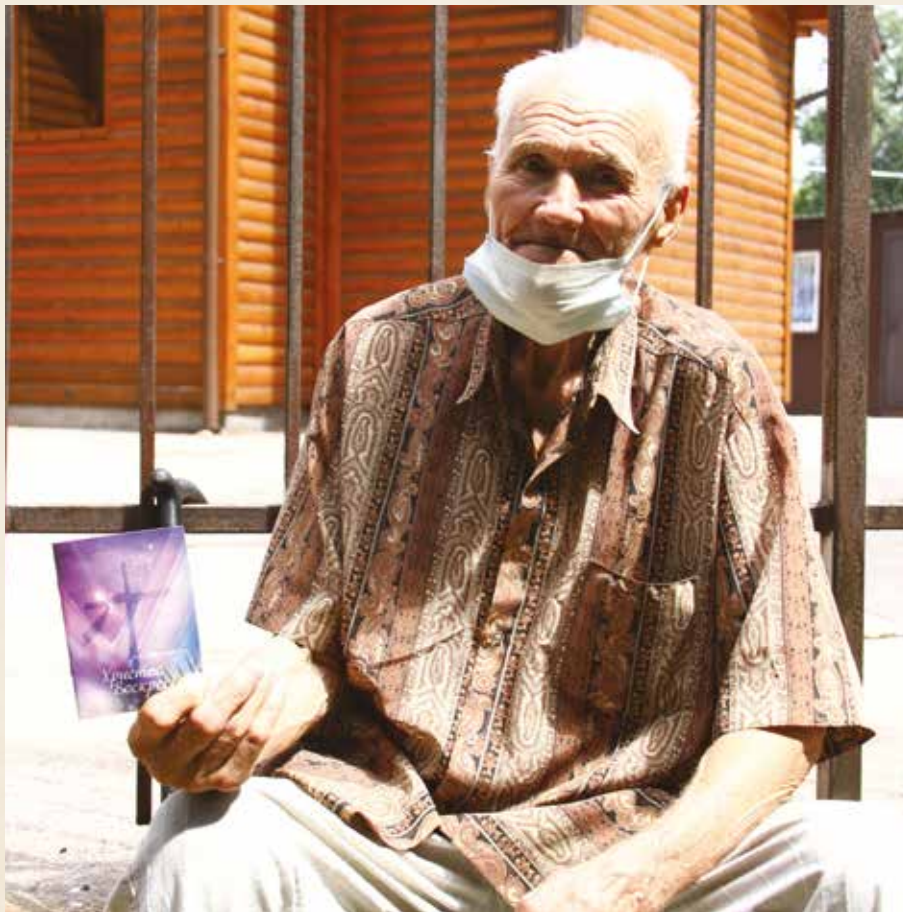
Don Parsons, Mission Eurasia’s director for unreached people groups, says, “There are hundreds of thousands of people with little or no access to the gospel of Christ in the former Soviet Union/Eurasia. They probably don’t know where to find a church. Most don’t even know a single follower of Jesus. At Mission Eurasia we are committed to inspire, mobilize, and equip the Next Generation of leaders to mobilize national churches in order to cross borders and cultures and preach the gospel of the Kingdom to all people groups living in post-Soviet nations.”



“I could have died from drugs, and I lost my husband, son, and parents,” shared Zulfiya. Drugs stole 18 years of my life and took my family and everything I held dear. However, that changed when I met young Christian leaders at a rehabilitation center who told me about God. I am a Tatar and my people are Muslims who don’t want to have anything to do with the Russian God. But when they told me that Jesus died for my sins, I accepted Jesus into my life and my life began to change and continues to change to this very day. Today, I lead a charitable organization called ‘Do Good’ which serves people in the same situation I used to be in. This year, I started studying at School Without Walls and it has been enormously helpful in teaching me how to minister to others and to tell them about the salvation available to them in Jesus.” — Zulfiya, Perm, Russia

Pressing on to **Reach People** with the Word of God

The COVID-19 pandemic posed new challenges to the efforts of SWW leaders to bring God's Word to as many people as possible. But, far from being discouraged, they were emboldened to press on with greater vigor. They distributed Gospels of John, prayer booklets (Molitvoslovs) and entire Bibles to spiritually hungry people throughout the region who were more open than ever to receive the Word of God.



“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose ...”

— Isaiah 55:10-11

Peter is a SWW leader who led the distribution of Gospels of John in the Samara Region of Russia. He says, “We are so thankful that God has made it possible for us to bring Scripture and food to those in need during this chaotic time. We are so thankful for everyone who supports this ministry and makes it possible for us to do this work, particularly bringing the Gospel of John to those who need the hope of Christ.”

In 2019–2020, with your support, SWW students and graduates distributed **1,709,000 scriptural resources** to people in Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, and other countries throughout Eurasia.

“I am so grateful to these people, these true Christians, who reached out to me when I was at rock bottom with the living water of God's Word.”

— Yuriy, Ukraine

“One day, Christians gave me a Molitvoslov [prayer booklet] and a New Testament when I was walking outside. It was as if God Himself touched my heart, and He reminded me of His great love. Now, I pray every day, read my Bible, and I am attending a local church's online services. What is more, three of my roommates are now reading the Bible and praying with me!” — Marcel, Ukraine



Pavel Tokarchuk
Director of School Without Walls
and Mission Eurasia Office in Russia

Transforming Young Lives

Gift of Hope

Christmas offers a wonderful opportunity to share God’s unconditional love with children. Many children in Eurasia are traumatized by war, poverty, and family disfunction. But their hearts revive when they receive genuine care and attention. That’s why our **Gift of Hope** program is so vital and effective.

Each year at Christmastime, SWW leaders mobilize and lead networks to provide Gifts of Hope to vulnerable children across the region: Eastern Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and even Arctic Siberia.

The children gaze with delight at colorful gifts that are meant just for them. Inside, they discover a treasure trove of sweets, toys, school and hygiene supplies, warm mittens, socks and, of course, copies of Scripture.

From December 2019-January 2020, our Gift of Hope program reached **128,980 children** and distributed **133,205 pieces of Scripture**. **941 national churches** partnered in the Gift of Hope program, which involved **10,524 people** including volunteers, helpers, and others.

Our Gift of Hope efforts reached **773 orphanages**, shelters, and other institutions. And in addition to the children, the program touched and estimated **115,025 parents**, family members, caregivers, orphanage workers, and others with the good news of God’s love.



“Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!”

— 2 Corinthians 9:15



“Summer of Hope” Triumphs over COVID

The COVID-19 pandemic imposed unprecedented hardships on the leaders and families involved in our summer Bible camp ministry. But it also spurred creative innovations and unique teaching opportunities that proved wonderfully effective.

This year we formed 250 teams, each composed of two to three SWW leaders, to conduct summer neighborhood Bible camps both in person and online. Our team in Moldova showed what was possible, conducting a series of remote meetings in which they led children in singing, dance exercises, games, and Scripture lessons. The result of it all was more ministry, more victories, and more souls won to Christ!

Our small group neighborhood Bible day camps reached **16,510 children** and youth with the gospel message. Another **5,020 participated in 187 online activities**. These outreaches also impacted 54,600 parents, family members, school and orphanage workers, and others.

Here’s a closer look at our in-person neighborhood summer Bible camp attendance by country:

COUNTRY	CAMPS	CHILDREN	COUNTRY	CAMPS	CHILDREN
Armenia	42	560	Moldova	102	1370
Azerbaijan	11	180	Mongolia	10	350
Belarus	21	560	Russia	111	3,700
Georgia	8	650	Tajikistan	24	1,160
Israel	20	120	Turkmenistan	3	100
Kazakhstan	28	630	Ukraine	149	5,960
Kyrgyzstan	66	890	Uzbekistan	17	280
TOTAL:				612	16,510

Total Number of Children Impacted through In-Person and Online Events: 21,530

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.”

— Philippians 2:3

Moving ahead to care for the **Hurting and Suffering**

SWW leaders have always placed a high priority on helping victims of war and other suffering people. That’s why we have continued to train an army of national Next Generation leaders to make a difference in the lives of hurting adults and children through the “I Care” Refugee Assistance Program. In 2019-2020, our “I Care” program partnered with:

- **Feed My Starving Children** program to offer food assistance to deprived families.
- **Free Wheelchair Mission** to provide thousands of disabled and elderly people with wheelchairs and new mobility.
- **World Compassion Network** to distribute clothing, blankets, and other essential items to more than 3,500 hurting people in Ukraine.

Our humanitarian efforts took on a new dimension with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. New hardships have descended on the entire region as people struggle without jobs, without access to basic necessities, and without human contact. In response, SWW leaders have redoubled their efforts, creating new avenues of communication and new ways of ministering to people. In the midst of suffering, God has been faithful to lift people up and meet their deepest needs.

SWW leaders distributed **20,000 face masks** and **13,000 packets** of sanitizing products, along with food and medicine, and hundreds of thousands of copies of Scripture, including **1 million copies** of a special Good News Prayer Guide (Molitvoslov) designed to provide direction and comfort for those affected by the pandemic.

To complement our in-person ministry, Mission Eurasia developed a mobile app version of the Good News Prayer Guide, which SWW students and young leaders shared with approximately **68,000 people**.



By providing training, resources, and counseling, the SWW response to the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted **4,500 pastors** and church leaders, **1,200 churches**, and **900 communities** throughout Eurasia.

Most importantly, through all of these ministry initiatives, we reached at least **3 million suffering people** with God’s comfort, hope, and salvation.

“Life has become much more complicated during quarantine, and we have absolutely no money to pay our bills or take care of our children,” Angelica shared. “Most of our food comes from the garden, but even that isn’t enough. Thank you for visiting us! We are especially thankful for the food you brought us. It was greatly needed today. God Himself brought you to our family. We were on the verge of despair, but thanks to our time of fellowship and prayer, my heart feels at peace. Now, I believe that the Lord will continue helping us.” — Angelica, Ukraine

“... We are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.”

— 2 Corinthians 5:20

Pressing forward for **Christ in Eurasia**

Nothing can stop the work of God—not pandemics, persecution, political oppression, or war. Thanks to your support, School Without Walls has persevered through a difficult year, bringing the good news of Christ to more and more people. Because of you, our Next Generation leaders are expanding the reach of God’s Kingdom into areas where darkness reigned.

Thank you for standing with us.

“In my entire life, no one has ever offered to help me like this, and even though you are all so young, you have brought me so much! I was just thinking that I wouldn’t have anything to eat, because my food is almost gone. The coronavirus doesn’t scare me like hunger and loneliness, especially when I have no one to help me, but now I know that there are people out there who care about me.” — Anya

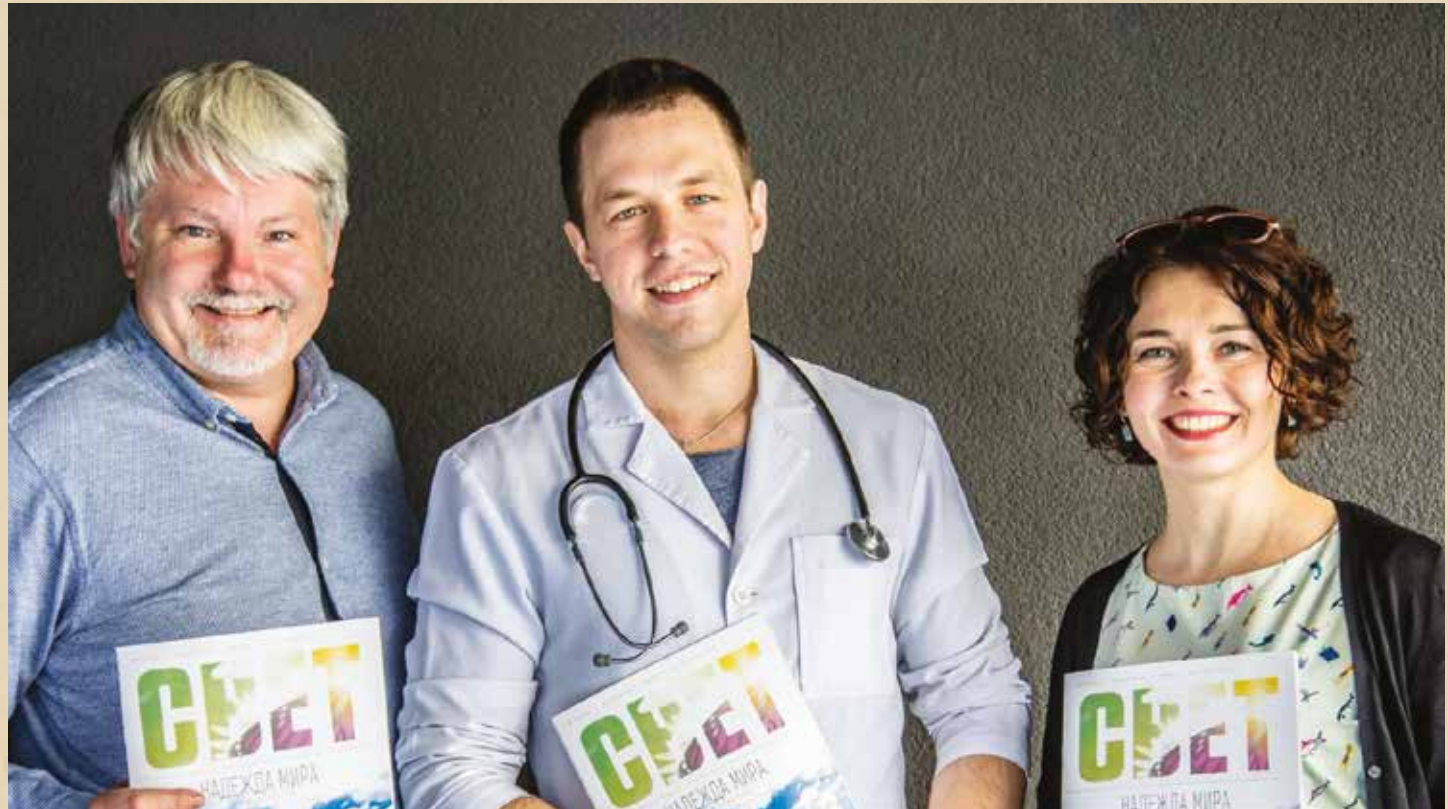
SWW GOSPEL IMPACT IN 2019–2020

People Impacted	3,458,000
Churches Involved/Impacted	680
Communities Involved/Impacted	525
Copies of Scripture/scriptural materials distributed by SWW students/graduates	1,709,000
Bible studies/home groups started	95
Refugees and others impacted by “I Care” Refugee Assistance program	787,000
Children/youth reached through Gift of Hope outreach	128,980
Children in need, orphans, and youth reached through summer Bible Camps (in-person and online)	21,530



Our Mission

To train, equip, and mobilize Christian leadership throughout Eurasia, who will engage in indigenous evangelism, church planting, holistic ministries, and church growth by developing creative and strategic ministries and by facilitating partnerships between nationals and Western Christians.



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