

Евангелие

The Gospel of Christ in Eurasia



Russian Field © Nellmac | Dreamstime.com

*Therefore we
will not fear,
though the earth
give way and the
mountains fall
into the heart of
the sea. . .*

Psalm 46:2

*But we are not of
those who shrink
back and are
destroyed, but of
those who believe
and are saved.*

Hebrews 10:39

No Turning Back

Through the years, many have given sacrificially so that the gospel could be preached around the world. Thank you! And once again, we have an opportunity to continue our support of this great cause.

Today, when I think about my personal missions' offering, I see a very different economic landscape around me than in the past few years. Everyone is talking about lower housing values, depleted retirement accounts and fewer job prospects, and discouragement and concern are often heard on the nightly news. Consequently, the thought of holding back in our giving is probably greater at this point in time than ever before. Initially, this sounds both reasonable and understandable. But a simple look into the Scriptures can put us back on a spiritual path to godly giving and sacrifice.

The Widow's Offering

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were being given, and he watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, "worth only a fraction of a penny."

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on." (Luke 21:3-4)

Today, this story speaks to me in new and different ways. I have come to the conclusion that, though our giving may be sacrificial, many of us (myself included) are able to "give out of our wealth." What helped me to understand this revelation and apply it to my personal situation was that I was being tempted to hold back in my giving this year because "my wealth" (e.g. home value, retirement, worldly security, etc.) had declined so radically. Yet, I was still healthy and gainfully employed – with far more at my disposal to give than the widow who was commended by Jesus! As a student of the Scriptures, I know that "it is hard for a rich man (me) to enter into the kingdom of heaven." (Mark 10:17-27) But thankfully for me (and no doubt for many of you) – with God, all things are possible! Maybe these difficult economic times are simply an opportunity for God to open my eyes to how rich I really am! And to God be the glory!

So where do we go from here? We should not turn back, and we should definitely not give into fear. Rather, we should remain faithful to the One who called us into his incredible kingdom, and we should remain obedient to his commands about giving. We should pray for God to reveal the spiritual battles taking place all around us, and then seize the many opportunities he will give us to save souls in this hurting world. This is not a time to look inward, but outward. Yes, we are living in challenging times. Yet, these challenging times are causing people to search for something that can satisfy their inner emptiness. They are hurting and we know the solution. One of those solutions is to give in a tremendous way during this year's missions' offering. Let your desire to give toward this great effort rise out of you like a bubbling spring. Truly, the harvest is plentiful. Let's continue to advance the gospel around the world.

William Sanders



Eurasian Missions

Supporting and Uniting the Brotherhood of Believers

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the following churches for their support during 2008:

- Amarillo, TX
- Bloomington/Normal, IL
- Champaign, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Columbia, MO
- Dallas-Forth Worth, TX
- Houston, TX
- Kansas City, KS
- Lawrence, KS
- Lubbock, TX
- Madison, WI
- NW Arkansas, AR
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Omaha, NE
- Springfield, IL
- Springfield, MO
- St. Louis, MO
- Minnneapolis/St. Paul, MN
- Wichita, KS

2008 Support and Revenues

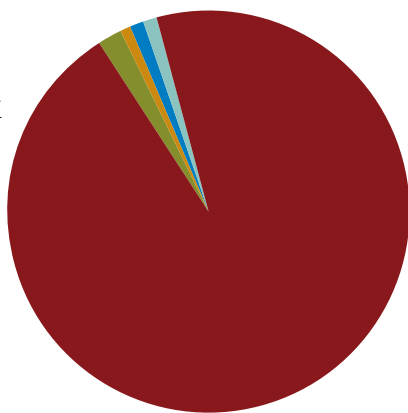
Contributions	\$989,561
Grants	\$2,995
Interest income	\$10,717
Other revenue	\$395

2008 Operating Expenses

Program Expenses	\$1,158,528
Supporting Services	\$37,119
Decrease in Net Assets	(\$191,979)

As we prepare to go forward, it is appropriate for us to take a moment to share with you the stewardship of the society for the past fiscal year. Provided for your consideration is a summary. We have engaged Capin Crouse LLP to perform our fiscal audit. This is one way in which we strive to be above reproach. Everyone is welcome to review our audited financial statements which are available for download at www.eurasianmissions.org. We never say it enough – thank you for your support!

Expenses



■ Direct support to Eurasia	95.9%
■ Salaries & Benefits	1.6%
■ Travel & Meetings	.9%
■ Communication & Office Expenses	.7%
■ Professional Fees	.9%

By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

Proverbs 24:3-4

Download 2008 financials at www.eurasianmissions.org

The Eurasian Missions Society is dedicated to spreading the Gospel in Eurasia. This mission society was established in the fall of 2003 and was quickly blessed through the generous support and participation of its member churches. A board of directors was elected to provide fiscal oversight and is responsible for the well-being of the organization. The spiritual leadership of the mission society's member churches are invaluable and are a primary reason for the success of our mission to spread the Gospel in Eurasia.

The Eurasian Missions Society has been granted 501(c)3 nonprofit status. Contributions are tax deductible within limitations of the Code.



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