

from the

REGIONS BEYOND

Bruce & Becky McDonald

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AFRICA: As we conclude the year we are reminded that through the birth of Jesus, there is hope. Daily we are faced with challenges and trials. Poverty, war and disease seem to surround us. Jesus is the light for a darkened world. He is the only peace for the troubled. Not only does Jesus offer the only hope for the world, He is our ever present help as well. Regardless of what we see, read or hear, our God is still in complete control of our lives and the world.



Red Square, Moscow
Lenin's Tomb & Kremlin Towers
pictured in the background

Return to Russia: While we don't miss Russia's cold weather in Africa, it is always good to return to Russia, visit with and minister to the pastors we trained during the years we lived in Moscow. Our friend, Sasha, met me at the airport and whisked me through Moscow's congestion as darkness fell. One morning I noticed a much longer line of people than usual waiting to see Lenin's tomb on Red Square. I asked one of the soldiers what was going on and he responded that this was the last day Lenin would be there as his body was going to be removed. Change is inevitable in everything except the character and promises of God which never change.

Desperate Cry For Help: Following an overnight train trip, I arrived in the city of Rybinsk, Russia which is located several hundred miles north of Moscow. My first trip to Rybinsk was ten years ago following a desperate cry for help from a young pastor who had been saved only a few months and was about to leave the ministry. He started a church a few months before the call and did not have anyone to train him, counsel with him or provide any guidance. As a result he was discouraged and on the verge of quitting. One of the great joys in ministry is to see your spiritual children grow and prosper. Today the church is healthy, growing and starting new churches.



Rybinsk, Russia
Pastor Sergie & Lena



Yaroslavl Regional Leaders Conference

Teenage Girl Who Was Always Around: On one of our first trips to Rybinsk, our daughter, Amanda, made friends with Lena. Lena seemed to always be around and was hungry for friendship and for God. She was saved in one of our crusade meetings, baptized in the Holy Spirit in one of our meetings, trained in leadership by us and eventually married Pastor Sergie. Now Lena is a great strength to her husband as they pastor the church together.

"Our desire is to preach the gospel in the regions beyond" 2 Corinthians 10:16

Regions Beyond International • PO Box 18 • Woodville, Florida 32362 • USA
Africa Field Office e-mail: missions@regionsbeyond.org • www.regionsbeyond.org



Saved At 79, Tatiana Is Now 90

Blizzard Could Not Stop Tatiana: In the winter of 1991, seventy-nine year old Tatiana walked through a blizzard to the edge of Kalciums, Latvia to hear the gospel message that Bruce was preaching. This was the first time in the history of the city that the gospel had been proclaimed publicly. Tatiana was saved during the first meeting and became one of the original members of the new church established in Kalciums. Tatiana is now ninety and is radiant with the love, joy and eternal hope that Jesus has given her.

Soviet Penal Colony Suffers During Winter: Kalciums is a former Soviet penal colony that suffers the after effects of Communism. This will be the tenth winter in the city without heat or hot water. Firewood is shown on the city streets for use in the apartments to provide some heat. One elderly lady in the city told Bruce that it has been so long since she had had a hot bath that she had forgotten what it was like. In the midst of this, the church we established is a light to the city and offers the only source of hope. The mayor told us that the church is the best thing that has ever happened to the city.



Ten Years Without Heat
On the streets of Kalciums, Latvia
firewood is stored for winter heat



Supplies for Children's Feeding Program

Children's Feeding Program: Eighty-seven children now live on the premises where the feeding program is held. Recently we provided mattresses and blankets for all of these children. Additionally, bathing pots, a large water storage tank, cooking pots and many more supplies for the feeding program were purchased.



Mattress Delivery for Children

THE REGIONS BEYOND. . . Ethiopia, Africa Crusade . . . Bruce will be in Ethiopia for a crusade in a remote village. Even though the area is remote, there will be a large crowd in this densely populated area. **Congo. . .** Bruce will be in Congo for a crusade in the refugee camp for victims of the volcanic eruptions. **Malawi . . .** Bruce and Becky will be in Malawi teaching in a pastor's conference. **Religious Persecution in Russia . . .** While we were in Rybinsk, Russia the local officials turned off the heat during our services in an attempt to force the church out of the public building in which they were meeting. **Refugee Children . . .** There are thousands of refugee children in Nairobi. In addition to the existing feeding program in Nakuru, we would like to start a similar program in Nairobi specifically to minister to refugee children. Please contact us if you would like more information on either of these two feeding programs.

Would You Like To Help

Regions Beyond International is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Religious Organization. Contributions are tax-deductible and can be sent directly to our office in the USA or you can use the PayPal link that is provided on the home page of our website.

Note Concerning Our Schedule

Due to ongoing security concerns, we are not currently publishing our specific schedule. For details, please contact us directly.

Terrorism In Africa

We do not expect any interruption in scheduled ministry as a result of the recent terrorist attacks.