

# **FRONTLINE**

Prayer Letter February - March, 2025

## <u>Pirkko Home Liberation Center Ministry</u>

Dima Gusev sends news from the Pirkko Home centers:

Dyatkovo Pirkko Home, Bryansk region - The former ministers



Ilya & Tanya Ignatov

of the center, Ilya & Tanya Ignatov, completed their ministry at Dyatkovo in December and returned to their native church in the Moscow region. They worked in this center for many years, and we are very grateful to them!

Oleg Glazov, an assistant leader at the Rumyantsevo Pirkko Home, agreed to

become the new head of the Dyatkovo center. Oleg has long desired to become a Pirkko

Home leader, and the Lord gave him this opportunity! A brother from the Udomlya Pirkko Home, Alexander, joined Oleg as his assistant, and 5 people going through the rehab program at the Rumyantsevo center came with Oleg to continue the program in Dyatkovo. <u>Please pray for God's blessing on Oleg Glazov in his new ministry!</u>

**Rumyantsevo Pirkko Home, Moscow region** – Besides Oleg, two more ministry assistants have "grown up" in the Rumyantsevo center recently: Artur (Arthur) and Daniil. After completing the program themselves, they decided to stay and serve the guys coming into this rehab program. Arthur's testimony is on page 2 of this letter.

2024 has been a very productive year for us. We are immensely happy for these brothers - we prayed for workers, and the Lord sent them! Our concerns about filling the center with new people have resulted in daily prayers and weekly fasts. Today, the center in Rumyantsevo is full, with 13 people in the rehab program. Praise God!

Please pray for the repentance of all the guys in the program. Also pray that the center has permanent work for the guys, and pray for the new assistant leaders Arthur and Daniel: for their spiritual growth, water baptism, growing love of God's Word, ability to correctly convey truths to others, and for them to not just help organize the daily work and chores for the center, but help with the spiritual life as well.

#### **RCR Studio Ministry**

Ayur Vanzhilov: The end of 2024 brought us significant changes: access to YouTube in Russia was completely closed. However, since last summer, all of our videos have become available on alternative platforms: Rutube, VK, & Yandex Zen. These resources still have a small audience - in fact, we are basically starting all over again, and the number of views on Russian platforms is now ten times lower than it was on YouTube. For those who use a VPN and those outside of Russia, our YouTube channel will continue to operate as usual. We ask you to pray that God blesses our work on Rutube, VK, and Yandex Zen, and that people continue to hear and see wonderful testimonies of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Our host of the "Choice" program, Natalia Chernyakova, fell and suffered a serious fracture of her shoulder and underwent surgery. Please pray for Natalia's recovery.

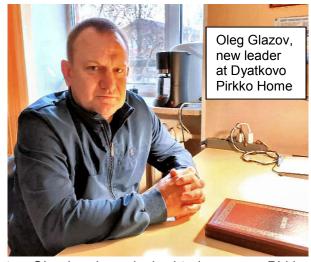
### The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire (GBBW) Prison Magazine Ministry

Eduard Zavedeyev: Dear friends! We thank everyone who prayerfully and financially supports the prison magazine ministry. Pray with us that the Lord will give wisdom in preparing new issues of *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* in 2025, and that they will reach hearts in all places of imprisonment.

We continue to communicate with prison ministers both in person and by correspondence. On January 5, I met with prison minister Victor Karl in Abkhazia, who asked me to bring him our new magazines. By January 6, he had already taken them to the prison where he regularly goes to visit and evangelize prisoners.

Recently, this message came: "On January 18, Alexander Kozlov (pastor of the Sukhumi Church on the Black Sea) and I went to the prison, and had good fellowship in two cells. We gave out Bibles, *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* magazines, and food packages. <u>Pray for the repentance of Batal, Morgan, Beslan, Aslan, Grisha, and Dima.</u>"

Please pray for prison minister Sergei Trotsenko from the Ryazan region with whom we have been working for many years, because there are many difficulties with visiting men's and women's prisons there.



## Testimony of Arthur Tazetdinov - God forgave me and my soul was calm & as clean as fresh snow



My name is Arthur. I am 46 years old. I am originally from the Republic of Bashkortostan. I was born and raised in a complete, intact family, with a father, mother and older sister. My father worked at a factory, and my mother worked at a clothing factory. I had a happy and carefree childhood.

In 8th grade, I tried the drug cannabis for the first time. My friends were already smoking; it was cool and fashionable. By saying "yes" to the drug then, I probably made the biggest mistake of my life. After graduating from school, I entered college, just at the time of the collapse of the Soviet Union. Life became much harder for my parents. My father was working two jobs, but I lived carefree; I studied and spent all my free time with friends on the street, not only smoking, but also drinking.

In 1995, I was drafted into the army for two years, and when I came back home, I found out that all my friends were already using harder drugs – like opium. So I decided to try it and injected myself for the first time.

From that moment on, my life, or rather, my existence, changed. Drugs became more expensive, I started committing crimes, and addiction escalated. I began to steal gold and everything that could be sold, from relatives. Over time, everyone became aware of me and my issues and began to turn away from me. My doses grew and my crimes increased; I broke into apartments to rob them. I received my first prison sentence of 2.5 years. Then a second sentence followed for another drug-related offense, for 6 years in a high-security prison. Nothing changed. Yes, I tried to guit in drug treatment clinics, but I always returned to the path of addiction. This continued until 2023.

In this turning point year, I learned from my mother that her friend's son went to the Krasnogorsk Church and he told her about a Christian rehabilitation center in the Moscow region. I decided to go and try it. My relatives took me to the center and left later that night. Waking up in the morning, I realized that I was far from home, and I was starting to go through withdrawal. I wanted to take my documents and leave the center. But something kept stopping me. I felt very bad, especially in the evenings. Then I heard everyone praying for me, that the Lord God would help me. Hearing this, I felt better. Every day the leaders ministering in the center encouraged me, saying, "Be patient," "Ask God yourself," "Repent, and He will answer your prayers."

One day brothers from the Krasnogorsk Church came to the center for fellowship. One of them asked me if I had repented. I said "No." He said, "There's no point in delaying it." That same night, I sincerely asked God for forgiveness for all my sins. It snowed that night, and in the morning I looked out the window and everything was white, and my soul was so quiet and calm. Today I understand that from that moment God forgave me and began to rebuild my life.

There were many such good moments in my life in this rehab program. It comforts me and pleases me, calms me and inspires me! Remembering my past life without God, I am only now realizing how many times He saved me. I was in very terrible accidents three or four times, but remained alive; and how many times I had overdoses, but He did not let me die!!! Glory to Him!!!



Today I am working as an assistant leader in the Rumyantsevo Pirkko Home. The Lord is teaching me a lot through those who come for the first time for restoration, for the saving message and forgiveness from God. God is teaching me how to serve others with love, kindness, and acceptance! I am praying to soon make a covenant with the Lord by being baptized with water. Please pray for me!

Arthur Tazetdinov has taken Oleg Glazov's place as a paid assistant leader at Rumyantsevo. Both need support (\$270/mo); please pray about funds needed to support Oleg, Arthur, and other Pirkko Home leaders. Thank you.

<u>Please pray for the prayer requests underlined in this letter, and for the end of the war in Ukraine.</u>

Praise God for his provision for the RCR ministries in Russia during this difficult time.

