

# Rejoice in HIM

*Bringing News of Richard and Judy Grout  
and Vyborg, Russia since 1993*

## RUSSIAN LIFELINE NO. 272, SPRING 2026

Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

Once in a while it is helpful to look back and praise God for His provision for us over the past thirty-three years as faith missionaries. In 1993 we quit our jobs and stepped out in faith, never asking for personal support but simply asking for people to pray and give as they felt led for the mission. Where did we learn this mindset? From those who went before us, who lived purely and simply by faith—George Müller, Hudson Taylor, and H. Robb French.

Now more than three decades later while others younger than us have had to step away or retire, we are still serving well past eighty years of age. Recently we discovered our friends the Vaughns, missionaries to Haiti for thirty-eight years, also began in mid-life (nearly fifty years old), just as we did. None of us have ever starved or lacked the true necessities of life. Neither of our families ever had a debt we could not pay. In fact we discovered that if you forsake all to follow Jesus, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Truly “where God guides, God provides!”

We testified in Russian Lifeline No. 24 in 1994 that, “The Lord always provides. God is faithful. One of our favorite songs is, ‘Jesus Never Fails.’” Living by faith, we resolved to never own anything personally. This principle comes from 1 Corinthians 6:19–20. Everything we have is a gift from God, for which we are thankful and from which we must always be willing to part.

We should never become so attached to material things—which are temporary—that they keep us from eternal things—which are true reality. Our treasures are invisible but everlasting. We are stewards, managers, and messengers. We are not here to keep things, but to give them to others.

### **MINISTRY RESULTS**

- (1) More than \$65,000 came in by faith to pay for the purchase of the Vyborg Christian Center in the year 2000, a property worth far more than that today.
- (2) The costs of operating the Christian Center have all been paid in full for the past thirty-four years, plus some of the costs of affiliated rehabilitation centers.
- (3) By generous donations our Christian Center was able to sponsor the publication of at least three best-selling books by Dr. Wesley L. Duwel and several other books and for the distribution of nearly half a million Russian New Testaments.

(4) The Russian overseer of our center, Pastor Valera Tolkachev, who has served there since before we came in 1993, has been instrumental in planting several local churches in Northwest Russia.

(5) Since 1993 the Lord provided all the transportation we needed, including eleven different vehicles in Russia and twice that many in the USA. Every one of them was either loaned to us or paid for in full without ever borrowing to make payments.

(6) We thank God for friends of our Christian Center who may now be found in all the Nordic countries in Europe, in several other nations in Europe, and in almost half of the states in the United States. This does not include quite a number who have already been “promoted to glory” (including Dr. Bill Saxton, our Field Director for many years).

(7) Even more so we praise the Lord for many who have been saved and are living for Christ now as a result of the ministries of the Christian Center. The last time we visited in October 2021, more than one hundred of our Russian friends met with us.

(8) Now the Lord has called another family to lead the Christian Center in Vyborg, Vladimir and Irina Nasedkin and their three sons. They are much better qualified than we ever were. Vladimir and Irina, native Russians, have been successful at pastoring, in mission work, and in evangelism. Vladimir preaches in local churches all over Northwest Russia. He does not just lead evangelism seminars, he meets people on the street and witnesses to them, adding them to his prayer list—more than 100 just in the city of Vyborg. Vladimir and Irina also lead weekly Bible studies and prayer meetings, carrying on ministries that have always been an outreach of the Christian Center.

The Lord has blessed the vision of the founders of the Christian Center with more than thirty-three years of outreach and growth. This is wonderful proof that God lives and He answers prayer! As the nation of Russia enters a period of increasing difficulties, the Christian Center in Vyborg is needed more than ever!

All for Jesus,

*Richard & Judy Grout*



*Dr. Wesley Duewel and Richard Grout in front of Vyborg Castle, May 2000*



*Pastor Valera Tolkachev*



*Vladimir and Irina Nasedkin*