

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

RUSSIA

Background Information

- Population 145 million
- Language: Russian
- Main religions: Orthodox Christianity, Islam
- Main exports: Oil and oil products, natural gas, wood and wood products, metals, chemicals, weapons and military equipment.
- Average annual income: \$2,000 (US dollars).



Geographic facts about Russia

- The largest country in the world, Russia constitutes one-seventh of the world's landmass and spans eight time zones. This expansive area allows it to neighbor more countries than anywhere else on earth, as well as touch twenty-two bodies of water and hold twelve seas within its borders. Its vast and complicated array of landscapes has created a diverse blend of forty national parks alongside its forty UNESCO Biosphere Reserves. Here you can find the oldest mountains in the world, the Urals, and the deepest lake in the world, Lake Baikal. Travel from the tundra to the steppes, the desert to the glaciers, the valleys to the volcanoes without ever needing a new visa.

Religious facts about Russia

- Russian Orthodox is the official religion in Russia. 20% of Russians practice Islam while Catholicism, Protestantism, and Judaism are not wide spread but have small roles in Russian culture. Many of Russia's most famous sites are former or present churches, signifying the important role that religion has played in the past. The Russian Orthodox Church, diminished during the Soviet period, has in recent years begun to recover in popularity and strength.

Prayer Concerns

1. There is still a great need for indigenous church planters. The Bible schools continue to prepare and graduate people, but there are few local sponsors to pay for the start-up costs of sending and supporting an indigenous missionary.
2. Ministry work with children, youth work, and rehabilitation centers — areas in which only indigenous workers have proved capable.
3. Leadership development
4. An easing of restrictions on evangelistic activities