# Bill & Judy Ball

With the arrival of our first quarter report comes the pinnacle event for all true followers of Jesus Christ—Easter. He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!

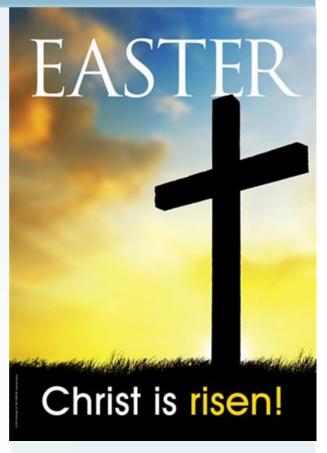
We began the year with Christmas celebrations—Orthodox date, January 7th. These are wonderful times to express our faith in such tangible ways.

Immanuel's Child gifts were shared with thousands of children. Even in changing times people everywhere are seeking truth and meaning of life.

#### **Family News**

Our family has enjoyed some very meaningful times together with Chris, Karyn, Will, Addy and now Katelyn before returning to South Sudan on January 16th. This time Judy traveled with them to get established in a new compound. We all got together for some family photos with Kim & Dan as well —thank you Shannon Steen.





## **Russia Trip**

While Judy went to Africa, Bill flew to Russia with David Rivers, visiting many of our missionary pastors south east of Moscow. David has just retired as the executive director of Elim Lodge, Buckhorn, Ontario. We traveled about 3,000 km by road and took one in-country flight to the Samara region. Despite the restrictions in Russia, God continues to build His church. The time concluded by participating in the

Annual Youth
Conference in
Moscow with 1,500
attendees from all
across Russia. Not
even a record
snowfall could stop
the progress of the
Gospel.





### **Looking Ahead**

Bill will travel to the Maritimes with David Rivers the first two weeks of May. They will share the vision of partnering among the Chuvashia people group in central Russia. There are 1.25 million people from a Turkish



background living in a densely populated region, 650 km east of Moscow. Among them are a following of Gypsies from the south that are open to the Gospel as well. We visited these passionate followers of Christ in January and received an extremely warm welcome.

Every weekend we are involved in church ministry until the summer months arrive, representing SGA Canada. We are thankful for great supporting individuals and churches. This has been a new journey for us as a couple and we have trusted God who has been so faithful.

#### **Ministry Highlights**

Other early retirees have assisted in the work of representing SGA in Canada. We appreciate the willingness of very gifted speakers telling the story of our Slavic partners and developing new relationships with support.

Bill continues to serve on the Board of directors for 2 other missions. This provides a wider global perspective and greater communication with kingdom insights.

#### **Work Team to Russia**

Another work team of 8 people will complete the project in Otradnoye, Russia (north of Volgograd) which we began in 2011. It will be the last two weeks of May.

Judy will come along on this team and then



she and I will continue on to Ukraine for more missionary pastor visits.

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