



What's Happening With The Fountains?

Missionaries in St. Petersburg, Russia since 1997

February 2006

Field Address:

Fountain, Billy Shaye
Uchebny Per. 2-2-292
St. Petersburg 194354
RUSSIA

Email & Web:

fountain@mcii.org
www.mcii.org/Fountains

Sent out by:

First Baptist Church
Calico Rock, AR
Pastor Jess Sumrall
870-297-8548

Send contributions to:

MCII
P.O. Box 354
Ellsworth, KS 67439-0354
www.mcii.org

**please make all checks payable to "MCII" with "The Fountains" on memo line.*

Prayer Points:

- For warmer weather.
- For our family during this cold, dark, depressing time of the year.
- For our financial support.
- For creative ideas for outreach.
- For new ministry opportunities.
- For "Coffee Shop" evangelism.

Thank you for supporting Russian Missions!

Family- Brrrrrrrrrr!

THE BIG CHILL

St. Petersburg set record lows in January of around negative 30°F. Some said it was the worst freeze in 40 years, others said 70 years. You know it's bad when Russians are complaining about the cold weather.

It was so cold that things just stopped working. We rely on radiators (which we cannot regulate in the least) and they were working very poorly during the freeze. At one point extra blankets simply weren't enough and I was sleeping in long-johns, sweats, and socks. I



thought I might have to start wearing a hat and gloves if it got worse. Our hot water was hit-and-miss, and the electricity even began going out due to the overuse of electric plug-in heaters in the building.

The extreme cold took a toll on our van, too. It drained our battery and froze

the engine. We couldn't drive for a week and, finally, I had to stand by the street holding a tow rope until someone stopped who was willing to and help me "pull-start" the van. After that I had to be sure and take the battery inside each time I parked the car, and to go out and start it at least every 6 hours.

This week it got up to about +20°F and we thought we were having a heat wave. Something's not right when you walk outside in overcast, below freezing temperatures and rave about how great the weather is.

Ministry- Food and Faith

BRUNCH

Recently we held a Valentine's Day outreach event in a local café. We planned to have the entire service over brunch and invited some families with small children. We played a game, had music, and each of the men in our core group spoke during the meal. Everyone really seemed to enjoy it. One of the families even expressed interest in being part of our church. Please pray for us as we seek creative ways to connect with seekers in this culture.

LUNCH

I was talking to a Russian friend not long ago about evangelism and he told me how he would go into coffee shops and just approach people at their

tables. I was stunned that he could do this without being thrown out. We've always done evangelism on the street, but recent weather conditions (see above) have greatly impaired us. I decided that I must try his idea out.



I was extremely nervous, having been kicked out of places for doing evangelism. But with the help of my good friend and fellow missionary, Kevin Plaster, I was determined to give it a shot.

We went to the food court of a local shopping mall and began walking up to tables and asking if we could talk to them for few minutes. Most people invited us to sit down when they found out that we were Americans. For about 2 hours we went from table to table talking to people about Jesus.

The 8 months of winter here make street evangelism pretty tough so we are extremely excited about this discovery. The city has multitudes of coffee shops and food courts filled with people just waiting for us to come talk with them about eternity.

God bless!

Shaye, Lisa and Kids