



## CHRISTIAN RADIO FOR RUSSIA

*Sponsor of the New Life Radio Satellite Network-  
Moscow, Russia*

**JULY 2014**

**www.CRFR.org**

NEW LIFE RADIO and a changing Russia and Ukraine: An overview by NLR station manager Dmitri Vatoulya

NEW FM radio affiliate starts in Akhtubinsk

Christ-centered, Bible-based programming:  
Why NLR works

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### **New Life Radio Moscow –an Overview**



New Life Radio continues to do whatever it takes to broadcast the Gospel to Russian-speaking peoples everywhere. Here are the main issues to cover as we serve the countries around us:

1. Concerning the Russia-Ukraine controversy: the situation here is very sensitive. Russian people in general support the Putin government in the current situation with Ukraine. We realize that our listeners seek NLR not to cover political issues, but turn to us for unity, worship and sound Biblical teaching. These are dangerous times when even pastors support politics of their countries out loud and blame each other. Concerning the government's policies today, there is an outcome that leads to oppression of freedom of press and speech. Officials see opposition media as Western influence and betrayal of Russian Federation interests. We at NLR understand that we broadcast to people of all political positions and views. So we ban all political issues on the air, as we are seeking agreement, unity and mutual respect. This is the official position of NLR. Note: NLR reminds listeners daily that we serve a different kingdom and our ultimate allegiance is to Christ and not to any power.

2. There is a danger that NLR can get shut down by official authorities since it gets funding from the West and does not belong to the Russian Orthodox Church. Evangelicals are out of favor these days. Note: we ask prayer for the Evangelical Church in Russia and Ukraine and their protection and witness.

3. In the midst of the hard times good things happen too! NLR started FM broadcasts 24/7 in Akhtubinsk, Russia!

The radio frequency is 99.1 MHz, 100 Watts.

This is a pilot project: if NLR succeeds here, we will fundraise for similar projects to build NLR affiliates in Russia. The average total of minimum funding needed is around \$35,000 per project. We are talking about small cities of less than 100k in population. (details on page 2)



4. After we got this new FM radio affiliate, it would be reasonable to expand NLR satellite channel access across all of Russia with a high quality signal so we can feed stations like Akhtubinsk.

CRFR goal: secure a satellite channel on the YAMAL satellite for full nationwide coverage. Cost: **\$27,000** a year. NLR still has a chance to save its FM radio affiliate in Dudinka, Russia (after losing signal from NLR's *Tricolor* satellite that was forcibly shut down by the Kremlin). NLR should keep current operations as is, while adding affiliates in Russia. We pray to continue as long as God desires despite the political and economic instability.

*Dmitri Vatoulya*

## NEW FM radio affiliate in Akhtubinsk, Russia

From its inception as Russia's 1<sup>st</sup> FM Christian radio station, New Life Radio has been a partnership between Russian and American Christians. Since 1996, our radio network has been a faith venture, with Russians overseeing the programs and broadcasts, and Americans providing the funding to cover the telecom and studio costs, as well as missionary support for the radio staff. NLR provides the Slavic Church and its many evangelical denominations with a free mass media service to reach their own people in evangelism and discipleship.

For many years, our Russian friends have lamented the fact that they have been unable to subsidize the network from within their country. CRFR has always viewed our cooperation as part of the wider family of God, spread across many nations, but focused together to take up Christ's call to proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth, using shared resources.

This past May, NLR received wonderful news that a new radio audience will be the focus of our 24/7 Christian programming in Akhtubinsk, Russia. The following is a report from the organizer of our newest radio affiliate, Alexey Ivaschenko:

"My name is Alexey Ivaschenko. I became a Christian during my studies at Radio-Technical University and despite a confrontation with my family, I got actively involved in church life. While listening to radio broadcasts from Saipan, I got excited over the idea of Christian radio. By the end of 1990s, it seemed like a pipe dream. I shared my desire with my friend Artur Levonian who was a worship leader back then and we prayed about it.

Years later, I got married to a beautiful girl from my church and now we have three wonderful children. We've had a lot of hardships, a lot of victories and some defeats. I was involved in different church projects and some of them I couldn't bring to a logical ending. I was labeled "*Ideas Generator*" in our church. Once I was on a business trip and really missed Christian fellowship, so I started to search the Internet for some Christian radio sites and came across **New Life Radio**. I was amazed how different this radio was from my memories of other Christian stations I heard broadcasting. There was no gloom,



no depression on the air-- instead I heard contemporary upbeat music. I fell in love with this radio right away and my dreams about FM radio in Akhtubinsk started coming together. But I was hindered by the fact that legal broadcasting in Russia needs a huge effort for getting radio registration documents and broadcast licensing.

After two years of listening to New Life Radio I was invited to the station in Moscow for a regional developer's conference at NLR studios.

After this meeting, and with support from *Reach Beyond* and Dmitry Vatoulya at NLR, I made a decision to turn my long held dream about Christian radio in Akhtubinsk into reality. When I shared my plans with Artur Levonian (who became a pastor of our church by that time) I received a blessing for this project and promise of full support. Before making a final decision, I prayed about it. During prayer I received clear answers from God and assurance that He blesses me to do this job. After that I started looking for competent counselors in the legal area and found them.



We investigated the matter and came to the conclusion that total expenses would be over 1 million rubles. I calculated that since the population of our city is about 50,000 people, it means that we need to spend 20 rubles per person. It would allow them to have 24/7 access to radio that proclaims Christ and his love for us. It is very impressive! It is well known that the production cost for one copy of a Christian newspaper that proclaims Christ is a little less than 20 rubles. But a newspaper doesn't last long. Here we know that 20 rubles we invested will continue to work during all the years of New Life Radio's broadcasting – this is very inspiring! People in our backwoods are not spoiled by a vast diversity of radio and for sure will pay attention to New Life Radio's FM frequency.

I received confirmation from Alexey Zolotarev at *Reach Beyond* that his ministry was ready to help with equipment purchases up to \$20,000. I was to find the rest of the money. Funds would be needed in 7 stages and after each stage I would be getting either a license or some permissive documents. It was decided to use our family savings first. This money was enough for the primary stage. Then some believers started contributing too. Even though these donations were very small, people's participation was a valuable support for me. When the more expensive stages started (frequency development) I had to empty all family savings and children's allowances, and the project almost stopped. But thanks to God I went on a business trip and was able to earn the needed amount of money.

Evidence of God's protection followed me during the frequency documentation processing. Officials were indulgent and polite with me even when I made some mistakes in paperwork. I was told that usually it is quite the opposite and religious broadcasters are purposely blocked and hindered, but in my case everything went smoothly and easy even when I was receiving the main broadcast license. It was one more evidence that God himself was working on this project. Unfortunately this stage also needed a serious amount of finances and I had to take a loan from the bank. Money was spent too quickly especially when we started to develop the broadcasting site.

Despite big debts we were able to launch Christian radio broadcasting in Akhtubinsk, Astrakhan region! Even though there are a lot of things that need to be done yet, New Life Radio broadcasts in our city for over a month now!"

**One last item on God's goodness to bring together Akhtubinsk--the final act of a faithful servant of God.** JB Crouse



In May, Dima Vatoulya notified CRFR that the new station in Akhtubinsk was in desperate need of an FM audio processor that would be the final piece to make the station signal ready for broadcast. Alexey had no funds for it, so CRFR secured funding from the Covenant Foundation in Cincinnati. Dima found a courier willing to take the gear to Moscow--Dr. J.B. Crouse of Nicholasville, KY--who was serving on the board of a Moscow Evangelical Seminary. Unfortunately, JB's board colleague got sick on a mission tour and both had to cancel their Moscow trip. CRFR then found another courier, Greg Mangione, from Soar International Ministries in Kenai, AK (who is doing Christian summer camps in Russia), and Dr. Crouse made sure to send the audio processor up to Alaska that Thursday. On Sunday, Dr. Crouse went to be with the Lord, yet the audio gear got to Alaska the day before the courier left--just in God's perfect timing! Dr. Crouse will have yet another legacy in proclaiming the Gospel to a people in a land he served!

# WHY NLR WORKS

by Daniel Johnson, CRFR President



Take a simple goal, like Jesus' call to proclaim his Gospel to the ends of the earth, and then figure how to do it in a way that God makes possible. If "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" is the methodology given to us to employ in this great task, then it made sense to us that radio could be an effective medium to introduce the Christian life to the Russian-speaking people. The key to this working, is dedicating all activities on the air to a clear presentation of Scripture, with all other programming following this: preaching, teaching, Christian music, and information helpful to introducing Christ, while giving meat to those seeking to become mature disciples of Christ.

New Life Radio is formatted to provide both milk and meat to whomever tunes in. NLR produces "Godspots" that are short explanations in dramatic pose that introduce basic concepts of Christianity for young people never exposed to the Gospel.

NLR grows the church with solid teaching from leading Russian and Ukrainian pastors, as well as a small group of trusted American teachers like Charles Stanley, John McArthur, Chuck Smith, and others who have proven faithful to preaching God's Word effectively.

The result: people are transformed by the Spirit through the WORD. That's why NLR works. Share the WORD on the air, and watch the Spirit move in people's lives. Despite our great audience potential, we never know exactly how many people we reach: that's a matter for the Spirit. We simply make the best Christian radio we know how and trust God for the results.

That's something we think you can invest in, and we hope you will join us today.

**CRFR is challenged to raise \$20,000 every month** in order to keep this globally-available radio network serving day in, day out, even in the most trying of circumstances that we face in a troubled Russia. If you would like more information, literature, or a Power Point/video presentation about the ministry of New Life Radio, please feel free to contact us anytime.

May God bless you as you bless others with the gift of Christian radio. FAITH does come by hearing on NLR!

LISTEN IN TO NLR at  
[www.NLRadio.net](http://www.NLRadio.net)

OUR POTENTIAL  
AUDIENCE:  
the statistics



NEW LIFE RADIO  
broadcasts over Europe's  
most popular direct to  
home satellite: *Hotbird*

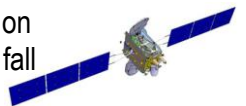
Satellite radio audience  
potential with receivers  
tuned to this satellites:  
**110 million homes**



FM in Akhtubinsk & Dudinka  
-80,000 residents can hear



WE hope to soon begin on  
the YAMAL satellite this fall  
in order to reach all of  
Russia via direct to home  
satellite. Contact us if you  
can help us raise a portion  
of the \$2200 we need each  
month for YAMAL.



New Life Radio broadcasts  
over the Internet 24/7  
using different formats  
including Apple iPhones  
and Androids, with  
UNLIMITED simultaneous  
streaming status:



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## **NLR LISTENER responses in June** (a translated sample)

*It's so great that there's such a great radio station! It's real - you get filled with something new, interesting and useful. Praise the Lord! I've learnt so many new things!* **Yana, Belarus**

*Thank you for your ministry dear brothers and sisters at New Life Radio! I wish you great blessings from the Lord! I wish Him to bless your families and your work. Praise the Lord for you. With prayer for you.* **Maxim, Ukraine**

*Hello New Life Radio! We are all strangers in this world. And we all shall pass. We can plant the seeds to have fruit sometime. I call everyone in Ukraine to peace, we all say no to war. Thanks NLR for being with us during these hard times.* **Eugene, Ukraine**

*Thanks NLR for you big blessed work for the glory of the Lord. I wake up and lay down with New Life Radio. Thanks for playing songs in Ukrainian--this is very pleasant.* **Anastacia, Ukraine**

*Hello New Life Radio! Thank God for life, for new life in Christ, for your radio. It encourages us and gives us refreshment on the way to God's Kingdom.* **Stanislav, Russia**

*Hello NLR from Novorossiysk! Thank you for your ministry, peace and prosperity on you! In the Lord!* **Stan, Russia**

*Hello New Life Radio! Thank you for great Christian music and very good programs and shows. I send my greetings to my dear ones who are in Ukraine. We pray the Lord to keep our country from war, let there be peace.* **Anatoli, Ukraine**

*Hello beloved New Life Radio! I am happy to be with you. I am travelling back home from a business trip. I send greetings to all NLR team! Thank God for you, for your contribution to gospel spread!* **Pavel, Germany**

*I am happy to greet you again NLR! I am with you for several years already. Thanks for being with me all these years. Thank you and praise the Lord for New Life Radio - I listen at work.* **Eric, Russia**

*Hello dear New Life Radio! Thank you for your ministry to us. You are great!* **Larisa, Russia**

*Thanks NLR! I listen to you every day on my way to work and at work with my headphones.* **Ivan, USA**

*Hello! I thank the Lord for this wonderful day and for New Life Radio in it!*

**Natalia, Russia**

*We love listening to you NLR! Many of us: myself, my husband and three little kids. Thanks for you music and for the mood that you bring to your listeners.*

**Adele, Germany**

*Hello NLR! I listen to you! Awesome radio!*

**Sergei, Russia**

*Greetings to you, precious New Life Radio!*

**Anastacia, Russia**

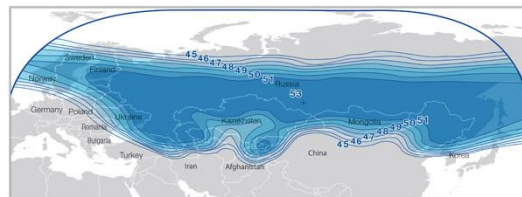
*Hello NLR! I wish you God's great blessings! I love your radio station, listen to you every day, get many blessings from you!*

**Alexander, Russia**

*I greet you dear NLR by the Lord's love!* **Vitali, Germany**

*Hello to you NLR! I like your music and programs!*

**Irina, Russia**



Signal area of proposed YAMAL satellite for NLR

**HELP US REACH NEW LISTENERS** with this satellite channel, and we will be able to bless many new audiences in cities across Russia with your help. **PLEDGE** today!