

Christian Radio for Russia

Sponsor of the New Life Radio Satellite Network—Odessa, Ukraine
Serving the Slavic world with Christian truth through Biblical programming



SPECIAL REPORT 6/18/22

www.CRFR.org

NEW LIFE RADIO—Trusting God in an uncertain future



NLR's latest staff additions in Odessa:

joining Yuri (far left) is Artem Voloshin and Kirill Berezikov

A timeline of events and actions at New Life Radio

114 days of war have passed since the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and we remain on the air! New Life Radio is operated daily by our missionary staff working from two locations: Odessa and Iasi, Romania.

Every new day is a gift from God, allowing our radio team to broadcast Christian encouragement from the Scriptures to a war weary Ukraine as well as to our audience throughout Russia and the former Soviet Union. The immensity of the conflict, the destruction, and the devastation upon the lives of millions proves the need for making every effort to import the Gospel and the revelation of God's plan for mankind into every village and city possible. We have the ultimate message of hope in JESUS!

It is a task for a lifetime, but it's not an easy one, being based in Odessa. As the residents of this city on the Black Sea face an uncertain future with the Kremlin's intentions to take it, and the resulting daily attacks in the city and region, many would question why we remain there. The history of our faith is one of facing danger in the midst of trial, often death, and it is our Lord who called us to pick up our cross, deny ourselves, and follow HIM! While our broadcast center in Odessa remains intact—thanks for your prayers—and we have a backup station for our network in Romania, NLR will continue transmitting solid Christian doctrine while making plans to increase the scope of our work as the doors to ministry and witnessing are wide open. It's a matter of stepping through them in confidence and assurance knowing the Lord will direct our path should this be His will.

NEW LIFE RADIO is back to full staffing with our new additions of Kirill Berezikov and Artem Voloshin to the studios in Odessa. Both are seminary-trained and ready to teach God's Word to these nations. You can hear them and our team daily at **www.NLRadio.net**

NLR's status—Iasi, Romania

From the start of March, NLR station manager Ivan and staffer Eva have been operating our remote studio. They just moved into a home for the summer and will stay until it is safe to return to Odessa.



EACH DAY, the network broadcast switches between Iasi and our Odessa studios where it is a joy to have increased live hours on the air with our committed staff. The NLR format in teaching and music has never sounded better and we are excited about the quality of the broadcasts and Biblical information going out over our satellite and Internet radio network. This is the kind of *Christian radio* that can make a difference in helping hopeless people and devastated communities find truth and purpose for life. Every hour is saturated with the Bible and we know its power to transform lives! Our challenge is to help expand this outreach as it will be needed now more than ever!

What about Russia?



РАДИО НОВАЯ ЖИЗНЬ

Because our ministry targets the Russian Federation and the whole Russian-speaking world, we remain committed to reach them for the Gospel. The Church there is still struggling to make sense of the war and is restricted by the state in being an effective voice for peace. True information is hard to obtain, but NLR is reaching out to them as part of our united family in Christ who need to be taught how to depend on the Lord in times of crisis as well as knowing their Bible.

While NLR's *Hotbird* satellite signal is untouched across Russia as well as our Internet signal, we expect further disruptions to our network. Foreign missionaries are leaving Russia in droves; pastors must be cautious in their outreach for fear of arrest, so our radio network will be an increasingly important resource for evangelism and discipleship in this closed off nation.

UPDATE on our progress to develop New Life Radio (РАДІО НОВЕ ЖИТТЯ)



As CRFR partners know, 98% of communities in Russia and 97% in Ukraine have no local Christian radio station. Christian programs over secular media are scant, and primarily Orthodox in orientation. Biblical knowledge is a rarity among the majority of the population, and the answers to life that people are looking to find are absent from the FM dial.

Since our last report, what we can say is that the NEED to develop Christian radio inside of Ukraine is obvious. Canvassing the total number of villages and cities (in the thousands) that could benefit from a local FM station offers us a guide for the need to provide it. Filling out a media network with direct to home satellite or Internet service in Ukrainian focused on teaching historic Christian doctrines gives us the means to ensure that any community can benefit from our programming no matter what the type of media channel is at hand. And we can strengthen the ministry of local pastors by giving them daily access to some of the finest Bible teachers, encouraging them and helping them sharpen their skills to understand the Bible better and able to communicate it more effectively. As the majority of Ukraine's seminaries are now closed and doing humanitarian work, this aspect of NLR's ministry will be an incredible help for overall Biblical teaching of the wider Church.



Where Internet is expensive or unavailable in villages, satellite or FM can get God's Word in free of charge. And such a vast project to develop a national Christian network for Ukraine can unite a large group of believers committed to bringing their world to Christ. Pastor Artem (in photo) is just one example of a minister with excellent training ready to use the NLR network to teach the next generation of Christ-followers. AND it doesn't cost much to do!

What is involved in making this happen?

The Details: The NLR radio facility in Odessa has sufficient studio space to easily create two separate channels, but the challenge will be to 1) Raise funds to support 3 or 4 radio missionaries to form the core of the Ukrainian service. 2) Establish an Internet radio distribution of the signal. 3) Leasing a second radio channel over the *Hotbird* satellite for coverage of Ukraine will set the stage for the final phase of our plans: 4) A national network of FM radio affiliates! NLR, in conjunction with local Christian radio organizers across Ukraine can begin applying for FM radio frequencies in villages and cities in order to retransmit the NLR satellite signal using low cost FM transmitter and satellite packages (\$2000 to \$5000) that can be purchased by American church partners. This will provide a 24/7 Christian station, without requiring staff to operate! Local churches will be responsible for maintaining compliance and fees for the yearly channel usage, and electricity costs for transmitters.

COST to program NLR-Ukraine

1. NLR staff \$4000/month
 2. Internet and satellite coverage \$2100
(All other costs to create an FM network are outside of CRFR expenditures)
- The NLR service will provide 100% coverage of Ukraine and areas beyond.

THIS IS A COST EFFECTIVE and realistic strategy for the price of supporting one or two American missionary families to Russia!

This is the dream we have to bring the Gospel to Ukraine with the added benefit of helping to rebuild the nation under a Christian worldview and biblical faith.



At this writing, we don't have new financial sponsors coming forward to fund this radio network. Perhaps it is still early in the process as the war continues and no one knows when it will end. In the meantime NLR staff are busy compiling programming resources in Ukrainian (music and teaching) so we will have sufficient material to begin 24/7 broadcasting if and when we secure the means to accomplish it.

Christ's command to reach the nations continues on. As we pray for peace and resolution during these times of terror and war, we look for new doors that the Lord might open to further His mission to those we are called to reach.

We hope you will partner with us to make NLR Ukraine a reality!

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