



FRONTLINE

Prayer Letter

May 2026

Pirkko Home Liberation Centers, Ministry to the Addicted – URGENT Prayer Request

In late March, an inspection team arrived unannounced at the Pirkko Home in Rumyantsevo, Moscow region. 12 law enforcement officers arrived early in the morning. The only staff member present at the center at that time was the assistant director, Artur. They entered the building aggressively and proceeded to conduct a thorough search, ranging from the basement to the attic. They were

checking to see if there were any immigrants present; as harboring even two undocumented individuals carries a prison sentence. They also checked for the presence of teenagers; if any are found—even if you picked them up off the street because they were homeless, hungry, etc., and simply took them in for the night to feed and clothe them—it still carries a prison sentence, as such minors are required by law to be immediately handed over to child protective services. Furthermore, the center is prohibited from administering medication to the people staying at the Pirkko Home, and is not permitted to maintain a designated prayer room. They scrutinized the spiritual literature very carefully to check for any banned materials, but found none. The center is now required to have a resident psychologist on staff; failure to do so will result in closure. During the search, they discovered a young man from Uzbekistan who lacked proper documentation; fortunately, his paperwork for restoration and legalization had already been submitted prior to the inspection, but they nevertheless took him away for questioning. He was later released.

The following day, Dima Gusev, the head of the Pirkko Home ministry, along with Pastor Petr Smirnov from the supporting church in Dedovsk and Stas (in whose name the building is legally registered), were summoned for questioning. This time, the conversation was somewhat more constructive. The fact that the Pirkko Home center in Rumyantsevo has been operating for over 20 years—and that there have been no complaints from neighbors—seems to have made the police slightly more lenient toward the center. Nevertheless, one could sense that, in the eyes of the authorities, “Baptists” are viewed as members of a “sect”—an outsider group to be treated with disdain and distrust. The inquiry was conducted by a female Lieutenant Colonel specializing in cases related to extremism. She said: “There are no violations, yet we are shutting you down,” “but keep working for now,” and “you cannot be kinder than the law—do everything strictly according to the law.” The authorities are deeply fearful of a recurrence of the terrorist attack at the Crocus City Hall concert venue, which took place in 2024.

We are awaiting the results of the inspection. This situation affects not only this specific center, but all the Pirkko Homes. We earnestly ask that you pray about how this inspection will affect the entire Pirkko Home ministry. We perceive a clear desire on the part of the authorities to bring this specific sphere of ministry (helping alcoholics and drug addicts) under government control throughout Russia.

RCR Studio Ministry

Ayur Vanzhilov: We continue to produce new episodes for our programs. Over the past two months, we have:

- Filmed 18 different episodes, including personal testimonies, “Tunnel” programs, and 30 video shorts.
- Garnered 670,000 views on YouTube and approximately 220,000 views across other platforms.
- Published audio podcast versions (on Spotify and Yandex Music) of Earl Poysti’s readings of the New Testament and Psalms; and also uploaded all of Earl Poysti’s sermons and his audio course on “Discipleship.”
- Thanks to your donations, we were able to purchase essential new equipment (microphones and lighting).

We ask for your prayers regarding the health of our host, Natalia Chernyakova; she has been struggling with issues related to high blood pressure. Today in Russia, the majority of foreign-based online services have been blocked; furthermore, ongoing attempts are being made to block the tools used to bypass these restrictions (such as VPNs). Media ministries in Russia are currently facing significant challenges. Please pray that, despite all obstacles, we may continue to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the biggest need in our society, with our listeners and viewers by as many means as possible.

We would like to remind you that you can subscribe to the Telegram channel “The Path of Faith: Nikolai and Earl Poysti | The History of RCR” (in Russian). There we publish archival materials chronicling the history of the Poysti family and the RCR Ministry. All relevant links can be found in this QR code.



The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire Prison Magazine Ministry

Eduard Zavedeyev: Our publication of the magazine is closely intertwined with the missionaries who have been distributing it for many years, and we maintain regular contact with them. We would like to share some news regarding this joint ministry:

- Irina Ivanova: "On April 15, we visited a women's prison in the city of Mikun (Republic of Komi, Russia). We delivered 40 care packages. We were able to have four meetings with inmates, Victoria, Alyona, Marina, and Victoria, who heard the Word of God. There were prayers, tears, and a desire to turn their lives around. Please pray for them. May the Lord heal their hearts! Out of the 96 women in this prison, 53 have already met with us and heard the Word of God. May the Lord help them find peace with Him."



- Vladimir Bychkov: "We conduct prison ministry in the Novosibirsk region of Russia. On April 13, all prison ministry teams across Russia began a 40-day period of fasting and prayer, asking for freedom to visit all Russia's prisons and to preach the Gospel there. The specific focus of this effort is the signing of an agreement with the FSIN (Federal Penitentiary Service) regarding giving this access to prison ministers. Please join us in praying. We have established a 'prayer chain,' passing the baton of fasting and prayer from one group to another. At the conclusion of these 40 days, our brothers in Moscow will submit the agreement to the FSIN asking for this permit. Friends! Please pray in your homes, pray in your churches, pray with your friends, and spread the word to everyone about this time of fasting and prayer—specifically regarding the signing of the visitation permit, the cooperation of prison administrations, and the spiritual growth of the brothers and sisters who have come to faith while in prison."



Please pray for the requests highlighted above and an end to the war and suffering in Ukraine.

Pray about the effects of the recent inspection of our Pirkko Home in Rummyantsevo, and how it will affect our ministry at all the Pirkko Homes. Pray for God's guidance and protection and that we can adequately meet the requirements the authorities give us so that we can continue our ministry in the name of Jesus to those with addictions.

Praise God that two older vehicles at the Rummyantsevo Pirkko Home were sold and they were able to buy two newer vehicles – one by raising funds within Russia, and one on credit. Renovation work on the first floor has temporarily been put on hold.

Pray for 2 men who graduated and left the Adaptation Center in Solnechnogorsk, but had not become believers in Jesus Christ. Before long they were unable to withstand temptations and relapsed into sin. So far, they have not returned to the center for help.

Pray for reconstruction being carried out at the new building in Berezovo (at the Plavsk Pirkko Home).

Pray for the upcoming annual camp/retreat for all the Pirkko Home centers on May 14-16.

Praise God for his care and provision to RCR during these turbulent times.

Thanks for taking time to be in prayer for RCR Ministry.



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