



Kyrgyzstan Locals Trained for Evangelism

JULY 27, 2010

Concerns for LWML grant recipients in Kyrgyzstan have prompted the LWML to inquire how the recent unrest and violence in that region has affected the work being in the region.

Brent Smith, the Regional Director for LCMS World Mission in Eurasia shared, “We were forced to cancel a short-term team that was headed for Kyrgyzstan this month. But this was unrelated to the work LWML is supporting. I received the encouraging update below from the head of the church on June 15th which indicates the ministries continue to move forward. Thank you for your prayers and support of the work in Central Asia.”

Tuesday June 15, 2010

The situation in Kyrgyzstan is really dramatic: the political and ethnic tensions have been tearing the republic for two months. These disturbances began on April 7, with the overthrow of president Bakiev and riots in Bishkek which claimed over 80 lives. In May we witnessed the attempts to capture the plots of land belonging to Turkish and Russian farmers in the suburbs of Bishkek, as a result many houses were burnt down and dozens of people killed. Now ethnic conflicts in the South of the republic... The reality in Osh and Jalal-Abad is worse than what we see on local and world news. We hear about scary, horrible things from the witnesses of the events...

We want all our brothers and sisters in Christ who pray for us these days to know that despite all threats and difficulties the pastors, teachers, preachers and workers of Concordia Lutheran Church are not discouraged. All our ministries continue to work. All our humanitarian programs and the mobile medical van continue to support the poor and needy of the country.

No matter what we continue to proclaim the Gospel in the name of Jesus. Our churches are growing. By God's grace none of "our" people was seriously injured. In Him we trust and He gives us strength to overcome everything.

We are thankful to all who pray for us these days. Please, continue to hold us up before the throne of God.

With Christian love,

*Bishop Kenzhebek Botobaev and 600 members of Lutheran Church Concordia,
Gulnara Dzhumanalieva and 8 workers of Fund Compassion.*

Regarding the LWML grant, Brent Smith reported:

On June 5, 2010, around 100 women from 15 Lutheran congregations and home groups participated in the seminar entitled “The Power of a Praying Wife.” The seminar was organized under the auspices of Women’s Leadership, a project funded by LWML. The topic of the seminar is important for Christian life, especially in a society where alcoholism, abuse and adultery are not rare in families. Recent riots and political instability in Kyrgyzstan make the topic of the seminar really burning. The women participated in the seminar with great interest: some shared their experiences about how God answered their prayers; others performed sketches and read verses from the Bible. The seminar gave all of them an excellent opportunity to share, mix and pray for each other.

[Photos](#)

www.lcms-eurasia.org

Two other websites that might be helpful in following the events in Eurasia and Kyrgyzstan are:

www.eurasianet.org and <http://eng.24kg>

Please pray that:

1. The violence in Kyrgyzstan is brought to an end and that all of the people of Kyrgyzstan might have peace.
2. The people of Kyrgyzstan no longer discriminate against those of different ethnic origins, but that they live as one people in their country.
3. God would bless the work of those who are spreading His Word in this area of the world, and that He would continue to keep His workers safe.
4. That the people of Kyrgyzstan come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

Watch for further updates as additional information is received.