



rlm
Russian Leadership Ministries
Annual Report
Year Ending June 30, 2021

**For Such a
Time as This...**

For such a time as this... in Russia and the States, a message of action is needed. The past year showed the faithfulness of RLM supporters and MTS staff/students who put their trust in the promises of God. That all things work together for good for those who love Him. We are all placed in positions to respond to the calling of God. What is your place that you find yourself saying - am I being called for such a time as this?

Believers are being called to shine the Light of His word, to share the gospel message — it is the mission of MTS to train up leaders that will spread the gospel message.

Dear Friends,

Once again, we are on alert as the world watches another conflict unfold in Russia. It is not just in Russia that people feel anxious and scared. Worldwide, the pandemic continues; rumors of war and political unrest may make for troubled times. Yet, we believers in Christ have a strong faith in the God of all creation, that He is in control. The leaders, faculty, and staff of Moscow Theological Seminary persevere forward amidst this turmoil because they have the firm belief that God is with them. It is their dedication to the work of teaching Biblical-based learning to train up Russian evangelical pastors that give a glimmer of hope to the people of Russia. Once trained at MTS, these evangelical pastors return to their towns, villages, and neighborhoods to share the gospel message and the hope we all have in Jesus Christ.

So, let us take courage in the assurance of God's love and provision in these times of uncertainty. We have witnessed His faithfulness to the seminary through RLM over many years.

“Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you(others) in the Lord, and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work.” 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

It is inspiring to think about the thread that binds Russian Leadership Ministries and Moscow Theological Seminary over many decades. That prayers and support connect the people of these two giant nations through these two organizations and shows the constant unity of the body of Christ.

This annual report of RLM will show the many answered prayers of the past year and show us where continued prayer and support are needed. The ministry and the seminary are always grateful for your support in prayer and funding.



Gratefully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale".

Dale A. Kemp
President

Highlights of The Year

- An amazing act of God, in turning the hearts of the government and hearing of their decision to return the full seminary license to MTS after over 2 years of suspensions, alleged compliance issues, and denials of appeals.
- A continuation of the ministry of MTS — training and equipping pastors, church planters, and ministry leaders across Russia — even in the midst of the COVID-19 restrictions across Russia.
- The ability to use online meeting and distance learning tools to maintain momentum in our ministry partnership with the Russian leadership of MTS.
- A successful 10-year review of the courses, resources, staffing, and operations of MTS, leading to the appointment of a new Academic Dean and the continued strengthening of its biblically-based curriculum and faculty.

Meet Alexey Markevich

Alexey Markevich is now the Vice-Rector for Moscow Theological Seminary. He was brought onto the faculty in 2012 by Peter Mitskevich as the senior lecturer and has added tremendous value to the Biblical education program. As part of the faculty, Alexey is a dedicated teacher to students pursuing their Biblical studies degree to become pastors and teachers in their communities.

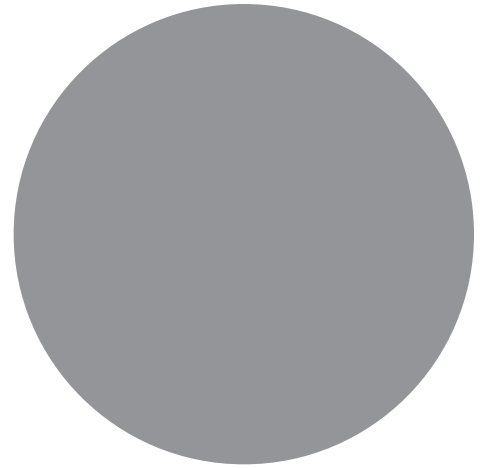
In addition to his leadership work at MTS, he is the pastor of Salvation Baptist Church in Moscow.

Born to soviet parents who were both engineers, he was rather cavalier about religion. However, he became more interested in learning about religions in his teen years and purchased a New Testament at a Flea Market when he was 18.

As he began to learn about Jesus, he came to believe that Jesus was not only an actual historical figure but God himself. Alexey was baptized at age 20, being already married. His wife also became a believer as well as his mother.

He pursued his biblical education starting at New Life Bible College in Moscow and then enrolled at Moscow Theological Seminary, earning a Master of Theology. He is currently a Ph.D. Candidate of Philosophical and Religious Studies at the Russian University of the Humanities.

Alexey and Oskana have three sons and four grandchildren.



Prayers for Upcoming Year

- There has been a renewed focus by the Russian government with allegations and legal threats against the largest of MTS's regional training centers, the North Caucasus Bible Institute.
- Over uncertain times as Russian leaders threaten to invade the Ukraine.
- Safety and protection of the learning centers and the students across Russia.
- Safety and protection of the evangelical pastors and teachers as they share the Gospel to the Russian people.
- Continued and increased financial support to RLM to provide the necessary faculty and staff that MTS may continue in their mission of training up Russian pastors to share the Gospel across Russia.

RLM Board and Staff

Dr. Daniel Block, Dr. Ian M. Chapman (Emeritus), Ted Rodgers Dale Kemp (Chair), Brian Petak, Jaynn Tobias-Johnson Lisa Fowler, Ken Kemp and Tom MacAdam.

A Word From Our Seminary President

Apostle Paul at the end of his first letter to Thessalonians wrote: *“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”*

1 Thes 5.16-18

Dear friends, it is a crucial in Russia, and we are grateful for your prayers. In this time of the pandemic, rumors of war, with people feeling fear and instability, there is only one place of peace and comfort, in the hands of the living God. It is challenging to preach God’s word and train church leaders for the ministry in the church and society, yet God’s faithfulness prevails. Therefore, we remain faithful in these times of tests and trials, knowing that God our Father continues to provide generously.

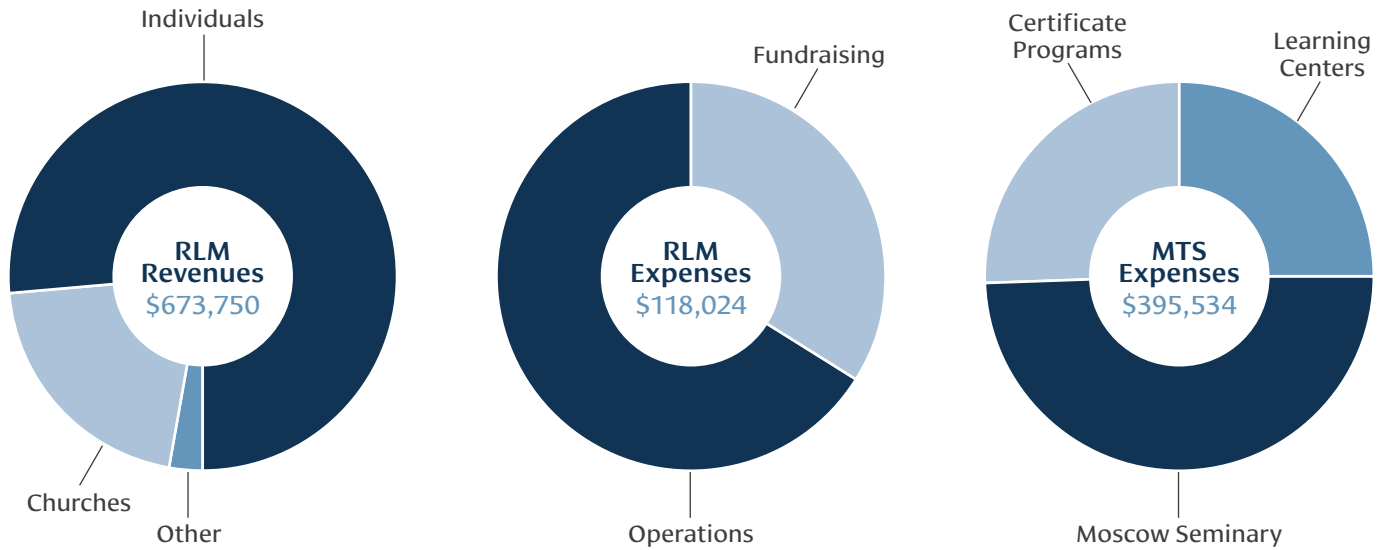
Therefore, students, faculty, and administration continue to pray to God for you with gratitude and rejoice in the Lord. So may His will be done in our life.

In His Mercy,

Rev. Peter Mitskevich
Seminary President



Financial Overview *For year ended June 30, 2021.*



*Audited Financials are available upon request. *Certain deferred revenues from prior year (\$160,192) and delayed expenses are included.*



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