

Christian Radio for Russia

Sponsor of the New Life Satellite Network, Moscow Russia

January 2019

www.CRFR.org

Reviewing our mission in 2018 to bring the Gospel to the Slavic world via radio: The highlights

NLR: taking on the challenges each day to bring a nation to Christ during difficult times



New Life Radio-Moscow initiated nationwide Christian satellite broadcasting to Russia on October 5, 2000 from studios next to the Kremlin on Red Square.

In Winter 2018, we celebrated the recent addition of NLR's national broadcast license issued by the government as well as a second satellite (*Yamal*) to our radio network, insuring near total coverage of the nation and former Soviet republics. NLR's studio equipment was upgraded, its *Hotbird* satellite audio quality increased, and its Internet audio broadcasts split up into separate distribution sites, with one in the USA and one in Russia. NLR was primed to restart its focus on developing new FM radio affiliates in Russian cities, as well as equipping church-operated rehabilitation centers nationwide via satellite.



NLR expands its new global ministry outlet on YOUTUBE featuring the best Slavic Christian bands sharing their faith over its *LIVE STUDIO* program series. (1 million+ individual views registered) *You can sponsor a concert for \$500*

Spring 2018; Station Director Dima Vatulya, along with new program contributors aiding our talented staff, kicked into high gear the development of many new radio series that bring a fresh feel to our radio format featuring Christian apologetics, Bible teaching and church history, youth and family shows, outstanding preaching, and music from artists around the world. These Christ-centered programs address the many issues facing Christians in society while presenting the claims of Christ to the non-believer. NLR has never sounded better and listener letters from multiple nations make that clear! *Listen to NLR at www.NLRadio.net*



NLR missionary radio staff Katya, Vlad, Natasha, Andre, Dima

Summer 2018: Our ministry was constantly reminded of its important role in serving as a communication resource for the evangelical Church in Russia as Christians faced tough enforcement of laws during June and July against public and private evangelism. Harassment, arrests. prohibitions against public meetings and other witnessing events are on the rise, and Church leaders used NLR airwaves to discuss the many issues on how to live out the Christian faith during uncertain times. 99% of communities don't have the luxury of a local Christian radio station, so NLR's satellite, Internet, and FM radio network reaches into every city and remote area with the encouragement that helps build the Church and witness to a nation.

AUGUST: NLR was forced out of its main On Air control room and Studio C due to its landlord at the *Christian Center* requiring the space after 19 years. The station now operates out of two tiny rooms that does not allow the full staff to work all at the same time. CRFR donors funded the remodel costs for one room to take over the network control operation (*below*)



Sadly in August, New Life Radio reported the death of CRFR board director, Rev. Randy Vaught, who served this ministry for many years and had a special passion for the Russian people. Randy was our prayer warrior and will be missed.

Fall 2018: Rising to the many ongoing challenges facing the radio network, Station manager Dima had NLR back to full steam as production and on air work was aided by new radio equipment and efficient scheduling. NLR continued to reach out with a challenge to Christian leaders in every city to get a vision for developing local FM affiliates so evangelism could be done via radio despite government actions against it. While the Russian government is not eager to grant evangelicals these licenses, it is still possible and we look for individuals in the US interested in partnering with us to sponsor an affiliate.



In the meantime...NLR continued to attract a diverse community of Christians to their studios for reaching out with live discussions, interviews, and both serious and light programming that seeks to encourage the new Christian while providing meat to the maturing believer. NLR's format is 70% Christian music, 25% teaching, apologetics and drama, with 5% news/analysis.

October and November were especially exciting months for NLR as the staff was able to interact with international Biblical scholars and writers (including Phil Yancey) resulting in a number of outstanding radio programs giving listeners well presented teaching across theology, doctrine, church organization and history, and personal application, in the best tradition of what Christian radio can provide.

Back in America, CRFR went on a fall tour presenting to various groups the new *Capital Campaign* to raise \$500,000 to provide NLR with a new facility. It was encouraging to see how NLR reaches Slavic listeners in nearly every state in the US where Russian-speakers live. During NLR's daily song request hour at 5pm Moscow time, listeners in American cities contact our staff asking for their favorite Christian songs, reminding us that NLR has a truly global outreach and American churches can sponsor NLR as a way to reach the Slavic immigrants living in their own communities for the Gospel!

In December, after an intense year of broadcasting, NLR staff were given the gift of a Christmas bonus, courtesy of CRFR donors. They are all grateful for their partners in the USA!



NLR: taking on the challenges to bring a nation to Christ

2019 finds NLR navigating tough waters of state repression against both freedom of religion and the press. Hostility or indifference from authorities and the general public toward all things Christian gives us an ever greater witnessing opportunity to broadcast the truth of our faith. And miraculously, with our national broadcast license, satellite coverage, and Internet penetration, NLR has never been in a better technical position to reach the ends of the (Slavic) earth for Christ.

Despite working in cramped studio quarters like sardines, our radio staff is amazed at how the station is being used by leading Christians in every field who see our potential to be effective as Christian communicators. While we hope to raise the needed funds to build our own facility for NLR's long term operation, we leave that decision to the Lord. In the meantime, our radio missionaries are dedicated to the harvest of souls in Russia and beyond. With your partnership and prayers, we look forward to another great and exciting year of service to God!

Christian Radio for Russia



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SUPPLEMENT: NLR listeners and the Capital Campaign

New Life Radio takes on a multifaceted teaching task as we relate the Christian life to a targeted Slavic audience from 18-45 who are looking for answers to life's biggest questions.

At Christmas, the radio staff sent us a nice present with a sample of listener letters from December 25th. Here is what people had to say about our radio network that day:

Merry Christmas to all! Through New Life Radio I am sending areetings to my wife who is in Perm. Russia and to my friends who are in Uralsk – it's so great that you can listen to NLR anywhere you are on the same 'frequency'! May God bless you! Radion

Greetings New Life Radio, I'm listening to you for 5 years already. It really helped me to grow spiritually. I am from Ukraine. Now I'm on my vacation, visiting Baptist friends in Moscow to celebrate New Year's together. I would like to visit your station to see your work and be inspired for the whole next year.

Greetings from Canada. I listen to New Life Radio every day. Your work is a blessing for everybody, especially for people like me, who are away from home. I'm Vlad from Belarus, play sax and travel a lot serving people with my gift. Your ministry is a great blessing for me!

Dear Dmitry Vatulya, I'm very thankful for the message you deliver through New Life Radio. NLR has helped me to clear some conflicts in my personal life, it challenges me and just brings me joy. Sometimes I lack a wise piece of advice, different opinion and your radio has become such a friend and mentor for me. And by the way there are a lot of your fans in our church. I personally listen to NLR for more than 5 years. Thank you and your wonderful team - you are great! Blessings! Elena-- Irkutsk, Russia

Katya Vatulya, Vladimir Gorlan, Natasha Romantsova – you are a blessed people! I'm so glad that there is such radio - New Life Radio! Sorry if I've missed anybody, but I want to say that you are a unique team. I ask God to bless all those who created such radio and work there. Thank you for your honesty! May God bless you! Sergey-- Dneiper, Ukraine

Merry Christmas my dear radio and all your team! The right way to start your day is to start it with New Life Radio – that's what I do every day from 7:30 am to 9:30 am. Angela Tarasova-- Moscow

My name is Renata, I'm from Israel, & go to Church of Living Israel. I'm very thankful to God, He has saved me and gave me 2 daughters and the best husband. My husband loves New Life Radio and he is 30 today. So, I send greetings to him through you.

I'm very glad that one day I have found your radio in this media-ocean! You have become my family, my home church. When I didn't have faith in myself, when I couldn't make myself go to church, you'd raised my spirit through your radio and directed me back to my loving Father. I wish you great flourishing success in all your works and God's blessings! Love you all very much! Sofia

I like your radio very much, because you have interesting topics, great music and videos, up-to-date discussions. Blessings to you in all your new projects this coming year!

Svetlana Tsikler-- Moscow

I always listen to New Life Radio when I have such opportunity. I like the music and Christian news here and the most inspiring are edifying broadcasts on different topics. Glory to God and thanks that you are there! Please continue to raise hot topics of modern life. It helps a lot! Gennady

THANKS to our CRFR partners who invest and help us bring people to Christ, one at a time, even as we broadcast to millions



CRFR capital campaign: Preserving Christian radio for the people of Russia FUNDRAISING GOAL: **\$500,000** by June 2019 amount raised so far: **\$5,000**

NEW LIFE RADIO was forced to vacate two primary On Air rooms and now the situation is such that a new facility needs to be found to continue this critical evangelistic outreach. Keeping its tradition of remaining a "lean, mean, ministry machine" New Life Radio seeks the most cost-effective means to obtain the minimum facility needed to do the job of radio. **Our first option** is to obtain a building lot in Moscow or suburb and construct a building.

We have divided the NLR new facility project into three components:

- 1) **land acquisition in Moscow.** NLR is seeking to secure a small parcel of land within an existing land lot owned by a Moscow church, either as a donation as part of a ministry partnership; or at a reduced cost that is within our proposed capital budget.
- 2) construction and volunteer builder logistics. CRFR has identified qualified Christian general contractors and carpenters in the USA willing to donate their services and time to build the NLR studios. Funding will be needed for local Moscow utility and foundation services that can only be done through Russian contractors.
- 3) financing. With land and architectural design services provided gratis or at a dramatically reduced charge, the bulk of the capital campaign financing will go for actual construction materials, labor, building permits, plus audio and radio equipment to compete the new studios.

OPTION 2. If it becomes impossible to secure a building lot that satisfies all requirements, NLR will look to purchase a 4 room apartment in Moscow that can be retrofitted into studio and office space. A minimum of **\$330,000+** is a typical cost for this type of apartment, with the remaining funds devoted to remodeling and equipment purchases.

LOOKING TO HELP? CRFR is open to ideas and suggestions on the various project components and is actively seeking aid in identifying potential financial sponsors (churches, individuals, businesses, and foundations) that can identify with the presented need and rationale for keeping Christian radio available to the people of Russia and the Slavic world.

With generous support, we hope to secure these funds by **June 2019**, initiating construction shortly after.

for more information, contact Dr. Daniel Johnson, President **Christian Radio for Russia** Box 428, Jamestown, NY 14701 Email: CRFR@juno.com



NLR's current studio rooms

