



## CHRISTIAN RADIO FOR RUSSIA

*Sponsor of the New Life Radio Satellite Network-  
Moscow, Russia*

**August 2013**

**www.CRFR.org**

The man behind NEW LIFE RADIO's founding,  
passes into eternity and to our heavenly Father

Equipping NLR's radio facilities for another decade  
of proclaiming the Gospel

Extremist law against Freedom of religion passes in  
Russia: its impact on Christian radio and NLR

What's on the air, and the listeners response to it



Ray Dahlberg, executive director emeritus of world mission of the Evangelical Covenant Church, and the instigator for the development of Christian radio broadcasting inside of Russia, died on June 21. Ray's calling was simple--John 3:16--and he was a mighty man of God who broadcast that to the world.

Charged with overseeing mission operations globally for the Covenant denomination, Ray found himself at an airport in Quito, Ecuador in 1992 entering a casual conversation with fellow passenger Dr. Ron Cline of HCJB. Ray mentioned that he would soon be traveling to Magadan, Russia to investigate the potential for ministry there. Ron noted the reach of his ministry's radio operations, but mentioned that HCJB had no signals available in that part of the Russian Far East. Sharing with Ray that HCJB's engineers had just reached a technical breakthrough in the development of a complete FM radio station small enough to fit inside two suitcases, Ron challenged Ray to consider the idea of developing a radio station in Magadan.

Ray wasn't too excited, because he had no idea how such a ministry could develop there, given no money, personnel, expertise, etc. But God was working behind the scenes to make this very challenge become reality. Shortly after his meeting, Ray found himself at a missions conference in

Jamestown, New York, and at the end of the evening, Dan Johnson approached him and shared with Ray his vision to develop a Christian FM radio station in Magadan, Russia.

Ray quickly realized that God was up to something here, as even a "hard headed Swede"—in Ray's words--finally got the message. In short order, God supplied all the money Ray needed to get the radio operation mounted, and also got his missionary (Dan) to head it up. The result was NEW LIFE RADIO-Magadan, Russia's first Christian FM radio station (1996).

Within a year, Ray and Daniel began strategizing on an even bolder plan to provide Christian radio to all of Russia and the former Soviet Union. Not knowing how it would develop, Ray stepped out in faith that God would work out the details so the Russians could hear the Gospel anywhere.

The dream came true in 2000, as the NEW LIFE RADIO Satellite Network initiated broadcasts from Moscow, located on Red Square, from the very building Stalin had set up to control all radio communications in the USSR while preventing any mention of God on Soviet airwaves. NLR became the first nationally -



broadcast Christian station and pioneered Christian satellite and FM radio in Russia. Through Ray's vision, NLR would eventually be able to share the love of Christ to Russian-speakers worldwide via satellite, FM, and Internet radio.



Upon his retirement in 2000, Ray covenanted with Daniel to establish *Christian Radio for Russia*, in order to take over the administration of the radio network from the Covenant, and oversee its long term ministry growth. Ray became a founding board member of CRFR, providing his experience and counsel that has kept this ministry going even today. His legacy for the proclamation of the

Gospel will be felt for generations. Well done Ray, good and faithful servant to the Lord Jesus Christ. Peace to his memory.

*photo courtesy of Covchurch.org*

## Christian Radio is contemporary audio equipment transmitting a timeless message

That's what we tell churches and ministry partners when its time to replace a piece of broken radio equipment. For an operation like NEW LIFE RADIO, keeping our physical plant in perfect order is crucial to getting the Gospel out on the airwaves 24/7. If one piece of the audio chain breaks down, our entire global network could be off the air until it is fixed.

ONE critical part of our radio station is our radio automation system. Without it, the NLR staff could not keep the signal going day and night. Recently, it became clear that our current system was no longer reliable, and we needed a replacement that would cost us in the neighborhood of \$9000, of which we had no budget for.

TWO congregations on each side of the country have made it possible for us to obtain the new automation system. The Bemus Point United Methodist Church, pastored by Dan McBride in Bemus Point, NY, authorized a grant of \$7500 for the computer components of the system. The Bayside West Community Church, pastored by Chuck Wysong in Roseville, California, provided the programming software needed to make the system operational. Greg Mangione, of Soar Intl. Ministries in Kenai, Alaska served as courier to get critical parts from the USA over to the NLR Moscow studios just in time!



<Pastor Dan at BPUMC

Bayside West campus>



NLR station manager Dima Vatoulya, busy building the new automation system!



*Thanks to all who made this possible!*

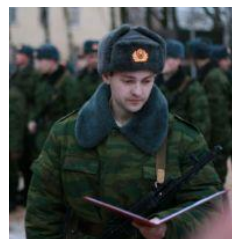
## What's on the air this month?

-Thursday 7pm Moscow  
NEW LIFE RADIO's talk show, "The Word for You" has for tonight's topic, *Theory of Evolution: A Christian perspective*. Can a Christian be a supporter of the theory of evolution? Is it possible to reconcile the Six Days of creation and the theory of evolution? Can my faith and science coexist? These and other questions will be discussed by Sergei Koryakin – dean of the Moscow Evangelical Christian Seminary.



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--Tuesday 7pm  
LIVE TALK SHOW,  
"The Eternal Student"

Tonight's guest, Evgeny Mishkin - a graduate of the Moscow State Engineering University, will talk about his experiences in teaching about God in high school, serving in the Russian Army; how to be a Christian in the military, and much more. A must tune in for young men facing military service!



NLR program descriptions continued from page two

NLR radio series "What Women Search For" --July 18



The biggest problem in the life of a woman--when she has seriously ill children. How can we confront the unbearable suffering of a child? What to do when your baby's health brings crisis to your family? How to explain to yourself why it happens to your child; why God does not appear to answer prayer and provide healing?

Our hosts Katya Vatoulya and Dasha Vaprova will seek answers to these tough questions with Dasha sharing her experiences with a baby suffering from cancer and the miraculous healing she eventually received.

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NLR program LETS TALK-- Thursday 2 pm Moscow



In early July, Russians celebrated the "Day of Family, Love and Loyalty". Man is so constituted by God to be looking for support, understanding, and love, no matter how often he wants to conceal it. The family is where we can experience the most joy and the most hurt. In this program, focusing on love and loyalty to family, Sergey Babich, a Christian counselor with many years of experience in ministry as a pastor, and teacher at the Moscow Theological Seminary, will take an in depth look at these issues.

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**NLR features outstanding Bible programs daily from leading teachers around the world**

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**FEEDBACK: a sample of responses from our listeners this past month**

--from Schäfer, Germany.

Hello. I listen to your radio every evening. I cannot fully call myself a Christian because I don't go to church yet, but I already want to. I find very valuable the short talks between the songs. I wish my online player had a rewind function (at least 20 seconds) to grasp what I heard. God bless you for your work. I'm very glad you exist!

**Alexander Yambartsev**

--Moscow, Russia

Thank you New Life Radio that you exist! This is really cool. Today is not the best day and there is nobody at work today to be near and give me a Christian cheer. But you are here!

**Polina Hohlova**

NLR listener's letters continued:

**Vladivostok, Russia**

Hello dear radio from distant Vladivostok! I want to thank you for your radio--you give us good music and good mood!

**Andrey Krasov**

**Volgograd region. Russia.**

Hello Radio "New Life"!

You're the best radio, even though I am with you only 2 days, but I think that this love will not grow cold. I listen to you via satellite and my neighbors will hear your beautiful songs and programs. May God bless all those who created you.

**USA**

Thank you for your radio. I listen to you always when I drive to and from work. It cheers me up! Super radio! I listen to you through my i-Phone. Keep going. May God bless you!

**Marina Ushakova**

**USA**

God's blessings to you! Hello to all American truckers and those who are driving now while listening to New Life Radio!

**Sergey Ivanyuk**

**Vyazma, Russia**

Hello NLR! You make my last hour at work so pleasant -- after *Hour on Request*, I come home full of life and not tired and broken! Thank you that you exist. It is so nice to listen to you.

**Anastasia Shiptsova**

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**LISTEN in daily at  
www.NLRadio.net**



## Ukraine

Thank you! This is the best radio I have ever heard. I always listen to you via Internet at work. Good luck to you! **Mikhail Levitski**

## Vancouver, Washington USA

Greetings to you dear New Life Radio. My name is Zhenya and I live in Vancouver. I am very thankful to God for you – this is such a blessing to hear God's word and praise God through radio. I am listening to you every day for over 4 years already at work and on the road and at home, and every time I get to know something new about our Lord through your programs! Every morning I wake up knowing what will be on the air at that time. May God richly bless you. My dream is that you would be on FM all over Russia on the highest level – they need it there so much! My wife and I continue praying for you. Love you. **Zhenya Zakharov**



## UPDATE: Extremist law against Freedom of religion passes in Russia: its impact on Christian radio and NLR uncertain.

In our June newsletter, we informed our partners that Russia was entering a new era of religious persecution as new laws were being contemplated that may prevent people from expressing the exclusivity of the Christian faith, through the threat of government-enforced fines and possible jail sentences.

Sadly, President Putin signed a bill into law during July that would introduce jail terms of up to one year and fines of up to 300,000 rubles (\$9,600) for "public actions expressing clear disrespect for society and committed with intent to offend the religious feelings of the faithful." If committed in a house of worship (by a pastor) the maximum punishment would be three years in prison and a fine of 500,000 rubles."

The law provides officials with the means to stifle Christian witness in society if it offends anyone's religious sentiment, regardless of which faith (or none) they have.

NEW LIFE RADIO's Dima Vatoulya commented that the law is in full force and the station has yet to see how it will be implemented concerning radio broadcasts. With our Gospel programming as the focus of our work, NLR will remain bold on the air, proclaiming the exclusivity of Christ's saving work, and that no man comes to the Father, but by JESUS! Our radio staff may face legal challenges for what we broadcast in Jesus' name, but this will not deter us. We ask all of our partners to pray for the Lord's protection daily as we proclaim Christ to a lost nation who can only be saved by HIM!

## SATELLITE UPDATE on Tricolor



As of this writing, NLR is awaiting a new satellite license for our current audio channel on the *Tricolor* satellite that puts us into millions of homes across Russia.

NLR expects to have this license sometime this summer, and once we obtain it, we will be forced to sign a new contract with the satellite operators.

CRFR is now looking for new partners to help us cover the **\$1200** monthly charge we must pay to keep our signal on *Tricolor*. If you or your church can help us on a regular basis, please contact Daniel Johnson at our NY office. SIX churches pledging just \$200 a month can provide Christian radio for millions!

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CRFR BUDGET goal for New Life Radio:  
**\$25,000 per month**

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CONTACT:

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