

daughter-in-law) said, “We need more seminars like that.” Our church family in Don did a wonderful job catering the event, and our young ladies also attended the event.



Pastor Pavel speaks to the crowd. On the front row are four of our young church’s ladies: Snezhana, Susha, Olga, and Tamara. It looks like it was a full house!

THE CHURCH HELPS WITH COMMUNITY CLEANUP

On May 6th, the Don church family got together to work at cleaning up the village gathered for its annual village cleanup. Part of the reason to do this is because May 9th is the Russian Victory Day, a day of celebration similar to our Fourth of July festivities. Grateful for the help, the Mayor assigned the church family to an area of the village littered mostly with discarded alcohol bottles. One of the helpers was young Vasily. You may remember that Vasily’s mom died from alcoholism, and his dad continues to drink heavily. The church was fortunate to be able to send Vasily to a Christian church camp this past summer, where he was involved in Bible classes while making new Christian friends. Pastor Andrey reports that as Vasily was cleaning up the debris, he asked the question, “Why doesn’t somebody ban this vodka? When I grow up, I will make sure it is banned!” It appears the Lord is building up another Warrior for His kingdom!



Young Vasily smiles for the camera as he carries trash to the dump truck.



Simeon’s wife Anya and their two children Nikita and Violetta, help w/ the trash.

THE CHURCH FAMILY PARTICIPATES IN RUSSIAN MEMORIAL DAY

On June 21st, all across Russia are many memorial ceremonies that commemorate the attack of Nazi Germany upon Russia. It is called Russian Memorial Day. Pastor Andrey reports what a blessing it was for the church to be asked to be an active participant in the event. Of course, in the old days of Soviet rule, that would never have been possible. Given the recent “tightening” by the Russian government, it might not be possible again. However, the church family grabbed onto this opportunity to participate and present the Gospel.



Members of the Church family at the Memorial Day event: Marina, Zoya, Raya, Maria, Antonena, 2 ladies from the local Veteran’s council, and Nina. Look how Marina has grown up—you may remember that Marina was one of the little girls that first looked over the fence when Andrey and William first arrived in Don. You also may remember that Nina is Susha’s grandmother, who was not a Believer until Susha became a Believer. Nina would write articles to the paper about how much good William and Andrey were doing in the village, but she didn’t want to become a Believer herself. And then Susha became a Believer and then Susha’s mom gave her life to Christ. Then Nina followed—praise the Lord! Finally, you will always remember that Antonena was the only Christian in Don for years & years. She kept praying that God would start something in Don. Then William and Andrey showed up.



Simeon, Zoya & Raya singing a Christian song at the Memorial Day event.



Happy 5th Anniversary to Pastor Andrey & Lena, pictured here w/ Aaron and Daniel!