

FEBC-Eurasia-RRBI Report, 2024-25 Report

June 30, 2025

Dear Mark and the RRBI Board,

Thank you for standing with us in ministry to Russia and Ukraine.

As the war in Ukraine drags on, people are reaching the limits of their endurance. Grief, trauma, and broken relationships have left many searching—for answers, for healing, for hope. Now more than ever, Ukrainians need the hope only Christ can give.

In Russia, the ministry continues to bear fruit—even as government pressure steadily increases. In this time of turmoil and confusion, we are committed to being a steady, compassionate voice—reflecting the love and forgiveness found in Christ.

FEBC-Ukraine FM Stations

Here is an updated map, showing FEBC’s stations in Ukraine:



FEBC-Ukraine: Faith on the Frontlines

FEBC-Ukraine operates 10 FM stations—four of which have been captured or destroyed during the war.

In September 2024, our station in the Donetsk region was forced off the air. Just three months later, in December, the station in Pokrovsk was destroyed—along with much of the city.

For the last six months of 2024, Pokrovsk was the only station still broadcasting in the region. Soldiers told us they listened every day—and were amazed it stayed on the air as long as it did.

Read the remarkable story of how the Pokrovsk transmitter was saved at the end of this report.

1. Direct broadcasting ministry in both countries

These programs are currently led by Rev. Baranov in Russia and Rev. Sergey Balayan in Ukraine. Together, they have been listened to over 56,000 times and have sparked more than 500 meaningful listener responses.

In Ukraine, we recommend transitioning RRBI support from Rev. Sergey Balayan to Alina Kutilova as the new RRBI Gospel proclaimer. You can find more information about Alina later in this report.

2. Counselors in Kyiv's Media Evangelism Center

RRBI-Supported Counselors Are Reaching Thousands with Christ-Centered Hope

Every month, RRBI-supported counselors provide compassionate, Christ-centered care to over 1,400 people through phone calls and online chats.

They pray with listeners, walk with them through family crises, trauma, fear, anxiety, and depression—and most importantly, they share the hope of Christ. Each conversation is an opportunity to present the Gospel, offer prayer, and connect listeners with local believers who can help them grow in faith.

In total, more than 2,100 individuals received deeper ministry—many led to the Lord or helped through critical situations, including teenagers struggling with suicidal thoughts, some in immediate danger.

Despite ongoing technical disruptions caused by the war, we are witnessing a growing number of listeners reaching out—and an even greater openness to the Gospel.

3. Inna Tsaruk, FEBC-Ukraine lead programmer

Inna's broadcasts were affecting people from all walks of life—from other young women, to soldiers, war-widows, teenagers. Inna is constantly heading from one listener meeting to another, sharing Christ with people and inviting them to church.



In the photo on the left, Inna (right) is with one of her listeners, Dana (left), who wrote to her asking about going to church. The next day, they went to church together, and Dana really enjoyed the service. She was befriended by several other young women from the church.

Inna also holds a weekly women's Bible study in the Kyiv Media Evangelism Center, bringing together women who previously had no interest in Christianity. They gather together to read the Bible, talk about their problems, and pray for one another. "I have to teach them how to pray, most have never even heard someone pray directly to God before."

And many listeners who cannot meet in person write to Inna. "I don't have time to respond to all the messages I receive," says Inna. "People are reaching out, looking for hope. And they know that the Jesus I know and talk about can give them that hope."

Surprisingly, many of these listeners are soldiers who are fighting on the frontlines. Inna has recently been visiting more dangerous parts of the country, meeting with many who listened to her from the frontlines.

"I visited one of my listeners in the hospital," said Inna. "He is a soldier who was injured in the war."

'I'm more spiritual than religious,' he said. 'But I've been listening to your program here. I'm learning a lot about God, and some things are starting to make sense that I never understood. I play your program on loudspeaker, and the other soldiers here listen to your program with me.'

“I gave him a pocket Bible,” said Inna, “and I told him more about Jesus. Please pray for him to put his faith in Christ and find eternal life.”

NOT TO PUBLISIZE, PLEASE:

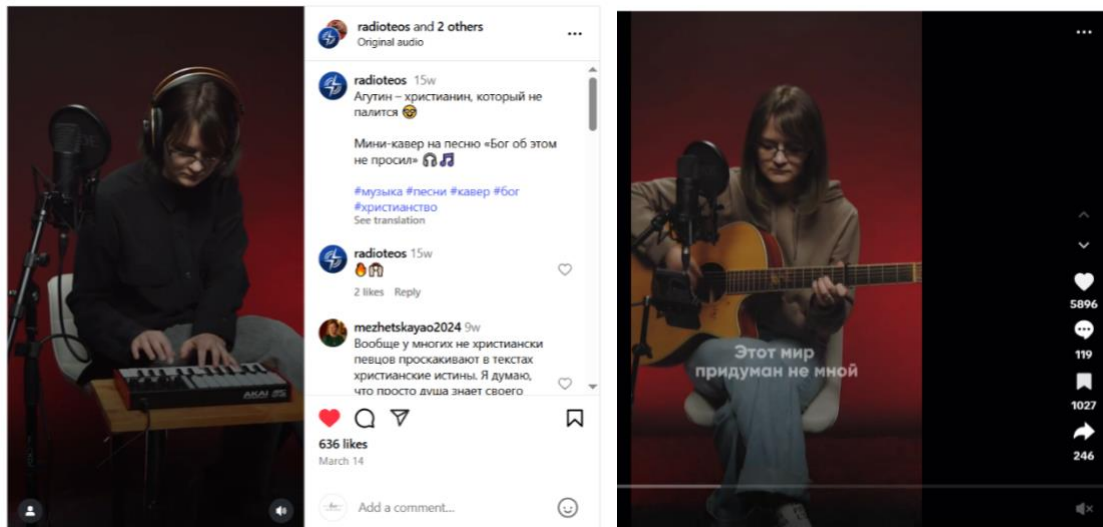
Weeks ago, a tragedy struck Inna’s family – in the midst of turmoil, country-wide and personal, her brother committed suicide. Inna is now ministering to her parents, who are opening their hearts to Jesus amid their incredible pain.



4. Follow-up & New Media Ministry in Russia

Maria Khmelinina

Maria’s musical project attracts many non-Christians. Her covers of Christian songs spark many deep conversations about God with listeners, who are often hearing about Jesus like this for the first time.



<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DHLZAFbqzqb/?igsh=MTFrcm1oN2d2bGhhNg==>
https://www.tiktok.com/@maryfinik/video/7514639416564993287?_r=1&_t=ZS-8xWoJIVnv5E

During small, in-person gatherings hosted by Maria, these young people can listen to these songs live, sing their own, and have meaningful conversations about Christ. “People I would never expect open up to the Gospel after hearing it in this new and personal way.”

Roma, a 27-year-old pastry chef, came to one of these musical evenings.

“This was only the second time that I sang in front of others—it was exhilarating! A lot of my songs are about pain and loneliness. I don’t know why...I seem to have everything, a good job, a family, but it feels like something is missing. I feel so unhappy.

“So it really drew me in when I heard your songs. They talk about such deep things. At first, I came to your program for the music, but I kept listening because of the conversations about Jesus.”

Maria and Roma spoke about Christ during the musical evening, and continued talking online. He visited the Moscow studio, and agreed to come to church. At church, he read the Bible for the first time, made new Christian friends, and had a personal conversation with the pastor.

"This was incredible!" Roma said. "Next time, I'm bringing my wife with me."



Maria and Roma at church.

Maria also hosts a video podcast where creative Christians share their faith stories, sparking meaningful conversations about God—even with skeptics and atheists.



https://vk.com/video-1055814_456244783

Nastya, 31, was a long-time listener before reaching out to Maria:

“I was exhausted and felt empty, like I was just going through the motions. Around Easter, you started talking on your program about what the holiday actually meant. For some reason, I felt prompted to reach out.

“I shared what I was going through, and somehow we ended up talking about faith. I’d never really taken the Bible seriously, but something you said sparked my interest.

“I even asked where I could get a Bible—something I never thought I’d do. When you gave me the Gospel of John, it meant so much. I’ve started reading it, and it’s beautiful.”

Nastya is planning to come to church with Maria, though it scares her. Please pray for her to overcome her fear

Svetlana Sarapulova

Svetlana partners with her husband Evgeny, helping him manage their massive audience, answering viewer questions and coordinating a group of volunteers who are able to help respond to an overwhelming number of questions and comments.

So many listeners have responded to the program, talking with our evangelists and putting their faith in Jesus. Like Ivan, who writes:

“I thank God for sending me your programs. They opened my eyes to the possibility of there being a God—something I had never even considered. Now, I am a Christian, and your programs are helping me grow in my relationship with Jesus. Thank you!”

Andrey Gutul

While Andrey works out of Moldova, he has a large audience among Russian-speaking people in the region. We see God’s hand on Andrey. With simple, Christ-centered short messages, he is reaching millions of Russian-speaking people. Only one of his social media accounts has more than 10 million followers.

Many people write to him from Russia:

“I don’t know why I’m writing. Maybe just because there’s no one else to write to,” wrote a man from a small town in Siberia.

He spent years using various drugs—he started by “experimenting,” but quickly spiraled. His parents kicked him out, and he bounced between friends’ places and sleeping at the train station. He was hospitalized multiple times and once nearly died from an overdose.

“While scrolling through Instagram, I came across one of your videos—one about hell, actually. That video touched me, and I started watching you regularly.

“I’ve completed rehab, and I’ve been clean now for more than six months. It was that random encounter with your video that marked the beginning of my journey to freedom.”

A girl from Tyumen, Siberia writes:

“I always felt lonely and unwanted. My parents were busy with their own lives, I didn’t have many friends—I found myself thinking ‘Why and I even alive?’ more and more often.

“One day, in a moment of despair, I came across one of your videos. You said that God knows and loves each person. Those words pierced me. I started watching all of your videos after that.

“After a couple of weeks, for the first time in a long time, I felt hope. I began to pray—not memorized prayers, but in my own words, like you talked about. I opened the Bible for the first time in my life—and for the first time in years, I feel truly alive.

“Now I’m slowly rebuilding my relationship with my parents, learning to forgive, and I know that my life is not an accident, but part of God’s plan.”

5. Proposed Transition: Supporting Alina Kutilova in Ukraine

We propose that RRBI shift its support from Sergey Balayan to Alina Kutilova, our new broadcaster in Kyiv. Sergey may soon be drafted into the Ukrainian army, and we strongly sense God’s hand on Alina’s ministry. Many are coming to Christ through her broadcasts—and some listeners have even experienced healing as she prays over the air.

Alina was born into a Christian family but lost her father at a young age. Her mother, a devoted woman of prayer, worked two jobs to support the family. As a child, Alina suffered from a severe stutter that left her unable to speak clearly. Fearful and shy, she watched her mother pray—and one day, she too turned to Jesus for healing. Within months, she was completely healed.

Determined not just to speak, but to communicate powerfully, Alina pursued acting—despite the doubts of others. She completed her studies, landed small roles, and moved to Kyiv just as the war began. Acting jobs disappeared overnight. One evening, broken and in prayer, Alina cried out to God: *“Lord, maybe You can use me in radio.”*

That same week, one of FEBC’s morning broadcasters was drafted into military service—and we needed someone to fill our most popular time slot. A few days later, Alina stepped into that role.

NO FINANCIAL SUPPORT CHANGES ARE NEEDED IF RRBI CONFIRMS THIS TRANSITION



Alina Kutilova at the broadcast studio

6. Prayer Needs

- Pray for broadcasters who have lost family and loved-ones in the war. Everyone on the FEBC-Ukraine team has lost someone close to them.
- Pray for travel protections for FEBC-Ukraine’s broadcasters as they travel into dangerous areas of the country to meet with listeners.
- Pray for Russian broadcasters, who are facing threats and increased pressure from the government. Some have had to leave the country for a time.
- Pray for freedom to continue broadcasting the Gospel in Russia. Government pressure continues to increase on Internet freedom, and especially on religious freedoms. Several ministers who have spoken about the war have been imprisoned.
- Please pray for those who have loved ones away at war. A family member of one of FEBC-Ukraine’s broadcasters is currently lost at war.
- Please pray for spiritual, emotional, and physical strength for FEBC’s follow-up evangelists, who are responding to an increased number of very difficult calls from listeners dealing with hopelessness, suicide, loss of loved ones, intense fear, etc. This can be very draining for our evangelists.
- Ukraine has been facing heavy battering across the country. The future of several parts of Ukraine are unclear as the frontlines keep moving. Please pray for the people across the country who are under threat and fear of death or conquering. We receive many

responses from listeners saying how important FEBC's programs are in this time, as we read scripture and pray with our listeners.

- Please continue to pray for Inna Tsaruk and her parents, as they are grieving the loss of their son.

7. Listener Stories

"RRBI programs were life-changing for me!" said a listener named Svetlana, from Russia. "I became a Christian through them, and now, you encourage me through them. Day by day, you teach me to rely on Jesus.

"The relationship between my husband and I was over. He left us. Now, he has come home, and he's listening to you too. He isn't a Christian yet, but he is beginning to change, becoming more gentle.

"As I keep listening to your broadcasts, I grow in my faith. You help me respond wisely to my husband. We are rebuilding our relationship now. Thank you!"

"I would never have taken the time to talk to a Christian before listening to your programs," said Svetlana, a Russian listener to the program. "I see how you help people, and I know several families that have been saved through your programs!

"My friends and I talk about your programs all the time, even though we aren't Christians. Recently, we met a Christian woman. Before, we would have just ignored her. But now, we listen to her, because she talks about God the way that you do!"

Please pray for listeners like Svetlana, whose hearts are being opened to the Gospel through FEBC's programs. Our heart is to reach the unchurched with love of God.

"You helped me during the most difficult time of my life," wrote Tamara, from Russia. "When I lost my daughter to a drunk driver, I was broken. I hated the person who had taken her from me. I was filled with anger.

"But the way you talk about forgiveness in your programs, the way you help people who have experienced tragedy, like me—it changed me. My heart started healing, I even started praying to God, which I had never done before!"

Please pray for listeners like Tamara, whose lives are being transformed by FEBC's programs.

A listener named Irina and her husband write:

“My husband and I weren't religious, but we were pretty sure there was something supernatural in the world. But as we watched your programs, we realized that there was more than just 'something supernatural' – there was God. We've even started reading the Bible together.”

Please pray for couples like Irina and her husband, who are planning to come to church soon. Please pray that they come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

“Your broadcasts helped me so much,” said Sergey, from Russia. “A few years ago, I was at the point of death. I reached out to you for help, desperate. You helped me through the most difficult time in my life.

“I started to believe in God because of you. I know that you couldn't have helped me like that on your own...it had to be God working through you. You have helped me grow in my faith so much since then! Thank you!”

Please pray for listeners like Sergey, who reach out to FEBC in the midst of great trials, and find the God of comfort.

“A bomb went off right by our house,” said Ihor. “The windows and doors were blown off. I tell my wife that I'm okay, but I'm not. I can't tell her that I'm hurt and scared. I feel like I'm coming apart. I lash out in anger and I don't know why.”

“As you talked about the hope we can have in God, I started to believe it might be possible. That He could heal me too.”

Ihor prayed with FEBC-Ukraine's counsellor and put his faith in Christ. Please pray for him as he begins his journey with Christ.

“I’ve visited every Orthodox church I can, looking for God,” said Lyudmila. “I need God’s help to save my son. I see him heading in a bad direction.”

FEBC’s prayer counselor shared the Gospel with Lyudmila, and when she heard about God’s love, she realized that she was the one who needed to be saved. She put her faith in Jesus, asking for God’s forgiveness.

“Thank you for sharing Jesus with me! I thought I knew about Him already, but now I truly do! I believe he can save my son too!”

Please pray for Lyudmila in her new walk with Christ, and for her son to come to know the Lord as well!

Many listeners in Ukraine are being overwhelmed by the constant pressure of the war.

“I’m very worried about the explosions. They keep getting closer. I’m afraid the roof will collapse soon. I used to be able to cope with this, but I can’t anymore. My strength is gone. This is overkill. I think I even scare the children myself. I can’t eat, or cook, or wash dishes anymore. I stopped taking care of myself.”

Oksana’s voice was shaking as she spoke to FEBC’s counsellors. They shared the Gospel with her, inviting her to put her trust and her life in Jesus’s hands.

“Thank you for helping me begin my relationship with Jesus. I don’t know what I expected when I called you, but finding real hope...that was too good to believe! Thank you!”

Sergey was looking for God as he struggled with his disability.

“I know that Jesus is supposed to have died for our sins, but that’s about all I know. I went to church, but I didn’t understand anything they said. I just want God to help me with my disability.”

When Sergey learned that he could have a relationship with God, he prayed with FEBC’s prayer counsellor, putting his faith in Jesus.

“I didn’t know anyone cared. I didn’t know that He cared. Thank you, I’ll be going to the church you recommended. I want to meet more people like you!”

“My husband and I have been living apart for over half a year now,” said a listener named Lyubov.

“We both love each other, but we can’t seem to work things out. Things just keep getting worse. It’s been such a blessing to learn about relationships from your programs. I’ve started applying what I am learning to my own marriage.”

Lyubov put her faith in Jesus as she spoke with FEBC’s prayer evangelists.

“Thank you for helping me in one of the most painful times of my life. Now I have a relationship with God, and I know that He is with me!”

“I’m afraid of death,” said Olga, an older woman living in Ukraine. “Not just that I will die—though I worry about that too. I am worried about my son-in-law, who is fighting in the war. My daughter lives far away from me... I’m all alone. And I’m sick.”

As Olga heard the Gospel, heard about God’s love for her as a daughter, she began to silently cry. Olga put her faith in Jesus and promised to read the Bible.

“Thank you...I thought I was alone...thank you for being with me—for introducing me to my Father.”

THE HANDSHAKE OF THE "UNKNOWN" SOLDIER

A life—and a transmitter—saved

One of the stations we operate in Eastern Ukraine is located in Pokrovsk, a city now caught in the midst of fierce battles. The front line is just three miles away.

I have friends and family still living there, enduring daily bombardments with little rest or peace.

FEBC was the last station still broadcasting in Pokrovsk. "I don't understand how your signal is still on the air," one official in Kyiv told me. "All the others have been taken out." And yet, by God's grace, our station continued to proclaim the message of hope—until a recent, devastating attack brought it to silence.

Days later, a soldier walked into one of our offices in another city, carrying a box. "I'm glad I found you," he said, and opened it to reveal a small transmitter.



God willing, this transmitter will be used again, soon, to bring the Gospel to multitudes.

"This is from your station in Pokrovsk. "I'm stationed there—and I became one of your listeners. FEBC was my lifeline, my source of hope as I lived through hell: losing friends, sleepless nights, questioning why I was still alive." Our staff stared in disbelief. "You went up the tower under fire... just to rescue this?"

"Through this transmitter I heard the Good News."

"To you, it may look like a piece of equipment," he said quietly. "But through this transmitter, I heard the Good News. Through it, I met Jesus—my Lord and Savior. I'm alive because of what I heard."

He smiled through tears. "I have to go," he said, shaking hands with our stunned team.



And just like that, he was gone. We never got his name. **But it's written where it matters most—in the Lamb's Book of Life.**

Friends, your prayers and your financial support are helping us share the Gospel with millions—not only in Ukraine, but across Eurasia. Thank you!

While many in the West are understandably growing weary of news from Ukraine, the need is only increasing. And **every gift you give becomes even more vital**—for us, for the Lord's work, and for those who are still hearing the Gospel for the first time.

One day, in eternity, countless hands will reach out in gratitude—including the hand of a once-unknown soldier.

Victor P. Akhterov, PhD, is the senior coordinator of FEBC-Eurasia, which includes Ukraine, Russia, and six other countries.

