

CRFR Presentation
with overview and challenges
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Overview

- *Christian Radio for Russia* was created by a former Covenant missionary, Daniel Johnson, in conjunction with ECC Department of World Mission Secretary Emeritus Raymond Dahlberg, and ECC Secretary Emeritus for Church Growth and Evangelism, Dr. Robert Larson, back in 2001.
- An FM radio station called New Life Radio was created in 1996 in Magadan, Russia. This was the first Christian FM radio station in Russia.

- In 2000, Dan set up a radio broadcast center in Moscow, designed to provide nationwide Christian radio for all of Russia and the former Soviet Union.
- The broadcasts were transmitted as a satellite radio channel via 2 different satellites and as streaming audio on the Internet. NLR has two FM radio affiliates in Russia (Dudinka and Aktubinsk)
- This station broadcasts Christian music and inspirational messages 24/7 to Russian-speaking people around the world.
- This world-wide broadcast ministry was created with the help of the Covenant Department of World Missions and is now a stand-alone Christian non-profit that is supported by Covenant churches and Covenant individuals.

Historical lookback:

- In addition to the northern Alaska Eskimo villages, the Covenant-sponsored radio station, KICY, in Nome Alaska was being received by Russians along the Chukotka coast of the Russian Far East. Despite potential risks, a few Russian listeners corresponded with the station to let them know how much they enjoyed receiving Christian programming in this spiritually sterile part of the world. It would take 18 years before KICY could personally contact Russians who listened to them (this occurred in 1989 as the border between Alaska and Chukotka opened, with Daniel Johnson being one of the instigators of this).
- In 1993, The Annual Meeting of the Covenant, set out the dream of reaching Russians for Christ by officially adopting Russia as its next mission field. They commissioned Daniel Johnson as their first missionary to Russia, assigned to develop Christian radio on behalf of the Christian community in Russia.
- After a three year effort, New Life Radio FM began operations in 1996.
- Sensing the need to provide Christian radio to every community, in 1999, Daniel relocated to Moscow to initiate a Christian radio network that would enable reaching millions of Russians. With the help of the Covenant and HCJB, New Life Radio set up studios in a state radio building located by Red Square.
- Shortly before the station began broadcasting nationally via satellite in December 2000, the Covenant Dept of World Mission decided that they could not continue supporting this kind of on-going infrastructure. So they withdrew their support and called Daniel home.
- This was a huge blow to Daniel. But, he knew he was called by God to this ministry work. He decided that this world-wide ministry needed to be continued. With the help of recently retired Covenant denominational leaders, a stand-alone non-profit called *Christian Radio for Russia* was created.
- Over the ensuing years, the New Life Radio broadcasting was being done on 2 satellites that serve all of Europe and Asia. NLR began 24/7 Internet radio broadcasts in 2006 to reach Russians on every continent at www.NLRadio.net

Programming

- New Life Radio today serves as a voice for evangelical Christianity across many Russian-speaking nations and provides free airtime to a variety of Christian denominations and ministries that produce Christ-centered, Biblically-sound programs. Its current satellite has over 100+ million homes connected to it.
- NLR is formatted to reach young people who are victimized by a culture that offers no spiritual insight on living their lives according to God's standard.
- Our programming features information with Biblical guidelines concerning sex and marriage, personal conduct, the ravages of addiction (drugs and alcohol), and how youth can find NEW LIFE in a personal relationship with Christ.

Challenges...

- Christian leaders in Russia lament Russia's state as irreligious, immoral and without the force of law. Without integrating Christian principles of life based on Scripture, it is understandable why Russia is in the state it is today. Sadly, the Church has little access to secular media to address the nation.
- Since Russians are media-savvy people, Christians are able to effectively use radio and internet for evangelism and discipleship.
- NLR is like having a Covenant missionary presence in every city where Russians live, which is critical, because in 2015, the Covenant can no longer place full time missionaries in Russia due to Russian government restrictions.

How Covenant congregations can help in 2015

- If your church has a praise band, have them cut a CD so we can share it on the air. You can also send us good quality Christian CCM CDs to share.
- If you know of Russian-speaking neighbors that you want to witness to, give them New Life Radio's website so they can tune into Christian radio in their mother tongue (tune in at www.NLRadio.net or on Apple iPhones/Androids)
- A Sunday School class or Bible study group could sponsor ONE HOUR on the air for \$27.
- ***NLR needs to get back on a satellite that will give them full coverage of Russia, and we are seeking 40 Covenant Churches to commit to pledging \$52 a month, for 3 years, in order to sign a 3 year contract for the YAMAL satellite.***
- Since the first day of broadcasting, NLR has been commercial-free, has no paid programs, and did not ask for money on the air. We have offered our airtime free to any pastor or church that has solid doctrinally sound programs that focus on building the church
- We have had to trust God to provide the funds in order to keep this wonderful ministry available day and night around the world.
- The problems in our economy have affected us just like other ministries. CRFR needs to raise \$20,000 per month to properly operation this global network. Our radio missionaries have worked heroically under very difficult conditions and they deserve our support, so they can reach their own people for Christ. Russian-speaking people around the world need the Gospel desperately and New Life Radio is an incredible tool for outreach.

Contact CRFR in New York at crfr@juno.com

signal range of
the Yamal satellite

