Dear Oklahoma District LWML,

I'm writing to thank you for your very generous support of my ministry here in St. Petersburg, Russia. Usually, I would send a handwritten note to thank you, but one of the difficulties of being a missionary is dealing with the problems of international mailing systems 😊. Yours was a special gift, so I wanted to take the time to thank you personally for thinking of the ministry in Russia and sacrificially giving towards this effort. Gifts like yours are the only way I can continue to serve here, so your donation was very meaningful to me!

I don't know how much you know about the ministry in Russia, but we (the LCMS) have a partnership with the Ingrian Lutheran Church body, a church that has been in Russia since the 17th century. Our goal is to help and support them as they rebuild their congregations following the persecution of communism. The church is growing here, and God is at work. But there is still a lot to do—often there aren't enough pastors or church workers, and those who are serving may not have had a chance to receive theological education. Through my work here I assist with the education of pastors and church workers and contribute to the work in the St. Petersburg parishes in any way I can. I do all sorts of things, from proofreading and translation work, to teaching outreach English classes and helping with children's programs. Your donation helps to cover my living and travel expenses, as well as any books, materials or technology I need to do my job most effectively.

I would like to add you to my newsletter mailing list, so you can receive updates on the work that is happening here. You are free to unsubscribe from the list at any time. I hope these newsletters will encourage you that God is working here in Russia and I hope they also serve as a reminder to pray. There are always a lot of obstacles to our ministry, and we need to stay on our knees, relying on God to guide us for each step.

I pray that you all have a blessed weekend!

Peace,

Alyssa Anders