



RUSSIA

Open FOR BUSINESS

The Global Christian Literature Center (www.globalcenter.narod.ru) distributes books from Estonia to Siberia.



This past April, the Global Christian Literature Center—envisioned by founding director and publisher Tony Rybarczyk—was registered in Moscow, Russia as a commercial, non-profit organization to be a major publisher and distributor of Christian resources throughout Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union.

Though registering the enterprise means it will have to dole out more in government taxes and cope with the labyrinth of state-required accounting procedures, Rybarczyk is relieved that the organization “will be operating ethically and legally.”

What truly excites Rybarczyk is the ministry potential of the Center. “We can now legally purchase, distribute, and sell our products throughout Russia and beyond,” says Rybarczyk, an Assemblies of God missionary.

Russian resources

The Center is well-positioned to distribute evangelistic, discipleship,

and theological literature in Russian.

Training items are primarily Global/ICI University course material. “We have just translated and produced two new courses in Russian,” says Rybarczyk, “titled *Man and Sin* and *Evangelism Today*.”

Discipleship resources include Life Publishers’ Sunday school materials for all age levels, the *Full Life Study Bible*, books on Christian living (such as Charles Swindoll’s *The Strong Family*), inspirational fiction, and Bible commentaries (coming releases will address the Pentateuch, Acts, I and II Corinthians).

The Center distributes Teen Challenge International’s Russian-language resources that give hope to recovering alcoholics, drug abusers, and other troubled individuals.

Besides distributing the products of other organizations, the Center has its own publications. Its latest release is *God Has A Wonderful Plan for*

Your Life: The Myth of the Modern Message, by Ray Comfort.

Distribution

The Center works with pastors, missionaries, staff and students at Bible schools, as well as with Christian and secular bookstores. Also, Susan and Tony Rybarczyk have worked to establish distribution in Rostov-on-Don, for Southern Russia, and in Irkutsk, for the Siberian region; as well as in Kiev, Ukraine; Tblisi, Georgia; Riga, Latvia; Vilnius, Lithuania; and Minsk, Belarus. They have sought contacts in Armenia, Estonia, and other countries in the Baltic region and in Central Asia. “We train nationals to manage the ministries in each country,” says Tony Rybarczyk.

The Center seeks self-sustainability. Rybarczyk often says, “We honor the Church by providing wanted materials, and the Church honors us by paying for them.”

Distribution is done through direct mail, but this can be unreliable, time-consuming, and costly. “For overseas shipments, books must be packaged in 10-pound bundles,” says Rybarczyk. “Shipping a thousand pounds of books requires 100 bundles and thousands of stamps.”

The Rybarczyks also use a vehicle loaded with hundreds of pounds of books to make deliveries to their partners. Aside from individual contacts with distributors and bookstores, Susan and Tony Rybarczyk promote discipleship materials at regional conferences for Pentecostal denominations and other churches.

“We want to serve increasing demands for Christian literature, not only from the Assemblies of God denomination and its missionary partners,” says Tony Rybarczyk, “but from the entire Russian-speaking Christian Church. We pray that our literature will be effective to evangelize the lost and disciple the found.” ♦