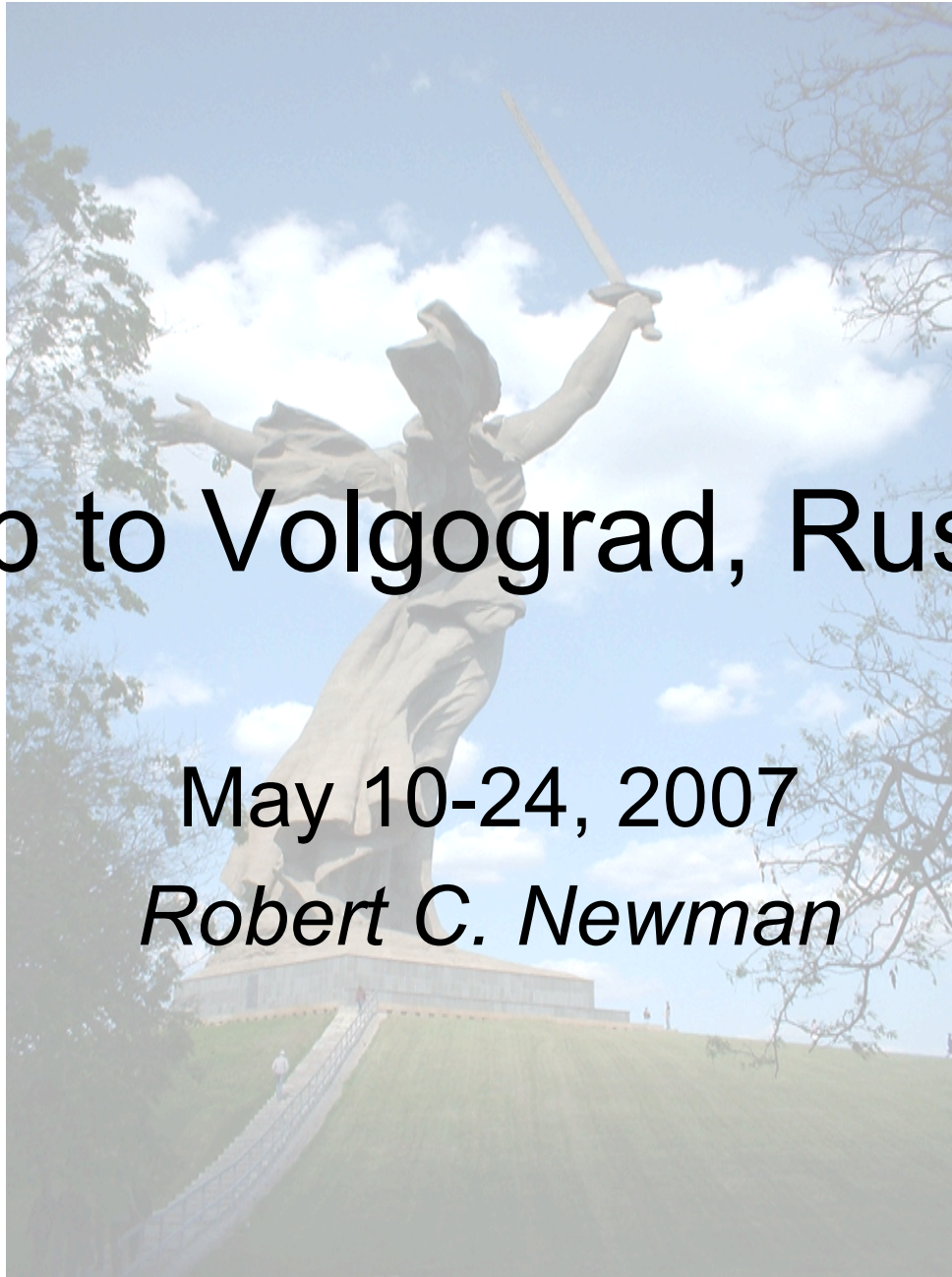


# Trip to Volgograd, Russia

May 10-24, 2007

*Robert C. Newman*



# Introduction

- A sketch of my visit to Russia in May 2007
- This was under the auspices of the International School Project.
- The ISP is a spin-off from the Jesus film, Campus Crusade, and the Co-Mission in the 1990s.



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL PROJECT



# Introduction

- Our leader was Bart Trowbridge...
- ... with whom Dave Dunbar and I made a trip to Russia back in October 1992.
- Here we are shown making a TV program on that trip 15 years ago.



# Our Team

- This time our Team consisted of:
- Bart Trowbridge
- Dick & JoAnne Hinrichs
- Dwight Steen
- Myself
- Sasha Tychkovska, our translator from the Ukraine





# Our Purposes



- To encourage the Christian Teachers Association of Volgograd
- To aid the evangelical churches of the area & encourage them to work on common projects
- To reach out to the universities and secondary schools
- To draw students and others to consider the claims of Jesus

# Arrival at Volgograd

- After one day in Moscow, we flew down to Volgograd, about 600 miles SE.
- Here we were met by Ludmilla Chernichkina from the CTA and Valery Patkevich, our host and pastor of the local Methodist Church.



# Pastors & Drivers

- Here we see Pastor Valery Patkevich of the Methodist Church, who was our host and one of our drivers.
- To the right is Pastor Valodya Ilyechin, another pastor and our other driver.





# Accommodations

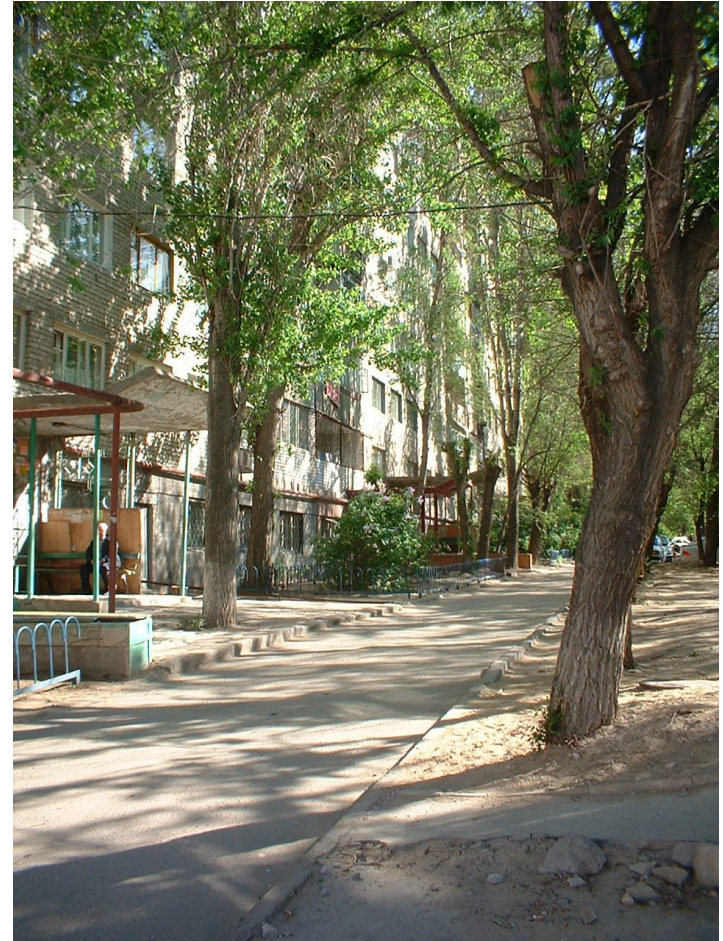
Though staying in 3 different locations, the team usually ate its meals at the Methodist Church of the Transfiguration, home of Pastor Valery and several men and women.





# Accommodations

- Dwight and I stayed in a rented, furnished apartment a few miles away.
- Dick and JoAnne stayed with a widow Katya, who spoke no English.
- Bart & Sasha stayed at the church.



# Christian Teachers Association

The CTA was formed by believing teachers as a result of the Jesus film, and the follow-up seminars training teachers in a curriculum of ethics and values for the public schools.



# Christian Teachers Association

We assisted this group in a seminar they held for teachers of English by giving talks on family values and teaching.





# Christian Teachers Association

We also presented a sample of the Dream Makers & Dream Breakers curriculum, to be taught next fall in the Volgograd area.





# Evangelical Churches

- Each of us spoke on various occasions in several of the churches or to youth groups and home fellowship groups.
- Here we are meeting with youth from 3 churches at the Methodist Church.



# Evangelical Churches

This is South  
Baptist Church,  
where Dwight





# Evangelical Churches

We also met with about a dozen evangelical pastors, telling them about our trip and our personal ministries.



# Evangelical Churches

- This is a home fellowship group that Sasha and I visited.
- These people were from the Christian Missionary Union.
- They had lots of questions for us, including creation, last things, and UFOs.





# Schools

- Various members of our team spoke in three universities and at a number of secondary schools.
- This is Dick, Dwight and our translator Sasha at VAGS, the Volgograd Academy of Government Service.



# Schools

- This is VIB, the Volgograd Institute of Business.
- Here Dwight & Sasha are headed for the entrance of VIB.





# Schools

- Here is a class studying English that I spoke to in VAGS.
- I have just given them US maps so they can see where I come from.



# Schools

- This is a new secondary school, called New Generation School.
- It is a prep-school for VAGS, partly funded by NATO.
- Here we met with about 30 students & several teachers.





# Schools

- Here are a couple shots of the students.
- Dwight and I (with translator Sasha) answered lots of questions they had for us, including what we thought of President Bush.



# English Clubs

- In the evenings, several of us would meet with students for an English Club, in which they could hear & practice English.
- We were also free to speak about Jesus in these informal contexts.



# English Clubs

- After the first meeting, the English Clubs met here in the Children's





# English Clubs

At one of the English Clubs, we played some tunes from American folk songs, and talked about their place in American history.



# Some Sightseeing

- Here & there during our time in Volgograd, and for a day & a half in Moscow on the way back, we did some sightseeing.
- This is the ceremonial walkway up to a huge statue of 'Mother Russia,' a memorial to the defense of Stalingrad.



# Sightseeing, Volgograd

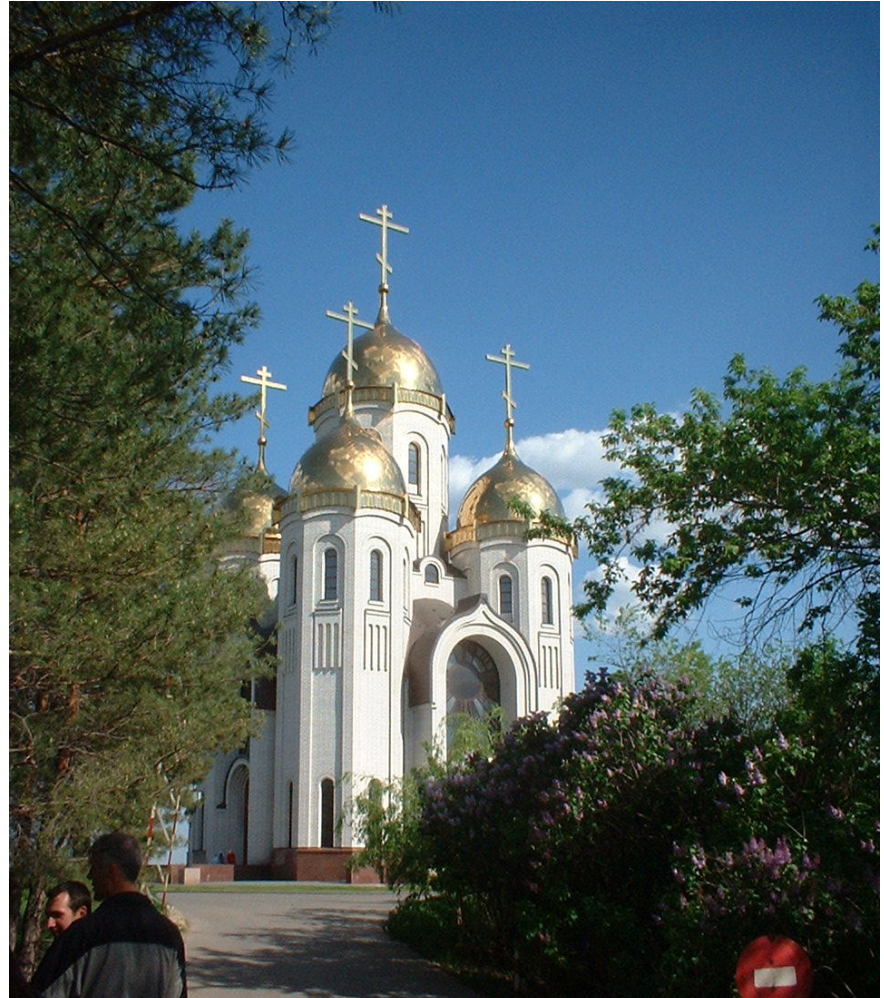
- This is the memorial flame at the same site.
- It is guarded 24 hours a day by soldiers.





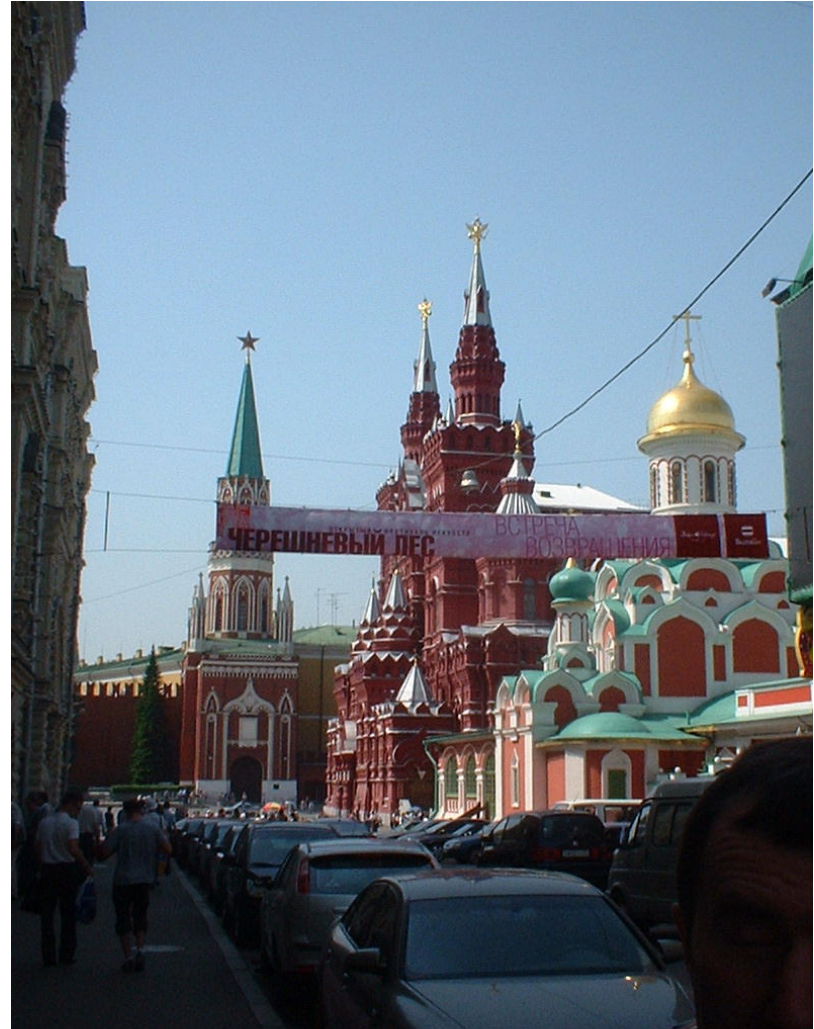
# Sightseeing, Volgograd

This is a Russian Orthodox Cathedral at the same memorial, built since the end of the Communist regime.



# Sightseeing, Moscow

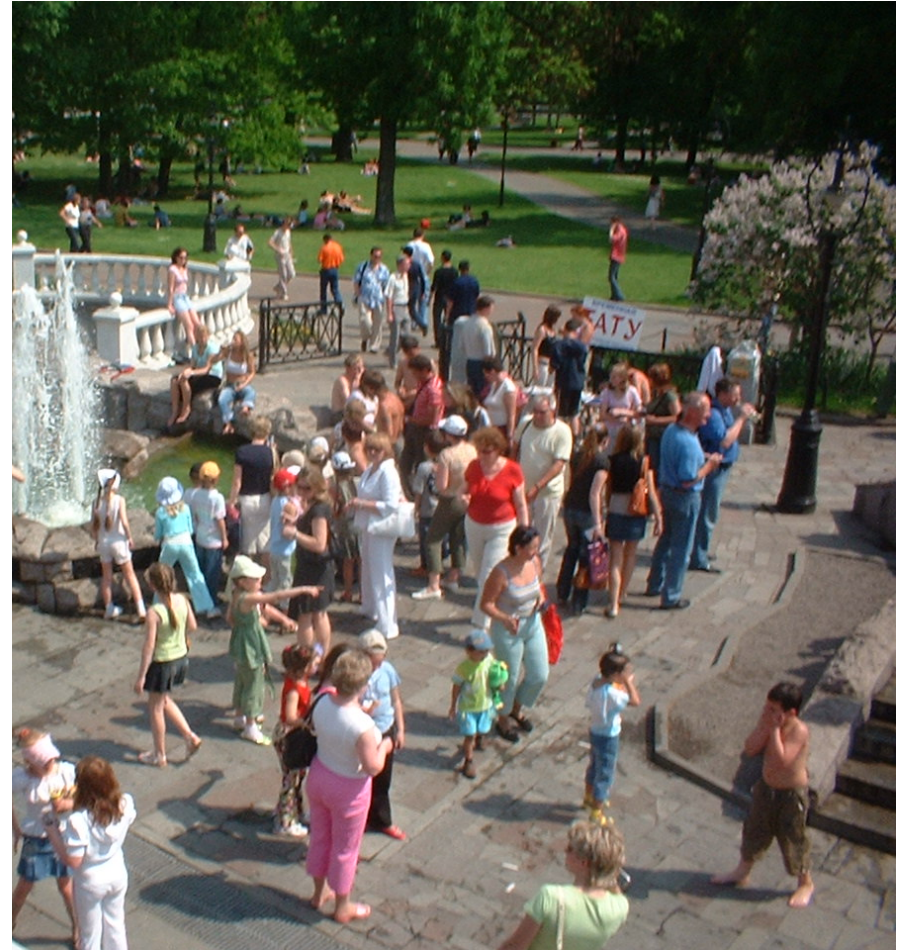
- This is part of Red Square.
- Note the refurbished church.
- Since the fall of Communism, the government has allowed (& sometimes even aided) the rebuilding of Orthodox churches.





# Sightseeing, Moscow

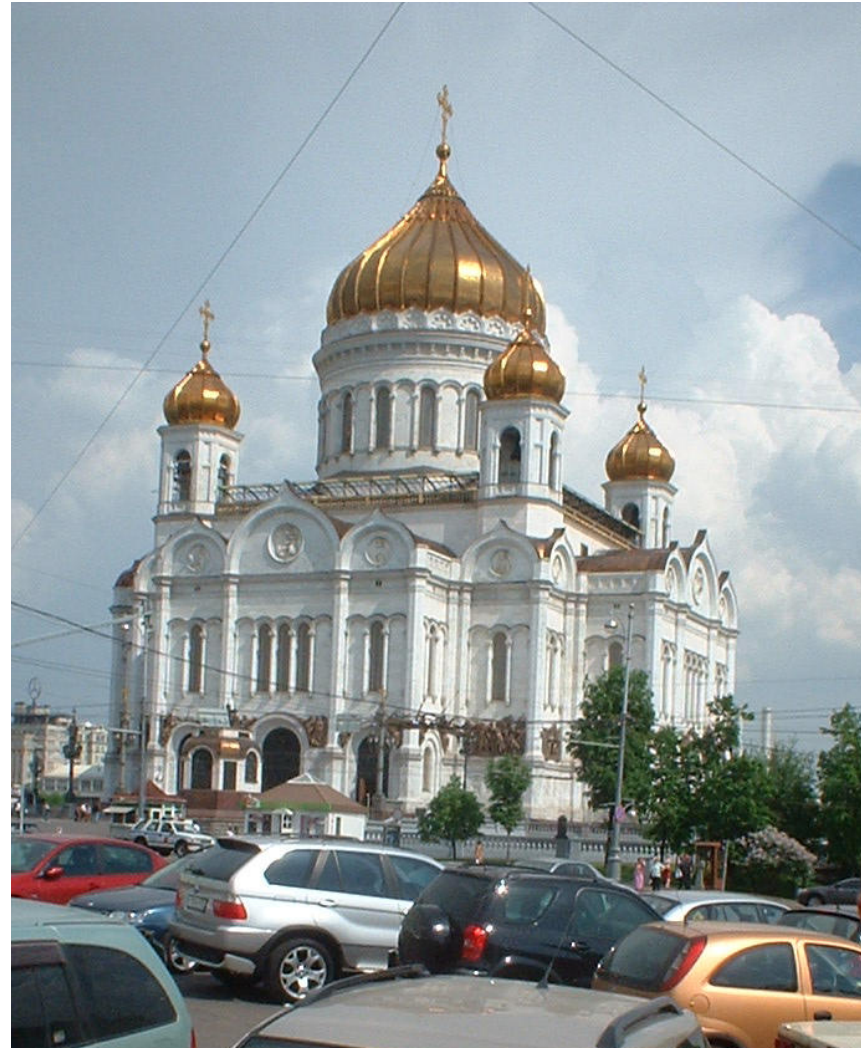
- Everywhere we went, in Volgograd and Moscow, the economy seemed much more vibrant, and the people happier, than 15 years ago.
- But they still need Jesus.





# Sightseeing, Moscow

- This is the rebuilt Church of the Savior, which Stalin destroyed in the 1930s.
- Boris Yeltsin was recently buried here.



# Conclusions



- I found the trip both exciting and encouraging.
- At present, Russia is still open to the Gospel, though there is not as much response as earlier.
- There are now many evangelical churches, where there were only a few 15 years ago.

# Pray for...



- ... the spiritual situation in Russia.
- ... the evangelical churches there
- ... revival in the orthodox church
- ... many to be drawn to Jesus
- ... the International School Project and Christian Teachers Associations
- ... the Dream Maker & Dream Breaker curriculum to be implemented & effective





The End

May the Lord be glorified in  
Russia!