

# CONTACT

ST. PETERSBURG  
CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY

## The Start of 2008 – A New Term at SPbCU

With the New Year comes new plans, or more exactly, the planning for the execution of assignments that were elaborated in the previous 12 months regarding the development of Christian education and the increase of contacts with churches not only in Saint Petersburg but also all over Russia.

For SPbCU, this involves the organization of conferences specifically for young people, general conferences about social problems in our society, conferences exploring the perspectives of evangelical theology, and gatherings of the Scientific-Advisory Council in SPbCU as well as participation in conferences and seminars in various places. You can find information about these on our new site: [www.spbcu.ru](http://www.spbcu.ru)



The Rector of the University, A.I. Negrov, is explaining plans for the development of SPbCU to N. A. Savich, collaborator in the University's department of social connections.

### *The New Semester*

The new semester for the students at SPbCU began on January 15, 2008. After registration A.V. Dadochkin, the academic vice-president, met with all the students to explain the transition of SPbCU to the Bolognese system for determining the parameters of educational programs, as was recommended by the Euro-Asian Accrediting Association (EAAA) during their visit in autumn.

The SPbCU evening school started again on January 8. In addition, there are ongoing studies on Christian Leadership which are a joint project of SPbCU and the Presbyteria of Saint Petersburg churches.

SPbCU is continuing the work of realizing its vision: preparing people for service to the society and to the church. Even now it is evident that the new term will be full of activities. In addition to the above mentioned events, there will be sessions for Masters program (March 31-April 18) and for the part-time Bachelor of Christian Service program (March 17-28). Periodic sessions are planned for the city of Cheboksary (February 11-15).

In addition to the ordinary activities for the educational process, the beginning of a new term can also be characterized by the activation of the social life of the university.

## *A Camp for Young People in the Far East*

During an SPbCU chapel service various scenes and pictures from the youth camp "Transfiguration" were presented and stories were shared by Bachelor Theology students. Maxime Chepel who was a very active participant in this camp said: "Last year God presented us with great results. The main thing is that 18 people out of 90 accepted Jesus as their Savior and many believers prayed a prayer of repentance and renewed their relationship with God. We hope that this year God will once again actively help the participants in this project.

A mini-change for Christian youth lasts only 2 days. This is connected with the fact that in youth a change mainly involves the spreading of the Gospel to non-believers; believers don't usually get good spiritual food. This camp is a little conference that gives every participant a chance to get practical knowledge, have a good rest, and communicate with other Christians from Primorye Territory and the Far East.

The program for this camp includes a



A camp for young people in the Far East, "Project Transfiguration".

night of prayer and fasting, praise of God in the mornings, seminars on different topics (the history of Protestantism in Russia; methods of studying the Bible, preparation for marriage and so on). We are expecting 100 participants next summer.

There will also be a trip to Mount Pidan, which will be only for those who live in Vladivostok because the number of participants is limited to 40. This event aims to bring together believers and non-believers and give a chance to non-believers to get a look at the behaviors of Christians in difficult situations. The program includes prayer in the mornings, studying the Bible in the evenings, and various games."

The project has been carefully prepared. The place and aims are defined. There is insufficient money for this project. If you want to support this project for young people you can pray and give a financial gift.

Supplementary information is available on our website: [www.spbcu.ru](http://www.spbcu.ru)

## *A Children's camp in a Neighboring Republic*



Children in the camp 'Friendship'

A representative of Christian organizations in Tajikistan applied to SPbCU for financial help in the organization of a summer camp for children and young people.

Local churches and SPbCU's 1st year students will prepare this project. Some students have worked in this country and know its particularities.

The local church will pay for living arrangements there, food and other needs. But for the realization of the project there is a need for additional money.

You can find more information about this Project on our new site: [www.spbcu.ru](http://www.spbcu.ru).

If God gives you a wish to support this project you can do it! It will be a good deed in the process of spreading the Gospel.

*"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness" (2 Cor. 9:10)*

## *Meetings with Interesting People*

Our tradition of "Meetings with Interesting People" is continuing. The pastor of Holy Trinity Church, V.V. Kazanski, shared his thoughts about 'Loneliness.' Senior lecturer in the state Sea Academy, M.T. Nevolin, gave his testimony and spoke about every-day Christian life. The manager of the Department of National Translations of the Russian Bible Society A.V. Stolyarov, spoke about the projects for Bible Translation on various languages.



In the photo: N.T. Nevolin

## *Student life*

On the initiative of 1st year students, there was a night walk around St Petersburg. They started from the station 'Vasileostrovskaya' and went along the University embankment near the Menshikov Palace. Of course it was necessary to look at the granite book and check its durability. Then we admired the view of the Peter and Paul Fortress from one side of the Neva River and the beautiful panorama of the Winter Palace from the other side. After that we went to the Palace Square with its huge skating rink. Everybody wanted to skate and decided to do so in the near future. The walk aroused a good appetite that got satisfied at a nearby McDonalds.

Here are some of the impressions of the participants:

"I had a good time walking with my class around the historical part of the city" (Larisa Stepanova).

"I have had many walks, but this was the best one" (Bahrom Kalonov).

"I was impressed by the beauty of the city at night. The main thing was that we spent this time all together" (Galina Bankeeva).

"The weather was rather cold but the walk was great" (Firuza Dgumaeva).

"I like these parts of the city. They are my favorites" (Maria Stepanova).

Do you want to have such a walk? Come to St. Petersburg! You can experience the beauty of this city in the company of the students of SPbCU.



The students of SPbCU near Menchikov Palace



## *SPbCU Plans for the Future*

The "Traces of Eternity" conference for youth will be held at SPbCU May 2 - 4, 2008. The topic of the conference this year, "A Global Warming," will be a Christian life-style. Dmitry Popov, a 3rd year student, wrote: "The warming concerns the hearts of believers which have turned from hot into cold ones. A love for God and for people slowly becomes not so important. The aim of the conference is to show each Christian that this problem exists and is real." It is hoped that this will stimulate a real "rise in temperature."

Another conference that will be held in May (26-26) is important, too. Its title is "Christianity and the Solution of Social Problems." The sessions of this conference will be devoted to various aspects of the Christian church, science, and education, ways to strengthen society's spiritual health, and relations between churches in the social sphere.

You can find supplementary information about these and other conferences on our new web site: [www.spbcu.ru](http://www.spbcu.ru)



There will be a Campus Visitation Day at St. Petersburg Christian University in May 2008 which will be held in conjunction with the annual "Tracks of Eternity" conference for young people age 16 to 30. It will all begin at 9:00 A.M. on May 2nd and end at 2:00 P.M. on May 4th.

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