



**Weekly update:
11th March**

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The TV images have brought the horrors of war and the stories of personal tragedy into our living rooms. As we gather information from our missionaries in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries, the same picture is painted.

It's a picture of devastation, brutality and heart-rending sorrow in the cities of Mariupol, Kharkiv, Sumy, Kherson, and the suburb of Irpin.

And it's a picture of hundreds of thousands of refugees heading to the west and to the south to find safety. Initially many of those who came through had fast expensive cars, but over time the cars became more dilapidated and then came the waves of people with nothing more than they could carry. Most of the refugees are heading towards Poland, through Ternopil (where [Volodia and Oksana Kostyshyn](#) are based) and Lviv. One contact reported refugees queuing for 2 days to get into Poland. But thousands of people from Odesa and the south are making their way to Moldova. Many refugees have little money, and the Ukrainian Hryvnia are of little value outside of Ukraine.

But outside these hotspots, even in Kyiv, food and other supplies are still available, as are medicines and fuel, if you have money to buy them. Outside of Ukraine, supplies can still be obtained locally to support refugees - many centres are reporting being inundated with supplies - and the priority seems to be for money and workers.



The generosity of Christians in the UK has been astonishing and heart-warming.

Donations Received:

£262,000 has been received since the start of the appeal.

Funds Disbursed:

£48,000 has been disbursed since the start of the appeal.

52% to Moldova
29% to Poland
17% to Ukraine
2% to Romania

Thank you to everyone who has donated. 100% of donations will be passed through to support refugee work in the region. We are expecting the need to continue for many weeks and our disbursement will increase as needs grow amongst our network of churches.

Donate



Our Approach is to work through our network of missionaries, their churches and sister evangelical churches to distribute support for refugees. We are building up an ever-growing network of trusted evangelical churches, with our missionaries acting as local coordinators with good visibility of the current needs

Our Immediate Priority is to ensure that our partner churches who are on the front line of providing emergency support to refugees get the financial support they need. In most cases, especially outside Ukraine, they can access all the provisions they need locally, but need financial help. Even now we are also establishing routes to get shipments of aid into Ukraine - working with partners, and we expect this need to rise in the near future.

Spiritual Need: Alongside the great physical need, people's greatest need remains their need of salvation in Christ, and evangelical churches on the front line are asking for Bibles and other literature in Ukrainian. [Krzysztof Rutkowski](#), who leads [Legatio Publishing](#) is working to provide literature to churches.

For more details of how we are working, to make effective use of the generous donations entrusted to us, please [click here](#).

Evangelism through a Wi-fi password

Sylvek, who is a close friend of EMF Missionary Adam Urban, is the pastor of an evangelical church in Zamość, close to the border. The church is working flat out to offer relief to desperate people.

Sylvek tells the story: 'Last night we had a group of 11 people arrive who will continue their travels on to Germany. One of the first things our guests asked was whether we have Wi-fi. Of course, we have the password set to provoke questions ... the password is John 3:16.'



"Yesterday during dinner, one of the boys asked about the password I gave them; I asked if he knew what it was? One of the brothers explained that it was a passage from John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

'I gave one of the women a New Testament in Ukrainian, and asked her to read it. After a while everyone had tears in their eyes. And so a non-believer preached to non-believers. Praise be to God. We help many people, but we do not forget that first of all we serve our Lord Jesus Christ. We share His Word and entrust the whole situation into His hands.'

After 13 days of caring ...

[Adam Urban's](#) sister Ola Cybula is coordinating support in her church in Warsaw. After 13 days of hard involvement in the refugee crisis, she gives an honest insight into her feelings:

- 13 sleepless nights, nights waiting for a call from the coordinator, soon another exhausted mother with a terrified child will be picked up.
- 13 days full of effort, organizing food, mattresses, sheets, blankets, and adrenaline, which will not let you sleep even if you try.
- 13 days with people who are tired, frozen, terrified and have to face the chaos, misinformation, disappointment that this world beyond their borders is not so beautiful after all.
- 13 days of solidarity, love, unity, commitment, and love for our neighbors.
- 13 days of miracles, problems solved hour by hour, God's providence and provision in the most extreme situations.
- 13 days of struggle, real struggle, struggle for a semblance of security, struggle against time, struggle for any stability, struggle for peace.



Ola Cybula and Pastor Slawomir Foks of the [Zagórna 10](#) evangelical church in Warsaw. They are supporting around 60 refugees per night, and Ola is coordinating the work. Through Adam, we are supporting them financially.



How we can pray for those on the front line

[Mihai Chisari](#) is pastor of Imago Dei Baptist Church at Chişinău in Moldova, and an EMF missionary. They have been on the front line of providing support to refugees since the start of the war, as people pour over the border in the south of Ukraine, from cities such as Odesa and Kherson. Each day they have 35 - 50 refugees sheltering in their small church building, often only staying for a day before moving on.

In this video, Mihai gives an honest and moving insight into the challenges as he asks us to pray:

- For perseverance in showing love and care for refugees, as the unrelenting emotional and physical demands drain energy.
- For opportunities to share the gospel with the refugees; and for the many refugees who took Bibles and other literature, that the Lord would work in their hearts.
- For the faith of believers, as they witness so much distress, anxiety, and sadness, and as they consider the realistic possibility of war overflowing to Moldova.
- For the refugees, often traumatised and without money even to continue their journey.
- For people in Russia, many of whom are also unwilling victims of the war.

Phil Dunn

(EMF Northern Ireland Representative)

Martin Tatham

(EMF Church Partnership Coordinator)



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