



## Update #11: 27 May & 3rd June

You can find all the information about our appeal, the work being done, articles and video updates on the Ukraine Appeal section of our website [here](#).

If you don't already receive these updates directly, and would like to, please [click here](#).

It's been something of a rollercoaster with [Andrii & Yolanta Kaustov](#) and their visa application to the UK, at several points thinking that everything was secured only to have to postpone plans. But on Friday 27th May, Yolanta finally received the written confirmation she had been awaiting for so many weeks. They now have flights booked from Chisinau, Moldova, for Wednesday 8th June, to bring them to Belfast. But Yolanta is particularly weak after another allergic reaction to the treatment. We would very much appreciate to your continued prayers - for the long journey, and they would be able to begin to receive medical care.



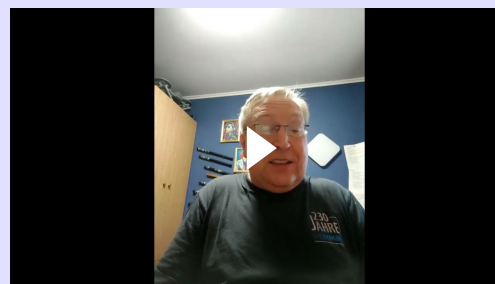
*Andrii & Yolanta Kaustov*



After 100 days of war in Ukraine, and the military action focusing in the East of the country, it's not surprising that two broad pictures are emerging of the situation in the country: In the East and the South, a picture of terrible privation and suffering; in the rest of the country, while far safer and better supplied, there are millions of people displaced, who have lost so much, and many without homes, money or jobs.

The needs remain great, and evangelical Christians remain at the forefront of those making great sacrifices to serve others ... bringing opportunities to share the gospel, as never before in the country.

We asked Pastor Gennadiy Prosjanko, to give his first-hand view of the situation in the East of the country - and you can listen to his moving report in this video. In it, he tells of the desperate needs of those in the Donbas region, both in the occupied territories, and also in the other towns and villages. Astonishingly, many people remain there, often elderly, but without clean water, food supplies or electricity. There are worrying reports of atrocities and executions worse than those witnessed in Bucha.



*Pastor Gennadiy Prosjanko, in Pereschepyne in the East of Ukraine shares a moving update on the situation and the work of the church.*

The greatest need, Gennadiy reports, is for food supplies to the area. To hear of the efforts of the church there in Pereschepyne, even though they have so little themselves, still to get supplies to people in the region, by whatever means possible, is truly humbling. The Christians there spend hours listening to the harrowing stories of the people coming from the warzone.

But here, as in other parts of Ukraine, many people are more open to the Gospel than ever before. (The church in Uman recently sent us this picture of baptismal classes in the church).



*Baptismal classes at the church in Uman (see below), for people who turned to Christ since the start of the war.*

The rest of the country enjoys comparative safety, even though there are daily air-raid sirens and missile attacks on the big cities, coming from Belarus, Crimea and the Black Sea. Refugees are now travelling to Kyiv as much as to the East, as news of over-crowded cities spreads. And there are food

supplies, even though restricted. But the overriding picture is of 8 million displaced people, many without money, jobs or proper homes. Even though food is available, many have no money to buy it, especially as prices rise. So the churches are doing what they can to provide supplies, accommodation ... and to spend time with traumatised people who have lost so much.

[Vitalii & Liudmyla Mariash](#), are now travelling each week back to Kyiv, helping their church in the city as they minister to refugees, many who have come from Kharkiv, Severodonetsk and the South. They hand out food packages, but also simply spend time with people, listening to their stories. Each week they put on services for refugees, and even when it is known that no aid is being distributed, these services are packed with people.

Please continue to pray for an end to the war, for evangelical Christians working on the front line, and for the work of the gospel in the midst of the suffering. Pray particularly for pastors who are called day after day to support deeply traumatised people.



*Vitalii Mariash preaching in an open-air service in Kyiv for refugees.*



#### **Donations Received:**

£846,000 has been received since the start of the appeal.

#### **Funds Disbursed:**

£623,000 has been disbursed since the start of the appeal.

66% to Ukraine

22% to Moldova

7% to Poland

4% to Romania

1% for across Italy, Hungary, Spain and literature from UK

With the most urgent needs for supplies in the East, and with the fuel shortages, it's been important to have our new distribution hub in operation in the city of Uman, where Valik Lipsky, a deacon in the church, and other helpers are distributing the shipment of aid we sent last week. They are then distributing this to other areas, including supporting Gennadij in Pereschepyne, as well as churches in Kyiv, Kharkiv, the Donbas region and Zaporizhzhia.

We continue to send aid supplies into Ternopil, with the next shipment arriving in the next few days, with generators and appliances, along with food, bedding and hygiene products.



*Our brother Valik Lipsky, and helpers from the church in Uman, unloading a shipment of aid.*

But as our spending rate well now exceeds the donations we're receiving, we now face some hard choices about how we make best use of the remaining funds, especially as the needs look set to continue for a considerable time. We would greatly value your prayer for wisdom, as we work with the people we are supporting in the region

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

**Donate**

Or [click here](#)

Over the past few weeks we've tried to report on the stories of some of the people we've been supporting, both in Ukraine and in the neighbouring countries and beyond. Some we've mentioned above, others like Sasha Diankov in Chernivtsi, Ola Cybula in Warsaw, Volodia Kostyshyn in Ternopil, Mihai Chisari Chisinau, we've mentioned in previous reports.

We have been trying to encourage all of these brothers and sisters on the front line in support for Ukrainian refugees to try to get





some time away from the situation. There is an enormous load being carried on the shoulders of these tireless workers, and we're deeply concerned about burn-out under the stress. But isn't always easy to get them to slow down!

Sasha Diankov says, "God gives us the strength to do this and we are glad that there is an opportunity to help people more. Physical fatigue, which is not so much, is worth nothing in comparison with the heaviness experienced by people throughout the country. And we also see it in the people who came to us. We have many friends involved in military operations. It's hard for them. We can't rest for now. When the war ends, we will definitely rest and gather people. Let's make a beautiful feast for the glory of the lord. but now there is a lot of work and we will do it.

Read more [here](#) about the dedication of some of the workers we're supporting.



*Sasha Diankov, handing out food supplies*

**Phil Dunn**

*(EMF Northern Ireland Representative)*

**Martin Tatham**

*(EMF Church Partnership Coordinator)*



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