Update #13: 24th June & 1st July

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 <u>click here</u>.

Thank you to everyone who has been praying for Vitalii & Liudmyla Mariash, after Vitalii was asked to report to the military office, with the likelihood of a call-up to the army in some capacity. He's had a number of medical tests, and now he has to report again on 4th July to the office. Please continue to pray for the family as they await a decision about a possible call-up.

Thank you also to those who prayed for the wellbeing of **Valik Lipskiy's father, Volodia**, who was awaiting major heart surgery. It's a joy to say that he's come through the surgery well, and is out of hospital and back with his family. You can hear a bit more from Valik and his wife Aliona below.



Vitalii & Liudmyla Mariash, Marianna and Mark



Recently, the <u>ACLED project</u> released the sombre statistic that over there had been over 10,000 deaths in Ukraine since the start of the conflict, with at least one third of these being civilians. Mariupol, Kharkiv, and Bilohorivka, in the east, have seen some of the heaviest casualties. And everyone in Ukraine is painfully aware of the terrible suffering in east of the country.

In the Donbas region, where there are still many Ukrainians living in the small towns and villages, conditions are desperate, with no gas or electricity supplies, and food and water in short supply. In the Summer months, the lack of fuel for heating is not a major concern, but many Ukrainians are thinking about Autumn, only a few months away, and wondering how people will survive.

Our brother Gennadiy Prosjanko last week travelled to the front line near Donetsk with his son Victor to minister to people, and sent us a short video report. He loaded his van up with supplies, along with Christian literature, and travelled to within a few kilometers of Russian-occupied territory, to bring supplies and comfort to people, most of whom were spending most of the time sheltering in basements. He also ministers to Ukrainian soldiers on the front line, in his role as army chaplain.

We spend a lot of time talking to Christians in Ukraine, trying to understand the situation from different locations and perspectives, and a few days ago, we spoke to Valik and Aliona Lipskiy, with whom we've been working in Uman, and recorded a short clip of this. Valik and Aliona decided in March to dedicate themselves full-time to supporting people in need in Uman, and also in the east of the country, and Valik has made numerous trips to Kharkiv over the past 4 months. They see the situation from 2 viewpoints. On the one hand, they long to see the Lord bring an end to the terrible suffering, which they experience daily through the lives of the hundreds of refugees coming to their church. But also, they see the



Pastor Gennadiy Proskanko reports from the front line near Donetsk.



Update and prayer requests from Valik and Aliona Lipskiy in Uman

astonishing work with the Lord is doing in the hearts of so many people coming under the sound of the gospel.

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 and other workers who are called day after day to support deeply traumatised people.



Donations Received:

£947,000 has been received since the start of the appeal.

Funds Disbursed:

£755,000 has been disbursed since the start of the appeal.

68% to Ukraine

21% to Moldova

6% to Poland

4% to Romania

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

Last week our most recent shipment of supplies reached Uman from Lublin, managed by our friends Jaroslaw & Natalia Lukasik, and also Valik in Uman. Much of this has already been distributed, with many of the supplies going to the east of the country.

We're also expecting a long-awaited shipmen of clothing to go next week to Moldova from Thessaloniki, where EMF Missionary Antonis Topaloglou and his family have helped pull together a large amount of good quality clothing.

As described in the last report, these are likely to be the last shipment we pay for for a while. However, it's a joy to be working with our friends in <u>UFM</u> to help them send shipments into Ukraine, making use of the supply and distribution routes we've got established.



Latest shipment to reach the depot in Uman, sent from Lublin

We're also looking to get more New Testaments and other Christian literature in Ukrainian printed in Poland, and ship into Ukraine, as there is an urgent need for this, with churches running out of supplies to give to people.

For more details of how we are working, to make effective use of the generous donations entrusted to us, please <u>click here</u>.

Donate

Or click here



It was a real delight to talk recently to Olha Solokova, from eastern Ukraine who told us her story of how she escaped the conflict in the east of Ukraine is now coming to the UK as the sixth country she has visited since the war started, as she comes to Bradford. Her moving account bore witness to a true faith in the Lord and his sovereignty as a rock in the midst of a hurricane of conflict, suffering and chaos.

She had been living a peaceful life in eastern Ukraine (Luhansk) with her mother and two brothers in 2014. An avid lover of history and archaeology, Olha, who was at this time a teacher, had been on a dig in Russia when the armies of that country invaded her homeland.

She was advised not to attempt to return to her home, and this was when her family began to reside in different areas of Ukraine, including in the city of Kharkiv; in latter times her mother and one of her brothers relocated to

Odesa. One of Olha's siblings has been serving in the army, including in the city of Khershon, captured by the Russians. The other is an IT specialist, whose expertise has been used in military operations in the past.

Read more about her story, and how the Lord has used her in so many different ways, and in different countries, in an article here.



Olha Solokova, from Ukraine, who's come recently to the UK via our <u>Cross</u>
Connect Ukraine scheme.

We've reported several times on the work of the Heart of Jesus evangelical church in Chernivtsi, where we've been supporting Alexander (Sasha) Diankov, as they do an astonishing work with the 100s of refugees have come into the city. Sasha sent us a recent video on their work.



Refugees from Mykolaiv tell of their experience from their temporary home in Chernivtsi

Phil Dunn

(EMF Northern Ireland Representative)

Martin Tatham

(EMF Church Partnership Coordinator)













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