



Update #25: 23rd December - 13th January

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](#).

If you don't already receive these updates directly, and would like to, please [click here](#). Also, if you would like to get more frequent but short message updates via WhatsApp, you can subscribe [here](#).



Please join us for our next **Prayer Meeting for Ukraine**, where we hope to be joined and led in prayers by 2 workers in Ukraine - power supplies permitting.

- **Monday 23rd January**
- **1900 - 2000 UK time**
- **Zoom: [Meeting ID 818 3219 5060](#), [Passcode emf](#)**



Mariash family, briefly reunited in Kyiv before Christmas

Please do continue to pray for Vitalii & Liudmyla Mariash. Liuda sent a lovely picture of the family re-united when Vitalii was given a few days leave over Christmas, but he is now back with his army unit, which is suffering increasing casualties, and he is having to spend more time with the injured.

Please do continue also continue to pray for Andrii and Yolanta Kaustov - and take a few minutes to listen to Andrii's prayer requests. They were struggling before Christmas with their cancer treatment, but recently Yolanta's new medication has been more effective in addressing the symptoms and, we hope, the cause.



Andrii Kaustov shares some prayer requests, both for he and Yolanta, but also for Ukraine.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our [Bibles and Blankets](#) Christmas appeal. Once again we've been taken aback by the generosity of Christians particularly in a difficult time at home. We had hoped to be able to raise as much as £50,000.

We have already exceeded this amount, and received £111,201 in donations.

With the help particularly of [Volodymyr Kostyshyn](#) in Ternopil and [Liudmyla Mariash](#) in Kyiv, and [Dawid Koziol](#) in Poland, we've managed to provide:

- **6,370** Bibles or New Testaments, in Ukrainian or Russian, with a further **1,150** on order;
- **2,650** quilted blankets, with a further **1,350** on order;
- **1** large generator, but with **10** further generators due to be delivered from Poland to Ternopil next week.

This has used **£64,386** of the funds, so we plan to raise more orders for Bibles, blankets and generators in the coming week.



Bibles and blankets being distributed in Ternopil (left), Chisinau (middle left), Irpin (middle right) and Kyiv (right)



How do you adapt to an environment where you only have electricity for a few hours a day?

That's the situation for almost all of our missionaries and partners in Ukraine, with the seemingly relentless Russian attacks on the Ukrainian infrastructure continuing to force the authorities to run schedules of power outages for most of the country. Priority is given to hospitals and other critical facilities, for which power is fully maintained, apart from the immediate aftermath of missile strikes. But for most households, the authorities are attempting to run schedules so that people know for which hours they will get electricity.

The impact of the electricity outages is not simple to predict, and of course everyone adapts to the challenges they face. For some, especially in the apartment blocks, the loss of electricity also causes the heating to stop. But there's also a knock-on impact on work and jobs, as businesses are forced to limit their work and so can employ fewer people.

The [latest UN report on displaced people](#) estimates that over 43% of Ukrainian households have now used up all of their savings, and financial support is the single biggest concern amongst both displaced and non-displaced households.

Pastor Benjamin Morrison of [Calvary Chapel Svitlovodsk](#) recently gave us an update on their situation in central Ukraine, where they are supporting around 2,000 displaced people each week. And like so many evangelical churches in Ukraine which have managed to stay open, they have seen great opportunities for the gospel.



Pastor Benjamin Morrison of [Calvary Chapel Svitlovodsk](#) shares updates and prayer requests with us.

It has proved so important for evangelical churches across Ukraine to be able to remain open, providing warmth, light and shelter to people locally - and we've had numerous churches telling us how valuable it has been for them to get a generator which enables them to remain open, keep the heating and lights on, and continue to serve needy people.

One such church is Gennadiy Prosjanko's church in Pereschepyne, which has been able to provide such a shelter for many people. We could only speak to Gennadiy last week by phone, without video, but please do take a few minutes to listen to his prayer requests.

He is again planning to travel into the warzone this week, to take supplies to his home area to the West of Donetsk. His brother still lives there, much to Gennadiy's puzzlement, but the shelling has been even more intense recently, and Gennadiy faces great danger in his ministry.



Pastors Gennadij Prosjanko of [from Pereschepyne](#) gives an update about his situation and shares his prayer requests with us.

Please do pray for evangelical churches seeking to support needy people in Ukraine, both with humanitarian support and in sharing the gospel. Pray that the Lord will raise up more evangelical Christian workers with a heart for the gospel, to serve in Ukraine.



Christmas 2022 in Ukraine

Vivienne Birch has written a lovely article with lots of heart-warming pictures which brought together stories from many churches across Ukraine which we've got to know over the past few months about how they spent Christmas. In the past, Ukrainians would have celebrated Christmas on the Orthodox date of 7th January, but on this occasion, the Orthodox church of Ukraine allowed its congregations for the first time to celebrate Christmas on 25 December.

For many churches, even though they have seen great openings for the gospel over the past few months, Christmas provided a particularly special opportunity. The church in Chernivtsi even went to the lengths of transporting Christmas treats by boat into Kherson. Do please take a few minutes to read [the article](#), which you'll find invaluable to inform your prayers for this needy country.



Donations Received:

£1,384,251 has been received since the start of the appeal. (This figure does not include the £111,201 raised for the [Bibles & Blankets Appeal](#)).

Funds Disbursed:

£1,196,441 has been disbursed since the start of the appeal plus £18,663 as part of Bibles & Blankets appeal.

76% to Ukraine

16% to Moldova

5% to Poland

3% to Romania

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

We are currently giving direct regular support to **15 evangelical churches across Ukraine, Moldova, Poland and Romania**, and others on an as-needed basis. But some of this support is also channelled to other churches, particularly in the warzone. In some cases, we are also providing support to particular families, to enable them to support the work of their church.

In our last report from 17th December, we mentioned the safe delivery of the large shipment of **47 generators and 900 powerbanks** to Ternopil. These were shipped from the Netherlands, with the help of our friends **Tim van der Roest** and **Dirk Palland**. We also sent a further 5 generators with the help of **Dawid Koziol** from Żywiec Poland.

These generators have now been distributed to evangelical churches across Ukraine, from Ternopil to



Kharkiv and from Kyiv to Zaporizhzhia, and these churches are delighted to have these resources. As you can see in this short video from pastor **Mykola Semenov**, the generators enable churches to carry on serving people, and providing shelter and warmth, even in the midst of the frequent electricity blackouts.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the EMF Ukraine Fund to make this possible. Thanks also to our friends in [Come Over And Help](#) who contributed generously to enable this.



Mykola Semenov, pastor of Philadelphia church, a Baptist church in Ternopil sends a thank you to EMF supporters who enabled them to get a generator to give power to their church during frequent power outages.

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

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Or [click here](#)

Phil Dunn

(EMF Northern Ireland Representative)

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(EMF Church Partnership Coordinator)



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