



Update #26: 13th January - 3rd February

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 27th February**
- **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. Last week, Vitalii asked us to support him in prayer as their unit was experiencing very heavy fighting, which is continuing. We can only imagine the intense burden on Vitalii, as he ministers to fellow soldiers as well as being in great danger himself. He has also been asked to take on formally the position of unit Chaplain, and he has applied for this - he asks us to pray that this would be successful.

Please do continue also continue to pray for Andrii and Yolanta Kaustov as Andrii begins his latest, and intensive, course of medication, requiring him to be in isolation, and therefore unable to care for Yolanta.



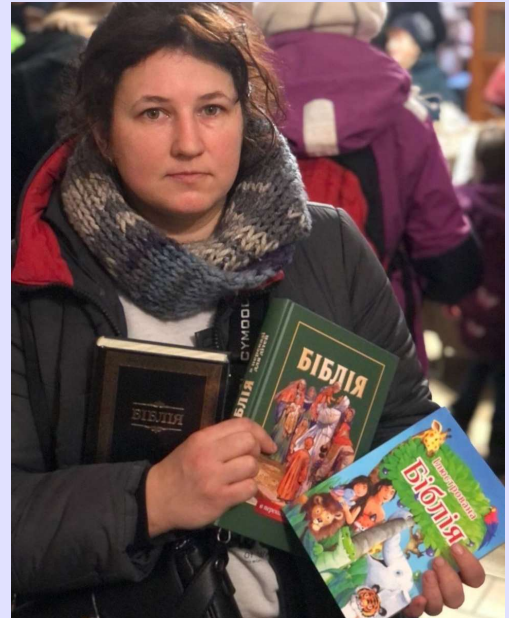
Thank you to everyone who contributed to our [Bibles and Blankets](#) Christmas appeal. Once again we've been taken aback by the generosity of Christians particularly in a difficult time at home. We had hoped to be able to raise as much as £50,000.

We have already received more than twice this amount, and received £139,290 in donations. The need is so great for both the physical and spiritual resources, that we can make good use of all the funds sent to us - and 100% of all donations will be used for these supplies.

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

- **8,520** Bibles or New Testaments, in Ukrainian or Russian;
- **5,000** high quality quilted blankets;
- **16** large generators.

This has used **£82,302** of the funds, and we are already in the process of raising more orders for Bibles and blankets. The response from the churches we've supplied these to has been very moving, as they send many messages of thanks with so many pictures - too many to share. These supplies have proved essential and in great demand. (If you didn't see the short video we posted last time from Pastor Mykola Semenov of Philadelphia church in Ternopil, about how they were using the generator, you can view this [here](#)).



Bibles and blankets being distributed in Pereschepyne (top left), Zaporizhzhia (top right), Chernivtsi (bottom left) and Kyiv (bottom right)



Shelling all Around

Gennadiy Prosjanko spoke to us last week about his recent trip to the Donbas region, where he was taking aid to the people still living within a few kilometres of the front line in places like Khurakove and Krasnohorivka, where people live. These are places where 'nobody wants to go', as Gennadiy puts it, where people are languishing in freezing, powerless basements, scared to go outside as shelling occurs all around their places of refuge. Even he doesn't fully understand why people (including his own brother) remain there, and they know that he'd willingly drive them to relative safety.

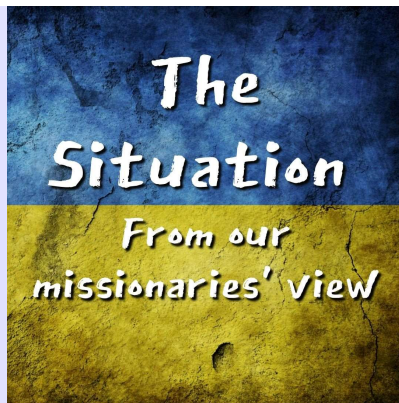
Vivienne Birch has written [a very moving article](#) based on our conversation with Gennadiy, which gives real insight into the lives of people still living in these frontline towns and villages, but also into the sacrificial and dedicated service of Gennadiy and his wife Elena, and others in his family. Please do take a few minutes to read the article, and allow it to inform your prayers.

Prayer Requests



For civilians near the front line who are suffering greatly with little food, water, electricity or heating. For soldiers, to realise their dream of salvation, as many die the death daily.

While the situation for millions of people in Ukraine remains desperate, with many suffering greatly, yet there are also



astonishing mercies and answers to prayer. So far, this has been one of the mildest winters in Ukraine for many years. In past years temperatures of below -20°C have often been experienced - but not so far this year. In the context of the Russian determination to demoralise and inflict widespread suffering on the Ukrainian population, what an astonishing mercy this is! Please do pray that the Lord would continue to show his gracious mercies in this way. As winter approached, the great concern was that so many people displaced people were living in places inadequate for the winter. But now only 10% of displaced people consider their accommodation to be inadequate, due to the resourcefulness of the people and the mildness of the winter.

But even in the mild winter, the impact of the electricity outages is severe, with most residential accommodation having only a few hours electricity per day, with unreliable schedules. Critical infrastructure is prioritised so that hospitals and schools are provided for. For some homes and apartments, this means no heating or running water for those periods, whilst for others the heating is on a separate system, so the impact varies greatly by region and other factors.

And while most displaced people managed to find or repair accommodation to be fit for winter, the biggest need for most remains financial. Only 30% of displaced people have paid work providing their main source of income, and many rely on the modest 'IDP Livelihood Allowance'. 38% of displaced people don't think they have sufficient funds to pay for their accommodation for the rest of the winter. These figures go some way to explaining why all of the churches we are supporting continue to see great needs amongst the people they are serving, and all have had to make hard choices in who they provide support to.

There is also growing awareness and concern about a build up of Russian military presence in the East, and prospect of a major attack coming soon.

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.



Donations Received:

£1,418,703 has been received since the start of the appeal. (This figure does not include the £139,290 raised for the [Bibles & Blankets Appeal](#)).

Funds Disbursed:

£1,244,653 has been disbursed since the start of the 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.

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](#)

Phil Dunn
(EMF Northern Ireland Representative)

Martin Tatham
(EMF Church Partnership Coordinator)



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