



THE MASTER'S FOUNDATION

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Summer 2022

Greetings in Jesus!

After a cool wet spring, summer is finally upon us, and it feels wonderful to soak up all that Vitamin D. However we are enjoying the summer activities with our families in our homes and back yards, we are keenly aware that in Ukraine this is not the case at all.

Our hearts ache at the continuing atrocities, the ever-changing events, the revealing of horrific deeds committed, the fierce fighting, the unfathomable devastation, the loss of human life and dignity – children, seniors, refugees, families trying to cope with the bleakness of their situation, having lost everything they have built in their lifetime and as with millions, no homes to return to and nowhere to go.

Hardly a stone has been left untouched – cities leveled to rubble, thousand-year-old buildings vanished, history simply wiped out, millions of refugees finding themselves in strange places, mothers with children, uncertain they will ever see their husbands, fathers, or brothers ever again.

I weep with you for the land of our forefathers, our grandparents, the land that we as a ministry, have spent the last forty years investing in and building up. But God has not forgotten her!

How grateful we are to so many of you who rose to the occasion and stretched forth your hands in prayer and in help to Ukraine. I am so grateful to my home village of Glendon Alberta, its mayor, Nicholas Werstiuk, to Belvia, the school and various clubs churches and businesses who rallied and sent us their support. THANK YOU! Bless you!

What an opportunity now exists for us to put our loving arms around the hurting people of Ukraine!

I covet your prayers and continued support.

With love and prayers,

Stan

P.S. check our website for refugee stories



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BRINGING HOPE, LIFE & SALVATION

THANK GOD FOR YOUR HELP

In years past we would have been telling you about our plans for summer camp sponsorship that Masters provides to many children. Words like - delight, enthusiasm and curiosity described our eager campers to be as they prepared and hoped to be chosen to participate. Instead, this year children haven't even been able to complete their school programs. Phrases like "catastrophic, chaos, merciless, genocide, fighting rages, children of war" dominate the news. Mothers have endured the most horrific of circumstances and children of Ukraine have witnessed death and pain and loss that is unimaginable.

Our hearts are grieved and overwhelmed by the atrocities that the people of Ukraine have witnessed and endured. Immediately when the war began on Feb 24, we reached out to our contacts, many of whom were sheltering in basements and underground areas and then, risking their lives by driving out to rescue young families from the shelling and destruction. As the days turned into weeks and the weeks into months, the scope of the atrocities and horror became clearer. Indeed the world became aware of what heinous acts the invader and enemy had unleashed on the innocent lives of ordinary people.

The reports from our contacts described some of the experiences told them by those they are currently sheltering.

"When you run away from war, it seems that you flee but it is still following you! It seemed the city was gradually burning and the flames killed everything that we loved! Probably the most scary thing was to see death. Dead people were lying on the streets. One older man was going to give food to his bed-ridden mother and was shot. Children were buried rolled

up in blankets, having died from hunger and chronic diseases for it was cold and damp in the basements and they just couldn't breathe. There were at least 10 graves in front of each apartment building. People wanted to leave but there were no humanitarian corridors provided."
This 19 year old is currently in a safe place in western Ukraine having walked great distances and then driven through 25 Russian checkpoints and each time searched, undressed, questioned and having their cell phones checked. The roads were mined and one false move could have ended their lives. She recounts that when they finally passed through the first Ukrainian block post, the driver of their vehicle stopped to get some rest and she and her sister got out of the car and wept!



The K family lived peacefully in a village of 700 in the Zaporizhzhia area. *"A merciless war changed everything in our lives. In the beginning of March, Russian troops entered the village and established their headquarters near our house. They were provocative and rude. Everyone was scared of them but they enjoyed this fear as it inspired them to crimes and torturing. They came to our house whenever they wanted and under the barrel of a gun, my daughter and I were forced to bake bread and cook for them. They bragged about their feats and their technique. They killed all 9 pigs on our farm and mined the fields where the 6 cows were to pasture.*

EVACUATIONS, CHILDREN AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION

EVACUATIONS

Masters immediately assisted our reliable contacts with helping provide fuel for vehicles that went out into dangerous locations to rescue mothers and children and brought them to safer locations before taking them to border crossings.



Seven children and their parents were rescued with this bus. The youngest boy is 3 months old. He was born on February 27 as his mother was delivering him under the canopy of shelling.



A youth centre turned into refugee centre and every possible mattress used. Masters purchased thermal blankets, mattresses and rented spaces for these refugees.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Masters rented a large warehouse where large amounts of food were purchased in bulk and repackaged and driven to beleaguered areas where desperate people had no means to obtain the basics - buckwheat, rice, pasta, sugar, tea, oil. Even soldiers needed food. Our contact writes several days ago, *"Yes, people suffer greatly, especially those from the Luhansk and Kharkiv area. Refugees arrive and say to our volunteers "Can we please have something to eat?"* We have handed out more that 3,500 packages of food product to these refugees (not to mention the countless thousands driven out by volunteers). We simply could not have done this without your prayers and financial help and we surely could not have withstood the aggression.



CHILDREN

The most vulnerable of society - the precious children. How many have been killed, maimed or lost their parents? Masters reached out to our contacts who work with children with special needs and helped provide the basics. Despite continuous shelling in the surrounding areas, dedicated staff and volunteers endeavour to keep the children in their routines and continue to teach and pray with them. Our contact ends her report with *'We rely on God, on His mercy and support! Keep praying for us as the situation may get worse. Thank you for all your care for us!*



THE ELDERLY AND CRITICALLY ILL

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Then one day they told us that they were going to kill our family on April 22 because we knew too much about the soldiers and their location. Although my husband didn't believe that they would actually do this, he told us to leave the basement. And that is exactly what happened - a Russian tank shot our house and the pieces went through my husband's body. Our house was destroyed and we escaped through the backyard of our neighbours and walked toward Z. On the way we were being shot at by the Russians but the mortars flew over our heads. The children remembered when the soldiers talked about mining the fields and this helped them to avoid death by stepping on mines.

Nickolai and his wife, who was a nurse, stayed underground in the basement of a maternity hospital with 127 other people for 50 days. During this time 27 babies were born. *"The city was constantly being bombed and every couple minutes there was an explosion. Russians used artillery, missiles and planes to shoot the civic buildings, hospitals, kindergartens. At times the explosions near the maternity hospital were so strong that the big iron doors in the basement opened to the shock waves. There was not enough mattresses nor medication and doctors treated only those who had a chance of survival. We ate tiny meals twice a day. There was no water, electricity or heat. At the beginning N and some friends drove to supermarket storages and got food as owners of these supermarkets opened their facilities for the people to take food. But even in these lines, people were shot including several doctors. People died in the street. Workers of the hospital gave saline solution for drinking to the ladies who were pregnant and to the wounded as water was not available."*



ELDERLY & CRITICALLY ILL

It is simply unimaginable what horror the elderly have endured. With their life's possessions lying in ruin, with the unavailability of medication, with no means of escape, how desperate their lives have become. Where and who can move them to a safer location when they themselves can't get up from their beds of affliction? Only the love and care of godly people who strive to protect them.



The man lost his son in the war and has suffered a stroke. Master's care packages have helped with the purchase of hygiene products and medications when they were first available and as they become more available now.



THANK YOU

Master's Foundation purchased five good quality generators in Germany and had them sent to Poland and then to Lviv, Ukraine where they have been distributed. Thank you to W.S. for overseeing this purchase and project. Thank you to the Bonnyville Pentecostal Church for paying for one of these generators.