



Dear brothers and sisters,

You should have received a couple of reports from me starting with the beginning of this year, but since February 24, all of our time is used up in an enormous amount of work. A huge hindrance to it is also the amount of time spent continuously in the shelters (especially in February and March). Today (June 9) is my first day off, and I can finally write a brief report of what was and is going on pertaining to the Lviv church of Christ ministry and in Ukraine. You can also follow my page on Facebook for the most current news and updates on the life of the church which I try to post more regularly.

The start of the year was as usual in the fullness of ministry, as we were preparing for the 5 annual seminar for churches of Christ in western Ukraine. And it was great! There were about 100 people there and we were happy that Walter Rayburn was finally able to join us. The previous year he couldn't make it due to the COVID restrictions.

Just as we start counting time after the New year, in such a way there was a new count of time started in Ukraine after February 24, 2022, when Russia attacked and invaded Ukraine. This war is unlike any other war that took place in the past decades, since there are more than 200 000 fighters in the forces of both sides. Therefore, the consequences of such war is extremely difficult for our nation. More than 8 million people in Ukraine were forced to leave their homes and move to the West, into western Ukraine and further into Europe. In this case churches of Christ in western Ukraine took the hardest blow in the aspect of receiving and helping the refugees. Just our Lviv congregation was able to help a great number of brothers and sisters in Christ as well as others in need, and it's hundreds of people. And all of it is done under continuous wailing of the air raid sirens and regular missile hits on Lviv. Several times the missiles exploded in 1-2 km from my house. And it's very scary. But we keep serving God and ministering to people. The church keeps working even more diligently than before. There have been many refugees living in my house since the beginning of the war. At one point there were 20 people living there. Then some moved to Europe, some stayed (either at my house or in other apartments in Lviv.

We have different events in church every day Monday through Sunday. We have had many baptisms in Lviv alone, but there have been many baptisms all over western Ukraine.

My brother and I (as well as many other brothers in Christ in Ukraine) were drafted in the army. Since I was commissioned to the border control forces, I praise God I was stationed in Lviv and now I have an opportunity to often stay at home over night and keep ministering at the church. Despite the lack (or almost complete absence) of free time I continue to preach and teach the Bible at church and to work with the refugees.

I want to thank all of you for your prayers and support that you are showing. Thanks for standing with us. It would be extremely difficult without you. You are an immense blessing for us. My family and the whole congregation in Lviv send you their greetings!



