

Dear Brethren,

As I write this letter the war in Ukraine has passed 100 days of fighting. In the midst of all of this, Christians inside the country and in neighboring places have stepped in to fill various voids in the lives of those who have been displaced and otherwise affected by the war. Thanks to your support, many of these Christians have received financial support which allows them to continue to minister to those in need. With that in mind, I want to take a moment once again to fill you in on some of the works we have supported in Ukraine and surrounding countries.

We continue to support the works of multiple congregations who are housing refugees in Ukraine. Since my last letter, we have sent support to the churches in Lviv, Bila Tserkva, Chernitsvi, Skvyra, and Ivana-Frankivsk. These churches are using funds to buy food, buy medical supplies, provide housing, buy clothing, renovate church buildings for housing, and cover traveling expenses for refugees. As I stated in my previous letter, these are congregations I have personally worked with and I have been receiving reports including pictures of the supplies being purchased for those in need.

In addition to this, we continue to work closely with Taras Danilenko. As you may remember, this young man works with the church in Skvyra, but has greatly spread his circle of work since the beginning of the war. Taras continues to deliver food, medical supplies, and refugees to safer regions across the country of Ukraine. He has quite literally traveled from the Eastern border to the Western border on multiple occasions. Thanks to your efforts, we were able to help Taras purchase a large van for use in this ministry. Previous to this, Taras was having to borrow vehicles which were often very undependable (including leaving him stranded multiple times in war zones). In addition, we rented two apartments and one house near Bila Tserkva which is currently housing refugees from the city of Kramatorsk which sits in the middle of the war zone in the east. We have been able to provide food and utilities for these homes since the refugees' arrival.

When the war shifted to the east, we were put in contact with Ivan Ushakova. Ivan was working for a small congregation in the east which was made up of mostly elderly Christians. He was able to convince two of those church members to move west for safety. For two months we have provided rent and supplies for these two ladies who continue to live in the relative safety of the West.

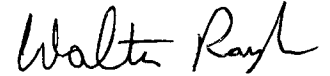
In my previous letter I mentioned that we were helping a preacher from Kramatorsk named Vitaly Rodichev. Vitaly was able to send funds into the East even as the war raged. We continue to be in contact with Vitaly and continue to support people in the East. In addition to Vitaly, we have sent funds to Volva Pazy who is also a minister in Kramatorsk. At the end of May, we learned that gas lines were being shut off from Russia into Eastern Ukraine. One of our biggest expenses was purchasing small electrical stovetops for multiple families so that they could continue to cook even if the gas lines were cut. We have also helped with food and supplies to these families through Volva.

In addition to the work in Ukraine, I continue to be in contact with Christians in Poland, the Netherlands, Germany, and Switzerland. We are happy to report that some of the refugees have returned to Ukraine and been reunited with their families. Many of these Christians are staying the Western part of Ukraine so are still refugees from their home cities. For those still in other countries, many of their needs are being met by congregations or government aid. However, we have helped with some medical expenses and other supplies that were needed by our spiritual family.

I cannot thank you enough for your willingness to help these Christians. Your generosity has truly been overwhelming. I want to pass my thanks on to you from our brethren as they constantly offer their gratitude for the funds they receive. As of right now, the Ukrainian government is telling the citizens that they expect this war to reach through the end of the year. In this suffering I want to bring you the greatest news from this war. Over the last few weeks, I have received multiple reports of baptisms in multiple cities in Ukraine. At last count, we know of around forty who have obeyed the Gospel as this war raged in Ukraine. As Christians continue to do the work, fruit is being harvested for the Kingdom of Christ. In all of this darkness, there is light to be found!

If you have any questions concerning the work in Ukraine, please do not hesitate to contact me at (931) 691-9898 or walter.rayburn@yahoo.com.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter Rayburn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "W".

Walter Rayburn