



SAVING LIVES IN UKRAINE!

Dear friend,

I often say how proud I am of our brave field workers who risk their lives under dangerous circumstances, and rightfully so. But have I ever told YOU how proud I am to have you part of our team?

As I was looking back on all our accomplishments in Ukraine, it hit my heart how grateful I am for you! Together, we have saved thousands of lives.

The situation in Ukraine is getting progressively worse, yet many have stopped caring. They are no longer shocked at Putin's aggression. It is old news, no longer the latest gripping story.

For those living this war, it is not old news. It is someone's reality, today.

*Pastor A, ministers on the frontlines of Eastern Ukraine risking his life to rescue families. As a medic, he has seen the worst of this war. As a pastor, his heart bleeds for the people he sees struggling daily to survive.

"Today, war has come to almost each Ukrainian family...husbands, sons, brothers, beloved fight. They are injured or killed, leaving families devastated. This is unbearable pain and suffering for our people," writes Pastor A.



Michael, a soldier, has been stationed in the "hottest" areas of the front-line. For 15 days, his small group held positions protecting a village from the advancing army. Bombing was intense with no break, day or night. A bomb landed in Michael's trench, throwing him out. Shrapnel from the bomb hit his legs. He bled heavily and thought he would die. The shelling was so heavy he couldn't be evacuated to a hospital until the following day. His leg could not be saved.

Pastor A's team is constantly on the front line, in hospitals and first aid stations. Michael's story is but one of thousands they see. Moved to compassion, a small unit of pastors began ministering to wounded soldiers and their families and those of killed soldiers.

"Thousands of soldiers die every month, tens of thousands become disabled. We buy food, medicine, clothes (very often after injury, all clothing is cut off and thrown away), and hygiene products. We tried to handle all needs with the efforts of local churches, but with the expansion of the ministry we need more resources," says Pastor A.

Michael is still in the hospital waiting for a prosthetic.

*Pastor A - name withheld for security reasons

The team ministered to Michael and he accepted Christ as his Savior. He prays every day and reads the Bible they gave him. Recently he asked to be taken to another city to be close to a relative – the only relative left alive.

“Now he is like a relative to us. We pray together and help him as much as we can,” says Pastor A.

Winter, in Eastern Ukraine is harsh. Last year, with your help, we kept many families alive by providing wood burning stoves and fuel to cook food when Putin bombed the power grids.

Putin’s major offensives come in the winter when the most damage can be done, to inflict the greatest suffering for soldiers and civilians in the freezing cold of winter.

Now, a new winter offensive is imminent.

More than 600 military vehicles 500 tanks and 40,000 troops are heading for Kupyansk, a major gateway to Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second largest city. Putin plans to take the entire Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv Olasts by March 2024. Russia’s “staged” elections are in March and Putin wants a significant victory, to justify this war.

With this new offensive, thousands of innocent victims will be in need of help.

Vitaly is a deacon and part of Pastor A’s ministry team. When Avdiivka was bombed he continued to preach and minister in a half-destroyed church. The city was completely destroyed without a single high-rise standing, yet he continued bringing aid to families under constant shelling and bombing. Vitaly stayed to the end.



Vitaly stayed to the bitter end.



Vitaly’s bombed house - miraculously he made it out alive.

A few days ago, while in his house, Vitaly’s home was bombed. Miraculously he survived. It was then that he made the decision to leave. With great difficulty along a road being heavily shelled, the team, with the help of armored vehicles of police and military, managed to evacuate Vitaly and most of the people who came to the church.

Pastor A worries about this next wave.
He is pleading for our help.

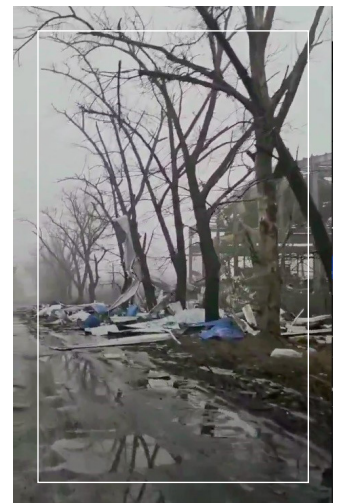
This war is not just about losing your home, your loved ones. It is about daily survival after losing your home, your loved ones.

No one wanted this war...except Putin, the aggressor.

Will you help Pastor A minister to suffering families? Will you help a wounded soldier find hope in Jesus Christ?

Thank you for caring!

We are saving lives, together, in His Ministry,



Rescue team drive into Avdiivka under heavy bombing. About 100 people remain trapped in the city. Please pray for their rescue!