



THE MASTER'S FOUNDATION

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Spring 2018

Dear Partner in Ministry,

Greetings!

A new year has begun and I want to let you how much I appreciate and value your commitment to this ministry.

Your faithfulness and compassion shown to the people and children of Ukraine this past year has overwhelmed us. So many broken and weary lives have been touched because you loved, cared and responded.

Your generosity has enabled us to ship several containers of aid to Ukraine; soup mix and clothing. As you will read in our newsletter, the war is ongoing and taking its toll at an ever increasing rate with no end in sight.

So many challenges and so many projects beg for our attention and support! With the many hands reaching out to us, we constantly pray and wrestle with...*whose hands do we fill, which mother, which child, which family, which church, which orphanage do we assist?*

This can all seem overwhelming at times, and it is. But I am always amazed at how God comes through with the direction we are to proceed with!

Scripture is very clear - we are to be helping hands and work for justice for the oppressed. In Deuteronomy 10, we read God is looking for people to help the fatherless, the widows, the oppressed, the poor, the lonely and forgotten ones.

We are so thankful that with your prayers and support we have been able to do this and pray that we can continue to count on you.

I trust you will enjoy reading our Spring Newsletter. Please take the time to view the new videos posted on mastersfoundation.org. Click on our projects/humanitarian aid/summer camps.

Thank you for standing with us in giving hope to the hopeless.

In His love & service,

Stan



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SPRING - 2018

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BRINGING HOPE, LIFE & SALVATION

A LOOK AT EASTERN UKRAINE

It's mind-boggling! Over 2 million displaced people in Ukraine, fleeing for safety due to the Russian invasion. And we hardly hear about it in the news. Ukrainians regretfully leaving the familiarity of their homes and memories, and mulling whatever they can carry, to take refuge in the western part of the country where life is more peaceful. Think about it-- what would you take? Since April 2014, this has been the case in Eastern Ukraine.

During our September 2017 visit into that region with the Masters Foundation, we met some very capable and strategic Christian leaders who are mobilizing other Christians around them to meet the pressing and urgent needs in this oppressed region.



Sergey Perkhalskyi, the in-country director for the Masters Foundation, diligently uses his strong communication skills, networking abilities, and servant's heart to share the resources from the Masters Foundation with other ministries that are wisely meeting the practical needs of the downtrodden people of Ukraine. Mobilizing churches and other Christian ministries who can distribute clean water, a nourishing meal, warm clothing, and Christian literature – giving these in Christ's name. Who is benefiting from the ministry of the Masters Foundation? The Grandma in her kerchief, the disabled child in a wheelchair, the refugee on a bicycle, the family whose neighbour's home was bombed and are



considering fleeing their home for a better life, and thousands more.

The Gleaners have been delighted to be donating the food for distribution.

The work of the Masters Foundation is love in action. Proverbs 22 says, "The rich and poor have this in common: The Lord made them both. (verse 2) Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor. (verse 9)".

Joyfully, Shelley Stone, Ontario Christian Gleaners

Note: Please write/email for your free copy of "Pastor Ivan's Story" – a Church in Krasnohorivka, we visited with Shelley. A heart rending story of the devastating effects of the war and how God is using one man, one church, one city to help bring hope and restoration to so many hurting people. The last container shipped by Masters, at the time of this writing is currently clearing customs and designated for Pastor Ivan's Church and the community. He has been a recipient of many of our soup shipments, courtesy of The Gleaners.

UNDECLARED WAR IN UKRAINE GOES ON AND ON...

Every day and every night! There's never any end to the artillery, the rockets, the snipers or the killing. *The war in Ukraine has so far killed more than 12,500 Ukrainians, not including at least 24,000 people injured according to the United Nations.*



a lethal threat for civilians, accounting for more than half of civilian casualties this year. Tonight, there are roughly 60,000 Ukrainian troops deployed in the frigid trenches and embattled front-line villages of eastern Ukraine with over 2,000,000 Internally Displaced People (refugees). When the sun goes



Like any war, the one in Ukraine is full of so many sad stories. There's been no end to those either. The unlucky civilians killed by forgotten land mines, like the four who died when their minivan drove over a mine as they waited at a checkpoint to leave separatist-controlled territory. Or, the grandmother on her way home from the market in the front-line town of Avdiivka, struck down by shrapnel from a mortar. The 24-year-old daughter left kneeling in the snow over her mother's body. The two children who became orphans in Avdiivka when a shell landed in the front yard of their home while their parents were outside talking to a neighbor. The seven civilians killed when a Russian Grad rocket attack pummeled a funeral procession in the town of Sartana. The 19-year-old volunteer soldier whose mother begged him not to go to war, killed by a Russian mortar that landed in his trench in the town of Pisky. The 298 people whose bodies fell to the earth in a lonely field in eastern Ukraine after a Russian surface-to-air missile shot down Malaysia Airlines Flight 17.

And it goes on and on with no end in sight and not getting any better! A Forgotten War on Europe's Doorstep. The war in Ukraine hardly makes the headlines anymore. But life goes on. After all, for most Ukrainians not living in the war zone, the economic downturn and the tumbling value of the national currency have been more painful burdens to bear than the war.

What was once an acute humanitarian crisis in the eastern war zone has devolved into a long-term catastrophe. The humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine is ... the worst it has been now in three years and deteriorating. More than 4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, among them 580,000 children. More than 1 million people in Donbas region are food insecure, civilian casualties are up significantly over last year. Land mines and booby traps have become

down on this night, the tracers will cut across the dark sky up and down the 250-mile-long front line. War-weary soldiers and civilians will hunker down in trenches and in cellars, staving off the cold and the fear as they have for four winters now. There's a 1 in 3 chance a Ukrainian soldier will die tonight on that lonely, frigid battlefield at the hands of a Russian weapon. Also, there's a good chance a civilian will be killed or wounded tonight.

The war goes on and on. When and where will it end?

A Note for our readers: *Masters has heard the cry of the people and risen to the occasion and is continually sending containers of aid to the Eastern Zone. Please go to our website mastersfoundation.org and click on Our Projects/Humanitarian Aid and check out our latest two videos. The Gleaners have graciously been supplying Masters with containers of aid (soup mix) and consented to give us more this year. **We ask for your prayers and support for shipping costs.***

The words of hurting people...

Avramishiny's Family - 57 years of age - My husband is an invalid of Group 2. He walks very badly. Thank you for such timely aid. We live in the ATO Zone (War zone at the East of Ukraine) and **we thank you that you have not forgotten us.**

Valentina - 64 years of age - I am a pensioner with low-income. Thank you for this help. I use Soup mix to make salads and cook borsch. I will be very glad if you continue to send us such assistance, for it is useful.

Svetlana - 76 years of age - I am displaced from Donetsk City. I need any kind of help. I thank much all good people for care.

BIBLE OUTREACH TO CHILDREN IN VILLAGES

When in Kiev last Spring we met with Pastor Vasyl Bilyk who is involved in children's ministry in the villages of Ukraine. He surprised us with the statement, "children in the villages have little or no knowledge of God". He shared how God laid upon his heart to reach out to the village children and parents with the Children's/Youth Bible. We immediately decided Masters needs to support this work and gave Pastor Vasyl a large quantity of Bibles. He responded with the following letter.

Dear brother Stan and Masters. Thank you for all the Bibles you gave us. We distributed them in several villages. They were received by the families with great joy and the children began to read them. Many had never seen a Bible with such beautiful colorful illustrations and questions after each story. There was even a competition among the girls in reading the Bible. The parents are telling us the attitude and their relationship with the children has so changed since reading the Bible.



They were so pleased with this, that they started to come to Church, beginning to seek and know God. There are a great number of villages that need your Childrens/Youth Bible. They also have a cultural value as they are written in Ukrainian, which is very necessary for our children in our country. We thank you for your great gift of love to these "neglected and forgotten" children. With gratitude and respect, Pastor Vasyl.

Note: Will you help us to reach out to the children in the villages of Ukraine with a Bible?

SUMMER CAMPS 2018

On long winter days I dream of summer... the hot weather, eating ice cream and having fun! For kids, summer time is the BEST time of the year. They count down the days until their summer vacation starts and plan all the fun stuff they will do. BUT for many orphaned children and youth in Ukraine their summers are not so great. They face the same struggles... living in an institution, never having enough to eat, a lack of love and encouragement. Here at Master's Foundation, we want to change that bleak reality for many orphans/children this summer. The camps that Master's sponsor will provide lots of fun, food and love. Each child will also hear the good news that Jesus loves them and that He has a plan for their lives.



Lives are impacted and changed for eternity. **It only costs \$150.00 to send a child to camp for 10 days. Help us make it the best summer camp ever!**

In their very own words.

Dima - "The camp taught us to think about sin before and not after what was done. I want to come again to the camp as never." **Lara** - "Being in the camp has given me an opportunity to revise my life anew and change things." **Marina** - "Our mentors – THE BEST! I would like to go to the camp once again. I thank you very much for such a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and experience new horizons in my life. I thank God for this!" **Victoria** - "I changed myself and a lot of what I thought about. Many things including my attitude. I'm waiting for the new camp." **Yana** - "I really liked the atmosphere – it was like one huge family. I really liked gathering around the fire. It was unforgettable! After the camp, I decided to think more about what I was doing and get rid of some addictions."

Please go to our website mastersfoundation.org and click on Our Projects/Summer Camps to view a Summer 2017 Camp held at Church of Love in Ovruch, Ukraine.

Pastor Karen Milley

ANGEL TREE PROJECT

"Angel Tree" – a Christmas Project to imprisoned moms and their children took place in 8 regions of Western Ukraine. Five teams from "Love and Healing" Church in Ternopil went to families whose children are waiting for their mothers to come home from prison. While the mothers are in prison, the children live with their closest relatives, mainly grandparents. The gifts given to the children were given on behalf of their moms. Toiletry gifts were also given to the moms. It was heartbreaking and emotional with many tears for the children not being able to see their mom, except for a gift and a letter. It was equally emotional for the mother who could not be with her child/children. This act of love of caring for the mom and her child has a tremendous effect on both mother and child knowing that God and someone cares and loves them in their situation. As one mother said, **"by this I know God loves me and will see me through."** We thank and value our partnership with the Master's Foundation in the work of reaching out to the imprisoned moms and their children. God bless you!

Mariya Borysova, Meteniv House, Ternopil



OTHER NEWS

THANK YOU GLENDON!

There is something special about 'coming home' to the place where you spent your childhood! Anticipation grows! You begin to wonder – will I be remembered, will so and so be there, will those whom I grew up with understand the needs of the people of Ukraine?

It was an exciting and successful evening: the auction of paintings with Mike (can he ever talk, a true auctioneer), David & Alona who blessed us with Ukrainian songs. Glendon, you surpassed all our expectations. You watched our presentation, you recognized the need and you responded whole heartedly. We appreciated all your conversations, the good food (thanks to the Glendon Catering Women) and your participation in all aspects of the program.



Thank you Glendon! It was a cold evening and the season with so many events begging for your attention; yet you set aside this evening to spend it with us, to hear and see the extent of Master's work in Ukraine – the land from which many of your roots are. Thank you to all who attended from Glendon, Bonnyville, Mallaig, St. Paul, Elk Point, Iron River and Edmonton.

We received notes from several people who were sorry to have missed the event but we look forward to seeing you again in 2018! *Shirley Dawidiuk.*

LIVCHITSI RENO UPDATE...

Thanks to Church On The Queensway and Don Pasiuk major renovations were done to the first and second floors of the dormitory including the washrooms. What looked to be a simple renovation job turned out to be a mega project. It was discovered that all the plumbing including the sewer pipes had to be replaced as they were completely corroded and broken. All electrical had to be replaced and modern toilets/showers installed. Extra window space and ventilation was also created. We were so pleased to have Nazar oversee and execute the entire project. He was a former drug addict, alcoholic – now a dedicated Christian with a young family. His love and compassion for the children at Livchitsi reflected in the quality of work he did. THANK YOU NAZAR! The children are

so pleased to have modern sit-down toilets and showers. To complete the renos Master's supplied personal lockers for the children using the gym. To see the joy on the faces of these children placing their equipment and clothing in their personal locker, was priceless!



PASTORS RETREAT - UKRAINE

In October 2017, at the invitation of Stan Watrich, of The Master's Foundation we joined Pastor Gene Clark from Hamilton, ON in forming a team to minister to Church leaders in Ukraine. Each of us prepared and presented several teaching sessions on topics specifically requested by the Pastors. The response to these sessions was immediate and unmistakable. God used our ministry to bring clarity, understanding, encouragement, healing, and direction. At the end of several sessions, we spent additional time answering questions, offering practical applications, and praying one-on-one with these precious men and women. Many of the attendees tearfully shared their deep appreciation for our teaching sessions, music, and times of prayer that brought understanding, knowledge, encouragement, and healing. During these days in Ukraine we also saw clear evidences of the excellent work being done by the Master's Foundation under the leadership of Stan Watrich. *Pastors Gary, Jan Beesley & Gene Clarke*