



February/March 2023

*February 24th—one year since the illegal Russian
Invasion of Ukraine.
We continue to stand with Ukraine.*

Report from Bakhmut and Soledar

This month our partner Aleksei Yuditsenko, a Mennonite pastor, is delivering humanitarian aid to the east around Bakhmut and Soledar where people are living in basements and struggling to survive. Some cannot leave, some are afraid to leave. He told us that, as you sit in the basement, you can feel the building shake. His mission is to deliver groceries, first aid kits, flashlights, water and clothing—anything that doesn't have to do with weapons. It is dangerous to do what he does. He is often under fire as he delivers essential aid to those fleeing the war. We are sending him an additional £1000 for this work as he is running short of funds. When Aleksei is not delivering aid to the east he is ministering to internally displaced people in Vinnitsia. He asked for prayer.

Please pray for Aleksei and his team:

- ◆ For physical strength. It is very tiring driving long distances to the East.
- ◆ For resilience—it is hard to see mangled corpses in the road and to witness so much suffering.
- ◆ Aleksei's work as an army chaplain supporting soldiers who are very aware that every moment may be their last.



The photograph was sent to us in October from Vinnitsia where Aleksei is based, as the team were preparing to take supplies to Kherson and Zaporizhzhia. In one of the most recent video clips sent to us, Pastor Aleksei and his team were under fire as they gave out humanitarian aid in Bakhmut. You can see this video on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DniproHope/>

Report from Donetsk Region



Our partner, Vasili Kovalev, tells us that: 'Many church leaders are leaving this area—there is a shortage of pastors.' The well and water purification system that DHM helped with is going strong. Every day they deliver water somewhere in the area. The church also carries food to 'the hard places'. The biggest material need is for transportation—petrol and repairs. The greatest spiritual need is for 'grit to stay the course.' Vasili and his team are located at the rear of military activity, so at this point they are not being actively shelled, but they can hear the explosions 50km away. They thank us for our concern and help. [Vasili asks for prayer for a new project supporting bereaved families.](#)

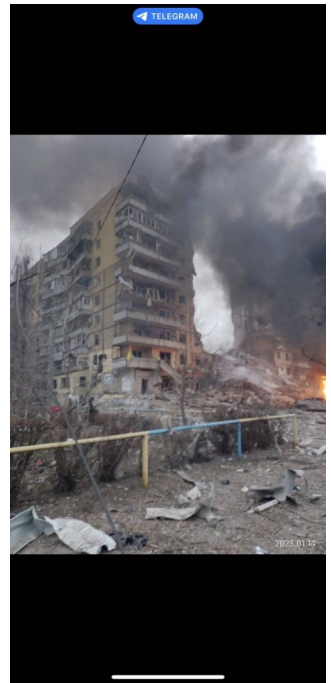
The photo was sent to us by Vasili of a building in Liman where he was delivering humanitarian aid in November. Incredibly, people are still living in these buildings.

'Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God.' 1 John 4.7

Report from Dnipro (1)



'The recent attack on Dnipro has brought a lot of grief,' reports Deacon Evgenii Vishnevskii from the Independent Baptist Church in Dnipro. Until recently those in Dnipro have been better off than those in Donetsk. There are six internally displaced people living at the church now (including two from Bakhmut). The generator sent by DHM (pictured) has been a great addition. They were able to run fun activities for over 70 children over Christmas and want to do something similar over Easter but planning is difficult as 'we go from need to need'. Electricity is a problem. The church is near the hospital so it has longer connection



times and better service than domestic homes which are on a schedule of six hours on and six hours off.

Please pray that Evgenii would get approval to visit the UK. He has not seen his wife and children since last May.

The photo sent by Telegram shows the view from Joshua's brother in law's apartment in Dnipro after the bombing on January 14th. For those new to DHM, Joshua and his wife, Varduyi founded the charity in 2016 in response to the poverty they had observed first hand on family visits to Ukraine.

'Human evil is without limit. It can progress amazingly and become more evil yet. The town of Liman. There are no undamaged houses or buildings here. Photos and videos cannot convey the full picture. Old people and children are still living here...they are in need of everything. We will keep visiting and supporting them' Pastor Vasiliu Kovalyov

'We go from need to need'. Deacon Evgenii Vishnevskii

Report from Nicopol

Our partner, Andreii Platovskii who, with his wife and dog, has spent many months sleeping in a cellar tells us that 'Not much has changed here although they are not shelling the city so much at night, Praise God.' He says that there are few people left in town. People come to the church for humanitarian aid. At home, he has a stove and firewood so they can keep warm. Andreii lost his job at the beginning of the war but helps anyone who is in need. His wife Oksana continues to work for the city social services. Andreii says 'We are grateful to God for all of you as the spiritual and financial support of the mission encourages us (and not only us) through this hard time.'

Andrei asks for prayer for the son of a friend—a missing soldier also called Andreii and for prayer for his wife Oksana who is in pain from arthritis and the medication she has been given has unpleasant side effects.

'Try to live in peace with everyone...' Heb 12.14

Report from Dnipro (2) - the Boyko family.

Pastor Sasha is still driving to the front lines and dangerous areas to deliver humanitarian aid. Recently, he used DHM funds to buy saws for soldiers to cut branches for fuel. The temperature had dropped to -14°C . He continues to visit and supply medication, dressing materials and personal care items to two care home and an orphanage. The care home in Tsarichanka has written to thank us *'..a big thank you for your care and humanity in relation to our residents and staff for the given help...'*

His daughter, Dr Daryna, is still working in A&E at Dnipro State Hospital. She *'doesn't have time to blink'*. She is almost continually in surgery.

- ◆ Please pray for the protection of this very precious family.
- ◆ Pray for the wounded coming in an almost constant stream from Bakhmut and Soledar.



'We are grateful to God for all of you as the spiritual and financial support of Dnipro Hope Mission encourages us (and not only us) through this hard time.' Andrei PLatovskii (Nicolopol)

Update on Pastor Alexander

Many people have been praying for DHM ministry partner, Pastor Alexander Demianchenko. Alexander suffered a life-changing injury in January 2022, which required over a dozen separate surgical operations. At the time, it was thought unlikely he would ever walk again unassisted. But now, thanks to the world-class treatment he has received in Sweden, he is making a remarkable recovery. This past week, he has started to walk slowly without assistance for the first time since his accident. He will never be able to run again or walk long distances, because so many of the bones in his feet were broken, but he should be able to continue to walk short distances unassisted. He (and the team at DHM) are so grateful to everyone who has supported Alexander these past months with prayer and financial support.

You can watch a video here:

<https://www.facebook.com/DniproHope>

Since the invasion on February 24th 2022, DHM has been able to reach those in the most desperate need, through grants to fund the purchase of food, water, medicine and other essential supplies. This is only possible because of our pastors and partners. They are risking all to care for the hungry, fearful, injured and isolated. We are so grateful for all your donations which mean we can continue to save lives.

A special thank you to the Anabaptist Mennonite Network; Christ Church, Kings Langley; Horley Baptist Church; Guildford Baptist Church; Light of Life Church, Ormesby St Margaret; New Malden Baptist Church; St John's Stoke Church, Guildford and Wokingham Baptist Church for their generous donations. We have received many very generous donations from individuals too.

We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

'Above all, pray that this will end.' Pastor Aleksei Yuditsenko

Please join us as we pray for peace

Every month, on the first Thursday, we pause and pray for peace. Please join us, if you can, on February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th and May 4th from 3-4pm GMT as we pray for a just end to this terrible war and an end to the anguish of the Ukrainian people. Please contact the prayer convenor for the Zoom link: melanie@dniprohopemission.org

'Don't let evil get the best of you, but conquer evil by doing good'

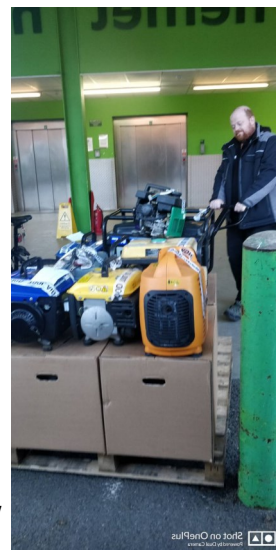
Romans 12.21

Thank you for your amazing response to our Winter Appeal

DHM are very pleased to announce that our winter appeal, 'Operation Warm Embrace' has now raised over £21,000 to bring relief to many communities suffering this winter in Ukraine. Thanks to your generosity our first batch of seven generators are already in Ukraine and are being used by our partners to provide warm hubs for their local communities. The churches asked for generators small enough to be mobile but large enough to provide power for heating/lighting/cooking and charging devices and so we purchased and sent out generators that achieved this (6.5kW of continuous power each).

They have been donated to Vasilkivka Baptist Church, Dnipro Central Church, Dnipro Independent Church, Tsarichanka Care Home, Nicopol Baptist Church, Zaphorizhe Mennonite Church and Preobrazovaniya Church (Pastor Alexander's church serving the disabled community in Kyiv.)

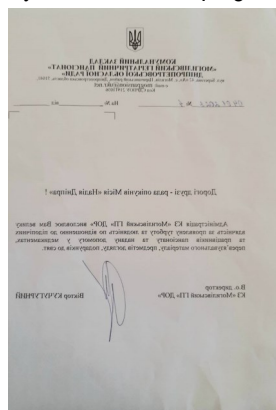
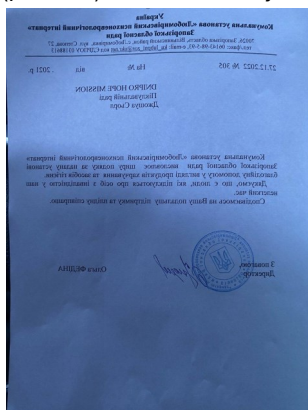
Two more large generators are on their way to Ukraine from the UK. That's in addition to the eleven generators donated this week through the generous support of Ringwood Tool Aid (pictured) – also on their journey to assist in keeping many warm and safe this winter. 'Operation



Warm Embrace' has also funded power bank device chargers and a number of wood stoves. DHM and our partners in Ukraine are so grateful for the generosity of our supporters and partners

Ringwood Tool Aid and the BEARR trust. We will continue to send aid as we can so that: *'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it'* John 1 v 5

Also pictured are thank you letters from two of the care homes we are able to support thanks to your generosity.



'Thank you, that there are people who care about people with disabilities during our difficult time.' Lubomorskiy Psychoneurological Nursing Home.

Give

As the suffering continues, we go from 'need to need' and we want to be able to help our partners on the ground in Ukraine continue to provide support for the most vulnerable. We need your help to do this.

We are grateful for all donations to our **Winter Emergency Appeal (Operation Warm Embrace)**

DHM is an organisation comprised of volunteers and local ministry partners, we don't have any paid staff and 100% of your donations go directly to where they are most needed in Ukraine.

Please donate either through Stewardship or through a standing order or one-off payment to the DHM account:

Sort Code: **30-90-91** / Account Number: **68149860** / Account Name: Dnipro Hope Mission

Bank Name: Lloyds Bank

Please contact gill@dniprohopemission.org for a gift aid form or download it from our website

<https://www.dniprohopemission.org/donate/>

'Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Do things in such a way that everyone can see that you are honourable'. Romans 12.17