



**DNIPRO
HOPE
MISSION**

November/December 2024

*This winter in Ukraine - ongoing attacks on energy infrastructure; continued evacuations; cold weather; lack of access to medicines and healthcare.
Can you help?*



Pray for Ukraine

Winter appeal for **UKRAINE** 2024

DONATE today

Account Name: Dnipro Hope Mission
Sort Code: 30-90-91
Account Number: 68149860
Reference: WinterGift24



Ukrainians, old and young, are left cold,
scared and hopeless this winter due to
the devastations of war.

DHM is raising funds to meet the
needs of the most vulnerable.

- Every penny you donate will:
- provide life saving medication.
 - bring fun days and gifts to children who have lost almost everything.
 - provide warm hubs and generators for those left homeless and cold.



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

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More about our Winter Appeal

This coming winter will be tough for Ukrainians. They are already living in terrible conditions because of the war and this winter is likely to be the hardest yet. There has been non-stop fighting and massive destruction along the frontline cities, towns and villages and concentrated waves of bombs, missiles and drones throughout the year targeting Ukraine's energy infrastructure. Most areas of Ukraine are facing blackouts lasting up to 10-12 hours daily, which means water shortages too as pumps are affected. The cost of utilities, food and essential items continues to rise after almost three years of war. Everyone is tired, and millions are struggling. The hard, colder months ahead with storms and snow will bring yet more suffering.

Your donation will save lives this winter.

£10 will buy firewood for a week or a powerful torch or a hygiene pack for a family fleeing the fighting.

£20 will buy a food parcel for a struggling family.

£30 will buy plywood to repair windows broken by explosions.

£90 will buy diesel fuel for a generator for a month.

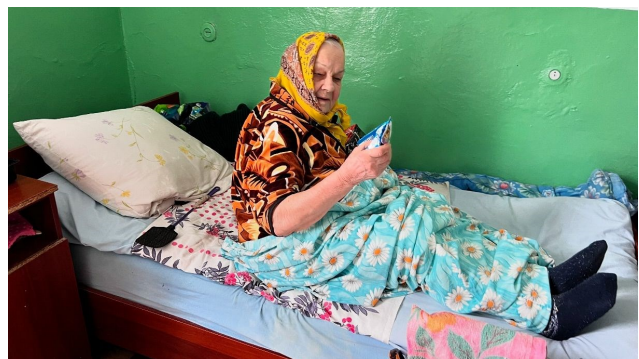
£500 – £1000 will buy an Eco-Flow portable battery which means a church or community organisation can offer a 'warm hub' to their local community.

£500 will fund a Christmas Fun Day for up to 50 internally displaced children (to include a hot meal and a gift)

Heart of Christ MB Church, Vinnytsia and Kherson

Our partners are working in the areas of the country where people are most 'at risk' this winter (those who are close to the front lines, displaced or living in institutions) and prioritising the poor and the most vulnerable: the over 70's, people with disabilities, people with pre-existing heart conditions or respiratory illness, children under five, people living in substandard housing or without access to adequate electricity and heating, people who are homeless and those whose use of alcohol and drugs as a coping mechanism is excessive.

The photos below were sent to us from Pastor Oleksii who has been delivering supplies to the elderly in Kherson. Oleksii writes: *'Whether medicines, food, prosthetics or crutches, any necessary things for them - we try to support them....'*



Please pray for protection for our partners. Often, they are putting their own lives at risk to save lives.

Pray for **strength** and **patience**.

With the rest of the population, they are feeling great pain and trauma - pray for **endurance** as they continue their voluntary ministry, feed the hungry and comfort the bereaved. Pray that wherever they are, and whatever they do, their faith will sustain them and give them **wisdom** and **peace**.

Three of our partners are also military chaplains (Sasha, Oleksii and Sergei). You can read more about their work on our blog: <https://www.dniprohopemission.org/taking-more-than-humanitarian-aid-to-the-front-linesour-military-chaplains/>

'Help him to defend the poor, to rescue the children of the needy...' Psalm 72.4

Community Hub in Kyiv



Poster for the Community Hub

Dima and his wife Olha are working with the most vulnerable on the streets of Kyiv - internally displaced, single men who are often ill, disorientated, unemployed, without documents and suffering from addiction. With DHM's support they have opened a Community Hub which has developed from this summer's successful street feeding programme (pictured below). The team realised that, in order to improve the quality of service and save lives, it would be essential to have a place open every day where people could come and collect clothes and other vital help; have a hot meal; be given a free haircut and receive physical, social, emotional, psychological and spiritual support. DHM is supporting Dima and Olha with funds for rent for the Hub. The Hub is functioning well with many repeat visitors! The building has no natural light so we are hoping to provide funds for a generator/battery so that the building has heat and light and is able to provide a safe space for the most vulnerable during the 12/15 hour power cuts predicted for this winter.

DHM also supports the 'House of Mercy' a smallholding which provides a home, work and rehabilitation for homeless men. Dima reports 'a great harvest resulting in food able to be stored.'



Street feeding and the recently opened Community Hub

'To the needy in distress, you are a shelter from the rain and the heat.'

Isa 25.4

Salvation Evangelical Church, Poltava

Poltava is a city of around 300,000 people situated around 75 miles from the border with Russia, and roughly 143 miles from the eastern front. Regarded as 'safe' until 2024, the city and surrounding region are now regular targets of Russian drone and missile attacks. On September 3rd, Russian forces launched two ballistic missiles against the city and a total of 58 people were killed and over 320 were injured. A team from the church immediately went to one of the city's hospitals to provide care to the victims. Our partner, Serhii writes: *'We saw the strength of spirit and courage of those who, despite trauma, remained steadfast and hopeful. Doctors have selflessly fought for every life, and we were honoured to help them by providing necessary medicines, bandages and nutrition to the patients.'* In the month of September, Salvation Church ran 24 support groups for IDPs at the church for Bible study and food parcels (250 people approx.) and visited 80 wounded soldiers. They also, with the full-time army chaplain, visited 150 soldiers on the front lines. As well as praying with the soldiers they took some pastries, 'victory bread', biblical literature and personal messages of support and hope.



The photographs show: 'Teen Club'; care for the elderly and 'victory bread'



Salvation Church is supporting many internally displaced families. Kateryna wrote:

'Through the church, I can save on groceries and get my children the medical treatment they need, buy them toys and learning materials. I am very grateful for the support during this difficult time. Your help enables us to endure this ordeal, and I hope for a better future.'

Please pray for:

- ◆ Pastor Serhii, his wife Olena and the team at Salvation Church.
- ◆ For the internally displaced in Poltava, Dnipro and across Ukraine. There are approximately 1000 internally displaced people who have recently arrived in Poltava. Salvation Church has been given a 'collapsible house' which will house approximately 20 families but they need \$20,000-50,000 to buy a plot of land and ensure it has a gas supply and firm base. Please pray as the church has *'started looking for these finances for this incredible project to care for IDPs.'*

Equilibrium Project

Margarita has been given a field for the Equilibrium project and has started to raise funds to build stables. Having her own facilities will enable her to expand the project and means that she will no longer need to pay two lots of rent! We are grateful for small grants from Alchemy Foundation, Cadbury Foundation and The Souter Charitable Trust which have been used as 'seed funding' to get this work started. However, other funding will end in December and more money is urgently needed. This is a wonderful project providing rehabilitation to internally displaced children traumatised by war.



Please pray for wisdom for Margarita and that just the right amount of money needed will be provided.

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.' Proverbs 3.5

Dnipro Independent Baptist Church



Pastor Evgenii and the team at Dnipro Independent Baptist Church are supporting a group of deaf people in the church; distributing 150 packages of food products each month and visiting the elderly who are unable to leave their homes. Evgenii says *'now we are preparing for winter, we don't know how events will develop...'*



Please pray for:

- ◆ Evgenii would like to visit his family who are refugees in the UK. He hasn't seen his new daughter who was born in September. Please pray that he will be given permission to leave Ukraine.
- ◆ All families torn apart by this terrible war and waiting in uncertainty to hear news of loved ones.
- ◆ Pray for the protection of Dnipro. Russian forces have carried out a number of deadly attacks against the city and surrounding areas since invading Ukraine in 2022.

Dnipro Central Baptist Church

Children and young people in Ukraine are suffering in ways that seem unimaginable - over 500 have been killed; 1600 wounded; many are missing and thousands have been taken to Russia. This is having a significant impact on mental health and well-being and there is a shortage of mental health support services. We are very thankful for our partner, Mykhailo, who is co-ordinating children's clubs in the Dnipro area and training leaders for the groups. 35 churches in the region have now opened clubs where about 1,000 children and teenagers come every week for Bible stories, games, songs, food and prizes. This kind of support - belonging to a community, sharing everyday moments of fun and laughter with peers and supportive adults - is nurturing resilience as is the development of spirituality and faith.

Please pray for:

- ◆ Mykhailo and his family and the 'mega' conference which is planned in Dnipro on November 30th and for all those who are working with children and teenagers in the region.
- ◆ The children of Ukraine - for healing, for strength, for resilience, for family reunions and an end to the war.
- ◆ Pray for parents, siblings and grandparents.

House of Hope, Vasilkivka



Our partner Sasha, writes - *'...thanks to God and you, the windows at the House of Hope are being installed.'* Please pray that this work is completed before winter sets in and for protection for this building.

The Russians have bombed Liubomirivka in the Zaporizhzhia region, where Pastor Sasha looks after a care home for disabled residents that we have been supporting for nearly 10 years. You can see the video on our Facebook page (posted Oct.15th) [Pray for the owner of the smallholding which was destroyed and pray for protection for the care home and the residents.](#)

At least once a week the team here deliver water, bread, medicine and grocery packages to a village in the Donetsk Region. [Pray for the safety of Sasha, Marika and all those involved.](#)



'...In this time of great need, begin again to help us...' Habakkuk 3.2

Rock of Salvation Church, Pokrovsk

Many of our supporters have been asking about our partner Vasily and his family after he was forced to evacuate leaving his church building and his home in Pokrovsk. He has just written to our treasurer: *'I thank God for cooperation and friendship with you and DNIPRO HOPE MISSION! As you know almost all our church left when the war started on 24th February 2022. With just a small team of people remaining in the church, we actively continued the social and spiritual work in Pokrovsk and the Donetsk region. Firstly, the bakery and then we built and equipped a water treatment plant. Every week we brought food and clothing for residents of the city and the region. This is what we did:*

Baked and distributed 64,000 loaves of bread and delivered to all the 'hot spots' of the region (Avdiivka, Maryanka and other places).

Over 4,000,000 litres of clean water was delivered and distributed for 2 years every day!!! There were days when 8-10 tons a day were taken out and roses were given!

More than 1,000 people were taken out for evacuation from hot spots. After a thousand, we stopped counting!

We took 1,500 people from Pokrovsk into our care. We helped them with food.

We ran the Humanitarian HUB. It is very difficult to give a figure in tons. Food, clothing, winter stoves, and other items. Definitely more than one hundred tons of such cargo was accepted and distributed.

We calculated that in 2.5 years we drove 480,000 km. That's 12 times around the Equator! This is the largest expense item of our mission, about 80,000€!!! This is just the fuel—we also paid for many repairs to our vehicles.'

Please pray for:

- ♦ Vasily and the team. They are returning to Pokrovsk (where there is heavy fighting) three times a week to make deliveries to the hospital.
- ♦ 36 new believers who came to faith and were baptised during the 2.5 years of war as they witnessed the incredible humanitarian work of this small church.



A huge thank you to all our supporters. Your donations have saved countless lives. In Vasily's own words:

'Thank you so much for participating in this project.

Without you we can't do much. So I ask you to be with us as long as possible.

These are dark times for us, but Christ is with us.'

'Rescue the poor and helpless; deliver them from the grasp of evil people.' Psalm 82.4

DHM trustees in Ukraine

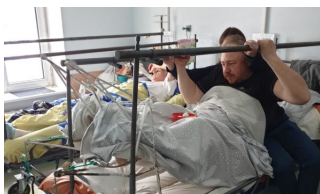
DHM trustee Margaret, and her husband Rodger, a member of DHM's International Advisory Board love Ukraine and Ukrainians. They visited Ukraine before the war and have recently been back for their fifth visit! They spent most of their time teaching at Lviv Theological Seminary and the Transcarpathian Christian Institute. They also made a quick visit to our partner Margarita (Equilibrium Project) and spent the weekend with Oleksii in Vinnytsia and helped with food distribution to internally displaced families.



Sadly, while they were away, Hurricane Helene came with a vengeance on their city of Augusta. Margaret said 'Our neighbourhood was hit extremely hard with trees falling on & through the roofs of houses.' **Please pray for Rodger and Margaret and their community as the clean up and recovery continues and they try to return to normal life.**



Pastor Alexander D.



Pastor Alexander, currently a refugee in Sweden, is joining our prayer meetings whenever he can. He wants to thank all the DHM's 'family' especially those supporters who have prayed for him and supported him financially over the years. He has incredible news: His recently broken arm has healed well (after a recent cycling accident). His healing from his terrible accident in January 2021 has been a 'big miracle' and he is now

walking without crutches. He would like to return to Ukraine where there is great need for his wisdom, experience and passion for supporting people with disabilities. Pastor Alexander is a long-standing partner of DHM and many of our supporters know him personally from their mission trips to Ukraine.

Please pray for wisdom and funds for the return trip. Pray especially for his two younger daughters (aged 11 and 16) who may find it harder to return than Alexander, his wife Yulia and older girls. Pray for protection over this very dear family as they travel and once they are 'home' in Ukraine.



Join us as we pray for peace

Every month, on the first Thursday, we pause and pray for peace and justice. Please join us, if you can, on November 7th from 3-4 pm GMT and/or December 5th from 3-4 pm GMT as we pray for an end to this terrible war and the suffering of the Ukrainian people and for peace and justice. Please know that we are grateful to you all as we stand with Ukraine.

Please contact the prayer convenor for the Zoom link: melanie@dniprohopemission.org

'Then Jesus wept.' John 11.35

Our grateful thanks....

To the **'Space for Life'** group in Poole - your blankets reached a group of older people in Kherson - all exhausted by war. They were greatly appreciated.

To Sophie, Yani and all their colleagues at **Experian** - they have managed to raise an amazing £590 for Ukraine which will go towards our Winter Appeal. They held a bake sale and a 'Walk-a-Thon' - walking 566 miles together, which is the equivalent of the distance between eastern Ukraine to Poland.

Thanks to **Reigate Baptist Church** who immediately responded to our Winter Appeal with a generous donation and an invitation to speak.

Thanks to the **everyone who donated through regular, occasional giving or standing orders** - you will probably never know the difference that you have made.



Can you help?

If you would like to join us on our Winter Appeal by organising your own event, coffee morning, tea, sponsored walk/run, head shave, New Year's Eve party or your own challenge, we would be thrilled and forever grateful! We want to be able to do even more to help countless people suffering in Ukraine because of this terrible war.

Save the date: Saturday February 8th 2025

Please join us for our first **Dnipro Hope Mission Information Afternoon** to be held as we approach the third anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It is on **Saturday February 8th 2025 from 2-4pm at Stoneleigh Baptist Church**. For both new supporters who want to find out more and long-standing supporters who want an update from our partners. Come along and **meet some of the trustees** as we serve **tea and cake**, watch videos from our **trusted partners** and hear directly from **Anna, our newest trustee**, a refugee herself from Ukraine.

All are welcome.

If you are able to come, please rsvp to melanie@dniprohopemission.org so that we bake enough cake!

Visiting speakers: We would love to visit your church or group to tell you more about Dnipro Hope Mission, our partners and their life-saving work in Ukraine. Please contact DHM chair of trustees for more information:

mark@dniprohopemission.org

Giving



DHM is an organisation comprised of volunteers and local ministry partners, we don't have any paid staff and almost all 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/>

If you would like an acknowledgement, please email trustees Gill or Melanie and we would be very happy to thank you personally for your gift.

Every penny will help and almost all of your donations will go directly to our trusted local partners who are already working in Eastern Ukraine.

Account name: Dnipro Hope Mission
Account Number: 68149860
Sort Code: 30-90-91

'Do take a new grip with your tired hands and stand firm on your shaky legs.' Heb 12.12

Dnipro Hope Mission has been working in Eastern Ukraine since 2016 and became a UK-registered charity in 2018 (1177504)