



Bratislava, 18.03.2022

Report on the assistance provided by the Slovak Baptist Union to refugees from Ukraine

Dear brothers and sisters.

Another week has passed and today is the twenty second day of the war. For more than three weeks now we've been hearing of rocket attacks, the bombing of civilian targets and of the deaths of innocent people. On TV or on the internet we can watch as hundreds of thousands of people are fleeing from their homes. Many of us have personal experience of hosting frightened Ukrainians in our homes as they seek safety in our country. The latest figures show that more than 220,000 refugees from Ukraine have entered our country. In Slovak terms this is like the addition of another city the size of Košice.

Amidst these discouraging reports, I would like to begin this report by being thankful. Giving thanks for every prayer, for each donated item of material help, for every euro of financial help, for all the open doors to refugees and for every bed prepared for those in need. There truly is a lot we can, and should be giving thanks for, even in the midst of war.

In this report I would like to share with you what, with God's help, we've been able to do during the last week and how the ministry to those affected by the military conflict continues.

Last week, we informed you about our intention to prepare a shipment of humanitarian aid and transport it to Ukraine using the truck we've been offered. At the end of last week we were able to secure warehouse space in the town of Nové Zámky for a very good price. In the attached photos you can see what this warehouse for humanitarian aid looks like and also see some of the humanitarian help that has already been secured stored there. There is a busy atmosphere there and almost every day something is going on, things are being prepared and new food, cosmetics and other humanitarian material continues to arrive. We are very grateful to the volunteers, brothers and sisters from surrounding churches, who came to help with tidying up and preparing the warehouse. In the coming days the truck should be ready and the



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in Nové Zámky*



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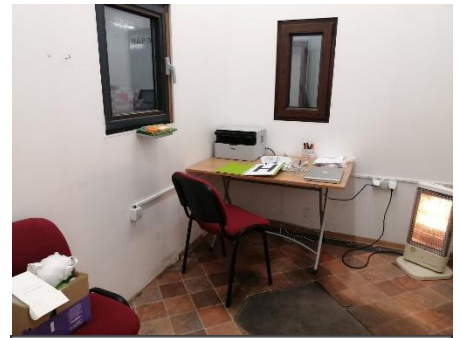
shipment of humanitarian aid will be delivered to Ukraine, to the church in Svalyava in Zakarpattia, and from there distributed to the eastern parts of Ukraine, which have been directly affected by the military conflict. In faith in the living God, we hope that this is only the first truck and that we'll fill more. Of course everything depends on willing donors and supporters. Please also pray for this form of help, which for those remaining in Ukraine, is very very much needed.

We're glad that some of our brothers from the Viera church in Bratislava are involved in the delivery of humanitarian help with a Christian organization using a bus. They take a bus full of humanitarian help through Poland to Ukraine and on the way back the bus is filled with people fleeing the war to safety. Please pray for them, for God's protection on the journey and during their time in Ukraine itself.

As for help taking place directly in our churches, the majority of people currently arriving in our country are not planning on continuing further west, but planning to either settle here or see out the war here and then return home. Therefore, they are refugees who require longer-term care. We currently have more than 200 people accommodated in our churches, most of whom intend to stay long-term in Slovakia. It is encouraging that we still have some free space where we can accommodate a few dozen more people. We're also grateful to God that more and more places are becoming available as churches and fellowships are opening their homes. We have been in contact with Andryi K., who is coordinating the arrival of Ukrainian Christians to our country. He has helped to coordinate the arrival of several hundred Christians, some of them are interested in making use of our accommodation. Therefore, in the next few days we will coordinate the transfer of these refugees to the churches who have space to welcome them.

The church in Košice continues to serve as a first contact point, a first place of refuge for refugees who've crossed the border and arrived in our country. It's now over three weeks that they have been sacrificially serving, day and night, non-stop. We'd like to offer our thanks to everyone who decided to travel to Košice and help as volunteers in this church. We've even had international volunteers come to help. There is still an acute need, therefore if you're able to come and help as a volunteer, please get in contact with the coordinator from your church. While serving as a volunteer, you can also experience that this service goes two ways, an example was when Ukrainians staying in the church, cooked the locals a tasty lunch - real Ukrainian borscht.

Finally, we'd like to share one inspiring report. This is from Žilina, where currently we do not have a Baptist church, but where under the leadership of some of our members, a group of approximately 20 Ukrainians meet for spiritual fellowship. They prayed together,



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Humanitarian Bus



International volunteers in Košice



Ukrainians cooked lunch in Košice



A group of refugees in Žilina

sang praises to the Lord and encouraged one another in their faith in Jesus. Praise God for that.

Please keep praying for the war in Ukraine to end.

Pray that many people would come to Jesus and know Him as their personal savior.

That, through the great suffering that many are experiencing, many souls would be saved for eternity. And may the ruler of this world use us in the humble possibilities that we have.

Glory and praise to Him

On behalf of the coordinating team of the Slovak Baptist Union

Ľubo Pál

If you would like to support the help to refugees through our ministry, you can send your gifts to the bank account of the Slovak Baptist Union. Thank you

International Transfer

Account owner: Bratská jednota baptistov v Slovenskej republike

Address: Súľovská 2, 821 05 Bratislava, Slovak Republic

IBAN: SK52 0200 0000 0011 2149 8655

Bank identification: SUBA

SWIFT code: SUBASKBX

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