



Siloam Christian Ministries

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Galatians 5:14-15: "All the law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

UPDATE CONCERNING MINISTRY IN UKRAINE:

Over 20 years ago, Pete worked in Ukraine. Through connections at UETS Bible College in Kyiv, he took small teams to visit street children, support the work with disabled people and provided urgent equipment for ambulances.

In February 2020, as a result of Russia invading Ukraine, Pete arrived at the Polish borders, along with five mini buses from Germany to evacuate people with disabilities.

The next day, he drove to Oradea, Romania, to set up a similar project, with a focus on mothers with disabled children.



Above: A monthly lunch provided to support mothers with disabled children.

After several weeks of chaos, midnight border crossings, and providing emergency accommodation, the situation with Ukraine changed, people deciding to stay in their country.

As a result, families were still escaping from bombings but many now arrived in the Zarkappia region, creating a housing crisis therefore High rent increases. Pete decided to spend most of his time in the region to support these IDP" (Internally Displaces Persons) but also help support other vulnerable people by working with the local churches.

Across the past two winters, by using funds from a Christian charity in South England, around 2,500-3,000 hot meals have been provided. We also deliver around 100 special packages to vulnerable families. Recipients (both IDP's and elderly) will arrive at our church on a Friday to collect tickets for the following week. In church, people are made very welcomed, and a Gospel presentation is made. As a result, several people then took part in the **Alpha Course**.

Across both projects, around 1,000 were evacuated, and as a result, Pete was awarded the "White Cross" by the Ukraine Government.



Above: "The White Cross", presented in Vienna on behalf of the Ukraine Government, for my setting up two projects, evacuating mothers and children from Ukraine - approx 1,000 in total.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” - Matthew 11-28

Church Attendance & Baptisms

Other projects provided are visiting families with disabled people where we always pray for the family and see if/how we can provide ongoing support. From this, C4C (Caring For Carers) began, providing monthly support for the mothers. Many of these have also started attending church.

Practical support has been provided to a Christian refuge with 17 children and 8 mothers who have experienced physical abuse. Recently, one mother and a teenage boy from the refuge were baptised.

Growing Team

Pete now has an awesome team of three ladies. (with a fourth soon to join) The group provides a 'platform' across churches to set up projects. One example... in October and November, the young adults aged 17-30 are invited from different churches to join together on a Friday evening for worship. After, they then set up tables and chairs to prepare for a 'banquet' the following lunchtime.



Above: Pete's awesome team in Ukraine. Ira, Zhenya, Trissie (from China) and Oksana.

The 'banquet' is for those known to the church as very poor, and the young adults will serve food, play music in the background, and talk with our guests.

For December, our plan is to hold a banquet in the park (we will arrange permission) for those living on the streets or most vulnerable.

This is just one project we have started as a 'platform'. We have other ideas, for example, supporting soldiers returning from front lines through injury and helping at a new rehab centre. Another project is to find volunteers from churches to help with visiting vulnerable families. We have other ideas like creating a sensory room for severely disabled.

Bringing God's people together and changing lives.

Maybe you saw in the media that in June, we had a theatre group from Uzhgorod who came to the RSC in Stratford to perform King Leah in the Ukraine language. All actors are IDP's. It took 18 months to organise, but it was life changing for all involved, including Ukraine refugees who came to the performances.



Above: A group of 15 Ukrainian refugees were gathered to perform "King Leah" at the RSC in Stratford on Avon. All those performing are IDP's (refugees).

Finally, great news....Pete will host his team of three ladies in UK at the end of September. They will visit Pete's contacts around UK and visit churches and projects.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Norton

Director-Siloam UK

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