

PRAY FOR UKRAINE

released September 6, 2022

For many years, One Challenge USA has served pastors and believers across Ukraine. Longstanding friendships now form channels through which practical assistance can flow in their greatest time of need.

We are working closely with OC field staff in Europe to prioritize urgent humanitarian needs and carefully steward the distribution of funding where most needed.

You can be part of this team effort to love courageously in Jesus' name. Read ongoing updates from OC workers Joel and Irena, who are seeking to help those on the ground. Other OC workers report on how surrounding countries are helping refugees. Join us in praying for Ukraine using this short guide.

UPDATES FROM OTHER WORKERS

The war with Russia continues with no end in sight. The attack on Ukraine by Russia forced One Challenge workers, Irena and Joel Colon to flee to Poland where they continue to **coordinate the relief effort at the storage warehouse**, primarily working with Samaritan's Purse and Conoy of Hope. As part of the relief help, they send New Testaments and prayer guides. Prior to the war perhaps 1 in 10 people would take literature from Christian workers, and perhaps read it or throw it away. Now, everyone is asking for it and the churches are asking for more and more, using as much as is available.



An unchurched lady shared that she prays with the words of the prayer guide every day. It comforts her.

Joel and Irena have had the opportunity to return twice to Kiev to see their home and business and to spend time with family. The result has been to recognize they cannot

return permanently at this time due to the ongoing danger and impact of the war. **Pray** for wisdom as to what their future might be.

Irena reports: “No one believed Ukraine would stand. Someone even said it’s a matter of “when”, not “if”. Well, Ukraine is not only standing, it’s standing strong. Pray that we will have victory over this evil soon. We never believed Russia would invade our beautiful country, but it did. This year the day of Independence marks six months of Russian invasion. We ask you to **pray** for our beautiful country. **Pray** that no plan of the enemy will prosper, and God will not only protect us, and the people of Ukraine, but bring victory and much prayed for peace.”

One Challenge worker, **Bob**, who has had ministry in Ukraine and the surrounding countries since 1997 reports:

“Pictured in western Ukraine, my staff unload refugee supplies from Germany and Poland.



These supplies will be delivered to several of our camps in Ukraine strategically located throughout the country. We've delivered more than 150 tons of supplies so far."

Bob continues: "One of my leaders, Oleg, leads his 200 fighters in the Lord's Prayer every morning and night as they continue with their fight to protect their country. He prays with them and gives the gospel every day. Oleg was in the hospital for one week to remove shrapnel from his leg. Two of his men were killed on the same day of his injury."



Bob concludes: "As the war rages on in Ukraine, our donations have fallen dramatically. If you or your church is able to help in this effort, please send your support."

One Challenge has open channels to direct your gifts to those in need in Ukraine. If you feel led to help provide relief to Ukrainians on the ground, you can [give here](http://www.onechallenge.org/give): www.onechallenge.org/give. For more breaking stories regarding Ukraine, visit <https://www.onechallenge.org/2022/02/28/ukraine-relief-fund/>.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY

As we get reports from Ukraine and those helping there and in the surrounding areas, they continue to express their **deep gratitude** for much needed supplies enabled through the generosity of many. They also emphasize the great **support they feel from our prayers**.

Irena wrote on Sept 1: Despite all the death and devastation in Ukraine, **people are turning to God**. Many churches are being filled with new believers, and they are seeking God, and praying for peace. We try to send as much Christian literature as we have available (New Testaments and a Prayer Guide with a testimony), and pastors are asking for more. We believe that as people continue to pray for Ukraine, God will hear, and He will heal our land."

Please continue praying with us for:

- Peace and an end to the war very soon
- Safety for all the pastors and relief workers.
- Wisdom and courage for Ukrainian President Zelensky and the Ukrainian leadership. Pray they will turn to God in this hour of need!
- Wisdom for Joel & Irena to know how and when to act with all the different needs.
- God to use this time of uncertainty and fear to move the hearts of people and recognize Christ as the only hope and Savior

- Strength and wisdom for Christian workers and organizations to be the hands and feet of Jesus
- European churches receiving many Ukrainian refugees to love these people well, and for provision as they stretch themselves with meager resources
- Sustained hope to overcome the discouragement felt by all suffering from the war
- A continued outpouring of resources and generosity to sustain those in desperate need who have lost so much
- Protection of nuclear facilities from bombing, causing devastating effects
- Healing from all the trauma of war