



THE MASTER'S FOUNDATION

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Dear Ministry Partner,

At the time of this writing, we are all aware of the discussions being held to bring an end to the war with Russia being waged on Ukrainian soil. This move of course is being prompted and led by our neighbor to the south and is not without disagreements and bumps along the way. Aside from the questions and rhetoric that has held people in the grip of emotions because of the brutality and unfairness of it all, we quietly hope and pray that the efforts to settle the conflict will come to a successful conclusion. The country of Ukraine has lost tens of thousands of its young men in the conflict, as well as millions of its citizens who have fled the country as a result. A proper response of followers of Christ is to be united in prayer for an end to the war. The old adage is still true for us today, "prayer changes things".

The Master's Foundation has been a faithful organization in listening, praying and caring for people in Ukraine since before the time of war. I am thinking today of two of our partners (Artem and Olena) who live in the Sumy region of Ukraine, which borders Russia. They regularly experience the terrifying threats of missile strikes. Sumy has recorded the third highest number (125) of missile alerts in the country for the month of January. In fact, since the beginning of the war in 2022 until this past January, the Sumy region has had 3,144 missile alerts. Living a normal everyday life is out of the question for these two partners and their families. Yet, they convey to us their appreciation for the ongoing support sent to them from the MF donors in Canada. It is not only their gratitude, but it is their joy in serving their war-torn country that astonishes me. They are solid, stable and sold out in serving the Lord by serving the needs of others.

In this newsletter are photos and some stories of the work that MF is involved in on a daily basis. We are coming into the springtime and for many of the children and youth of Ukraine, it is the season for camps and therefore a break from the daily fear of missile strikes. An example of one of our goals for the summer season is partnering with a very dedicated, energetic young pastor in the Zytomer region to provide a camp experience for several hundred boys and girls. The work is presently being done to prepare the camp for this summer of ministry. We hope you can help make this happen for these children.

All of the partners that we work through are dedicated and faithful to the work of the ministry and represent well the Masters Foundation but, most importantly, the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for your ongoing faithful support of Masters Foundation.

Sincerely,

Gene Clarke – President



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WINTER/SPRING 2025

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Children - the future of Ukraine



BRINGING HOPE, LIFE & SALVATION

PROGRAMS AND SUMMER CAMPS

February 24, 2025, marked Ukraine's 3rd anniversary of the invasion by its neighbour. Many have died fighting valiantly for their nation. Others have fled their homeland, seeking safer corners of the world. For the rest of the people that still call Ukraine home, they continue to face difficulties and challenges. Besides dealing with constant sirens warning of oncoming threats, there are continual increases on food, utility and fuel costs, the loss or dwindling of income, and ongoing power outages. Ukrainians are exhausted from trying to keep safe and making ends meet. During these difficult times, Masters Foundation comes to offer hope and help in tangible ways.

Our Children of Victory project, which focused on clothing children whose parent had been killed or wounded in war, has been a great success and true blessing to the families who were part of this outreach. Due to a lack of funding, we needed to scale back support of this ongoing need this past year. As funds become available our support for this incredible program will continue.

MF volunteers continue to meet urgent humanitarian needs and helping those traumatized by the war, but we are now beginning to make plans for summer programs with a special emphasis on Ukraine's most valuable treasure, their children.

We have been involved in enhancing and improving our orphanage ministry. With the help from a leadership in Lviv, a hands-on training session was held for a young lady who will be heading up an orphanage ministry in the Zhytomyr region. Together, they are inspiring one another with their God given talents to serve Ukraine's orphans, children and teens.

We have also been helping students attend a seminary in Western Ukraine. Many of the students are refugees that have fled from war zones in the East but have an incredible desire to be somehow involved in ministry within their country. On my recent trip I had the privilege to personally speak with these young people and play a role in interviewing and selecting 3 students for scholarships that MF has sponsored.

Our largest thrust this summer will be sponsoring camps throughout Ukraine run by our many volunteers. One of our partners, Pastor Ivan, has informed MF that there is an old campsite not far from Kyiv that in the past was used to house hundreds of young people during summer camps. I had the opportunity to visit this site on my recent trip. What an undertaking it will be to make this facility useable once again. Pastor Ivan and many volunteers are working tirelessly so that once again it can be used to minister to young people during the summer months.. The goal is to have over 450 young people attend camps here this summer. And he is only one of our partners. Many are making plans for summer camps, and they need our help.

These summer camps are an incredible opportunity for scores of children and teens to enjoy a reprieve from the sights and sounds of war. Many of them would love to spend time together with others their age who are experiencing the same hardships that they are going through. Most of these campers are unchurched, coming from surrounding villages and small towns. For many of them, it will be their first opportunity to hear the gospel.

With your help, we can provide these children and teens with a place where they will feel safe and loved, where they can laugh and play. Most importantly, it's our desire for them to hear and connect with a loving God and people who deeply care about them.

This summer, we would love to gather as many children and teens as we possibly can so that they can all learn that they are not alone and forgotten, but instead, they can discover an amazing love and future that can be theirs in Jesus.

Please consider helping us to love and bless these children and teens. As I have mentioned, they are Ukraine's greatest treasure. The needs of this next generation are increasingly great. Our goal currently is to raise \$30,000 USD for these summer programs. Together, with The Masters Foundation, we can make an incredible difference in their lives as well as in the future of Ukraine!

All photos are provided by MF ministry partners.

A CHILD SHOULD HAVE A CHILDHOOD NO MATTER WHAT!

For three years we've been losing the most precious treasure that we have – the lives of our people, including those who are the most vulnerable and who need constant care and protection -our children, [the children of Ukraine](#).

Millions of children were robbed of celebrating birthdays, of making school memories, of happy times with their family and friends. For three years of full-scale war, children continue to cope with fear, anxiety and grief; all these are connected with the loss of close family members, separation, having to move from their homes, isolation and a complete loss of normal childhood.



Despite this, many children continue to show unbelievable courage and resilience. They raise money for our soldiers, encourage the wounded in our hospitals, and send pictures and letters to inspire our defenders in the most difficult battles. Every picture of a child is about blue and yellow flags and about gratitude to our



soldiers. [Children understand what is going on and they have strong faith and hope.](#)

Currently, it is most difficult for parents with children with severe health conditions. Crises like air raids, shootings, explosions and other dangerous sounds these children experience more acutely than adults. They are vulnerable and very dependent on others no matter their age and their location. They are more easily susceptible to the negative consequences as they are more socially and emotionally connected with their parents and the place where they live.

[The most difficult thing is to be alone what you have hard times. That is why going through the war without any support is the worst thing both for children and for adults.](#) At times stress is too much even for a child who is very stress tolerant and has a caring family. We will be very grateful if we keep receiving your help, as the war will not stop tomorrow. Unfortunately, different funds (international and Ukrainian) say that the support is less and less; there are less people who donate. On the international scene, they want to talk less and less about the pain of Ukrainian children. [Children who grow up during the war will continue the history of](#)



[Ukraine tomorrow.](#) Ukraine is going through a historical change and rethinking of social values and priorities. In the future, we do not want to say, "What a bad generation we have" – we need to ask ourselves now, ["What did I do when I was there to make this generation grow up with strong moral and spiritual values?"](#)

We cannot put war on pause but we have not given up. We are not going to step back now. We still believe that the war will end one day soon and meanwhile we take small steps every day to overcome its consequences. To reduce negative effects our center keeps working. We do our usual lessons with children according with a normal schedule, we create new rituals to ensure the feeling of safety, and we try to distract children with familiar things during shooting and air raids. For children with autism and severe psychophysical disorders the basic routine things are extremely important – their space, food, walking exercises, and familiar people close by.

At times it is impossible to overcome fear and panic attacks for hours, but the feeling that we have to be a strong example for those who have more difficult times gives us strength. Sometimes our workers force themselves to come in the morning to the center, open the door and fall on the knees before the Lord with a request to give strength for the day, to give patience, protection and courage. We need to be an example for the parents who come every day with hope to our center. [Every mother needs to find – nobody knows where and how – a reserve of strength to protect their little ones and to save them from all the pain that is going on around.](#)



We understand that we all have a long road ahead of us, longer than the one we had before the war. We understand there are many obstacles on this road: difficulties in providing safety, the necessity of therapy for trauma-associated stress and anxiety disorders and accessing the material items required for therapy. [Still, we are sure that we will overcome with God's help and mercy.](#)

We ask everyone to stop for a second and [to pray for Ukrainian children whose childhood and lives are destroyed by the war.](#) Every one of them wants to have dreams and plans for a future in their own country. Instead of carefree school days, fear, separation and loss are constant as they contend with explosions and destruction. Instead of drawing pictures, they struggle to survive and watch their dreams disappear.

Another of our ministry partners writes: [Ukrainian children are the future of Ukraine, and our future depends on their physical, psychological and spiritual state,](#) whether they will become light or darkness, a blessing or a curse, all this depends on it "TODAY". Currently they are experiencing the extreme difficulties of the war, but they are our little heroes. They do not lose hope and faith. They have such great faith. If you are feeling desperate, it is enough to communicate with a child and you will receive a charge of positivity, an encouragement.

Children are our future and [supporting children is an investment in the future.](#) A child's psyche is not able to cope with such an emotional load on its own, or in isolation from society. Currently in the Sumy region children have been studying online for more than 4 years. There is no banal communication with other children, many of the parents are at the frontline, and the children cope with air raid sirens and explosions.

We have organized projects to support children: [Art therapy:](#) at our Art Center they have the opportunity to find ways to communicate, make friends, surrender their bad emotions in creative means and receive positive emotions. We are seeing excellent results in this work.

CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE



Lviv: last fall a family in Lviv whose home was spared serious consequences, although severe damage and death occurred nearby, found this piece of 'warfare' in their possession. The lady of the home displays it on her kitchen – a reminder of how God spared their home that particular day!



Elderly: the elderly are another vulnerable part of society. The war has intensified their difficulties. MF continues to provide humanitarian aid and relies on our partners to visit and aid them.



Bible study (Superbook club): studying the Bible and getting to know God gives you the opportunity to have faith and understanding that in any circumstances you are not alone. It helps them a lot.

Children's camps, excursions, other social initiatives. Our motto: "A child should have a childhood no matter what" Thanks to these projects, children learn about the world.

Thank you for supporting our work. May the Lord bless you abundantly.



Thank you Bonnyville and Glendon Alberta churches for inviting MF to visit you in December..