



# FRONTLINE Prayer Letter March 2022

“...let your light shine before others,  
so that they may see your good  
works and give glory to your Father  
who is in heaven.” – Matt 5:16

## Russia-Ukraine War

As you might expect from following the news reports, things have been quite hectic at RCR also. While we continue our long-term focus of “reaching hopeless and broken Russian-speaking people with the transforming love and power of Jesus Christ,” our daily activities are totally different right now. Things are moving so rapidly, we thought we needed to send you a second mailing this month, with a progress report on our current activities and updated prayer requests.

The sanctions have frozen our usual method of transferring funds to our co-workers in Russia. While we continue to search for alternatives, the spiritual and humanitarian needs of the refugees are enormous and immediate. After the RCR Board held an emergency meeting, establishing a new project to help the Ukrainian refugees, we have moved forward and have sent our first donations to assist them. One advantage of having so many board members with roots in Eastern Europe is that we have excellent contacts with other mission activities that are already underway in the areas where the refugees are arriving (rather than starting a new effort). Our board members have had personal interactions with the pastors and missionaries that we are choosing and some have worked alongside them on mission trips. Thus, we are quite confident that they share our values and focus. We are partnering with ongoing efforts in two locations.

**Moldova** - We are partnering with the Emmanuel Baptist Church (Biserica Baptista Emanuel) in Balti, Moldova (just to the southwest of Ukraine). This city isn't far from the Ukraine border, and has seen a high influx of refugees over the past weeks. Pastor



Konstantin Cheptea and his team are working 24/7, spending much of their time at a tent at the Ukraine border as well as at their church building, ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of the refugees. The needs include food, baby food and diapers, cell phone cards, medicine, transportation to Romania and other destinations in Moldova and a place to sleep.



**Eastern Poland** - We are also partnering with Evelina Smane, currently serving Ukraine refugees on the Poland/Ukraine border. Evelina and her team are also assisting refugees 24/7 at the border and near Krakow, and going into Ukraine when possible. They are helping refugees with food, first aid, medicine, transportation, housing, sleeping bags, flashlights, clothing, shoes, etc. They also preach the Gospel and pass out New Testaments, and see anywhere from tens to multiple hundreds being saved daily.



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There are also other missionaries in Poland and Ukraine that we are contacting.

## **RCR's Studio, Pirkko Homes, and Magazine Ministries**

We are currently unable to transfer funds to Russia through our normal channels. We have retained a lawyer to explore other options. **Please pray!** We truly hope this is temporary.



## **Prayer Requests and other needs:**

- Please pray for those affected by the war, that through their difficulties they will see their spiritual needs.
- Pray for the teams of Christian missionaries and church members helping the Ukrainian refugees.
- Pray that the missionaries we are partnering with can get the needed supplies to help the refugees, as some local supply chains are disrupted. Some needs are medical first aid kits and gas.
- Pray for our staff in Moscow as they go about their ministry work, and pray that God will provide a way for us to continue to send financial support for our RCR ministries carried out in Russia.



**“RCR” - Russian Christian Radio, Inc.**  
**PO Box 1667 - Estes Park, CO 80517-1667 – USA**

770-864-6464 (English) or 970-586-8638 (Russian) - [www.rcr-us.org](http://www.rcr-us.org) - [info@rcr-us.org](mailto:info@rcr-us.org)

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