

„Amen, I say unto you, whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do unto me.” Mt. 25, 40

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
INTERNATIONAL

Ukraine Up date.

No. 6 Pentecost I 2022



Up date from the Ukraine

DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

The war in Ukraine has already lasted 100 days and children, elderly, women, men, civilians and soldiers are dying every day. The destruction of the cities in the east and south of the country is cruel and it will take a long time, before they can be inhabited again. The west of the country is also under constant bombardment. There, too, are also casualties. This is Russia's way of deterring deliveries of the necessary goods. The fields in the south-east can only be cultivated sparsely. The farmers risk their lives when they go out into the fields. Much of the land is riddled with mines. Farmers are also brutally shot while working. Ukrainian wheat is shipped to Russia. Access to the sea is blocked with mines. Ukrainian children and adults are also forcibly transported to Russia in "selection camps". Houses in the towns and villages are robbed and looted. Foreign and Ukrainian journalists and photographers are shot. So much brutality is happening that it seems almost unthinkable to hope and pray for reconciliation.

And yet we must try to pray that the good endure and compassionately help where we can. Just as the storks still build their nests on the destroyed houses. For us, it is a sign of hope and confidence that the efforts are not lost, especially in the midst of war.

I would like to tell you a little about what we are all supporting together with the donations received by the Christian Community.

First of all, a big and heartfelt thank you! You can be sure that your donations are alleviating the needy and helping people.

I won't mention every detail, but through the examples you will be able to get an idea what is and has been done:

With the donations we have so far:

- Supported our congregations in the Ukraine and Poland, because they help many people in need on the ground with accommodation, food, medicine or trips to Germany, Switzerland, Austria and other countries.
- Very many concrete families are supported who need help in Germany, especially with many children. Many are accommodated in our communities and also find the help they need locally.
- Supported are also the Waldorf schools and kindergartens in Ukraine, as they are in financial need due to the lack of pupils; including two very young schools in Luzk and

Horodenka.

- Art therapy for refugee children with their mothers in Luzk as well as shelter for 200 orphans in Luzk are supported. The painters who lead the initiative of painting in the bunkers with the children at the beginning of the war, where they had to sit for hours. Afterwards, they created reverse-glass icons and also large canvas paintings. In Cologne we just had an exhibition of these paintings and could learn more about there work.

- A Waldorf teacher from Kyiv helps the initiative "Bread for the Villages". He and some other friends get flour, drive it to the bakery where it is baked, and then drive the fresh bread to the bombed villages where people are cut off from food supplies or where their bakeries have been bombed.

- Helped was a group of theatre artists, actors and singers from Lviv - who have turned their theatre into a refugee camp and are helping the refugees day and night, including orphanages evacuated from the eastern areas.

- A Demeter farm in Ternopil also needed urgent support. The wages for the employees could not be paid. After all, who buys Demeter herbs and teas in Ukraine today? We made a large order and can sell it here to support the local people.

<https://www.chaipotutary.com.ua/ua/>

- A large shipment of anthroposophical medicines and oils for stress management, among other things, was brought safely to Kyiv.

- We support an initiative by the Ukrainian writer Katja Petrovska from Berlin: to save old works of art from museums and churches. Much was set on fire. Much destroyed. It is a courageous attempt to save what can still be saved.

- And a very great joy for all Ukrainian children here in Central Europe are books! We have ordered many books from Ukrainian publishers for young and old and distribute them here among the people hungry for books. We also send them on to the children's homes and orphanages for Ukrainian children. In this way we also support the publishers and also the writers in Ukraine who have to live without financial security.

- Help for medical care in this country or also in Ukraine and much more.

Thousands of people have been helped by the Christian Community, by you dear friends! Many, very many have been helped to find accommodation, a job or a place in school and kindergarten. But it is also the case that some want to go back and do go back. The situation for high school graduates is not very easy, because you have to take a German exam to study.

In the refugee camps there are only partition walls that don't go up to the ceiling and you can hear everything. You can't sleep there, you can't cook, and if someone has children, it's a real problem. If, on top of that, no place can be found in the schools, that is often a reason for people to go back the Ukraine. Well, some of them have no

more homes to go to, no more land to go back to. In the community, we try to cook something delicious for them on the weekends, like borscht, and to alleviate the loss of home with some activities. In our congregations it is lively: there is singing, cooking, teaching German, reading aloud, or telling stories. Prayers are also said in Ukrainian.

Many asked me for a Ukrainian prayer and also for the books one could read to feel connected to the suffering country. So here is the Lords prayer in Ukrainian and also some books that I myself appreciate, as well as the people who wrote them. From many of them I hear the latest news from Ukraine. Many of them help on the ground with transport, food, accompanying foreign reporters or they try to write between the trips to Poland and transports of medicine and cars moving towards the East, in order not to go crazy from waiting for husband, brother, girlfriend, father, sister.

In these difficult days, any help is valuable. It is warm. Warmth creates transformations. Something passes away. The new seeds will sprout in the warmed soil. In these difficult days, I still have hope that Central Europe, by continuing to support the suffering East, is doing an important task for the future. Thank you for making it possible!

With warm greetings

YAROSLAVA BLACK



Many of you have asked: what can one read to get a closer look into the Ukraine, to learn something about it, to understand it more deeply.

I am very grateful for these questions and I am sorry that I cannot answer everyone immediately. Therefore, I take this moment here and hope that it will be a good opportunity for everyone who wants to learn something new.

I would also like to mention here that our colleague Günter Kollert has written a book prepared a book for publishing on the occasion of the 100th birthday of the Ukrainian philosopher Hryhoriy Skovoroda. He also worked intensively on the translation of the texts published by the Free Ukrainian University in Munich, thus making Skovoroda accessible to German-speaking countries.

Here is a small but varied selection to get to know:

- Hryhoriy Skovoroda "Dialogues"; Free University of Munich (ISBN:978-3-928687-51-5).

Modern:

- Taras Prohasko: A few stories can be made out of it. Prose; Suhrkamp
- Yurko Prohasko: Galicia-Bukovina Express. A History of the Railway on the Edge of Europe. Turia + Kant, Vienna 2007
- Jurko Prohasko: Myth of Czernowitz: A City in the Mirror of its Nationalities. Potsdam 2008
- Martin Polack: Galicia Paperback
- Mykola Ryabchuk: The Real and the Imaginary Ukraine. Suhrkamp
- Oksana Sabushko: Museum of Forgotten Secrets. Novel; S. Fischer Verlag
- Andrei Kurkov: Grey Bees. Novel; Diogenes; Ukraine Diaries
- Yuri Andrukhovych: Carpathian Carnival. Novel; Suhrkamp; The Last Territory; Moskoviada; Perversion; Small Dictionary of Intimate Cities.
- Juri Andrukhovych and Andrzej Stasjuk: My Europe. Essay; Suhrkamp
- Serhij Zhadan: Poems and Prose from the War. Suhrkamp; Mesopotamia; Anarchy in the UKR; Internat. Suhrkamp
- Tatja Maljartschuk: Biography of an Accidental Miracle. Residenz Verlag; Blue Whale of Memory. Novel; Kiepenheuer & Witsch
- Katja Petrowskaja: Maybe Esther. Novel; Suhrkamp; The photo looked at me. Suhrkamp
- Natalka Sniadanko: Collection of Passions. Novel; The Archduke who ruled the black market, loved sailors and became my grandfather; Haymon
- Love in Defiance of Pain: Ukrainian Stories aims to bring the riches of contemporary Ukrainian literature - and of contemporary Ukraine, too - to the world. Paperback

- Machno, Vasyly: Das Haus in Baiting Hollow (The house in Baiting Hollow; Neighborhoods and borders)
- Sofia Andrukhovych: The Paper Boy. Novel; Residenz Verlag; Felix Austria; Amadoka

Poetry by: Halyna Kruk, Halyna Petrosanyak, Serhij Zhadan, Jurij Andruchowytch, Kateryna Kalytko, Iryna Tzilyk, Ostap Slyvynsky

- **German or Polish writers from Galicia (western Ukraine) between the wars:**
- Alexandr Granach Da geht ein Mensch, biographical novel; btb (also as a film).
- As also: Soma Morgenstern, Joseph Roth (Journey to Ukraine and Russia), Samuel Agnon, Bruno Schulz, Stanislaw Vincenz.



Flower Children from Oksana Drachkovska

LORDS PRAYER IN UKRAINIAN

Отче наш,

Суций на небесах,

Хай св'ятиться ім'я Твоє,

Хай прийде царство Твоє,

Хай буде воля Твоя,

Як на небесах так і на землі.

Хліб наш насущний

Дай нам на сей день

І прости нам провини наші

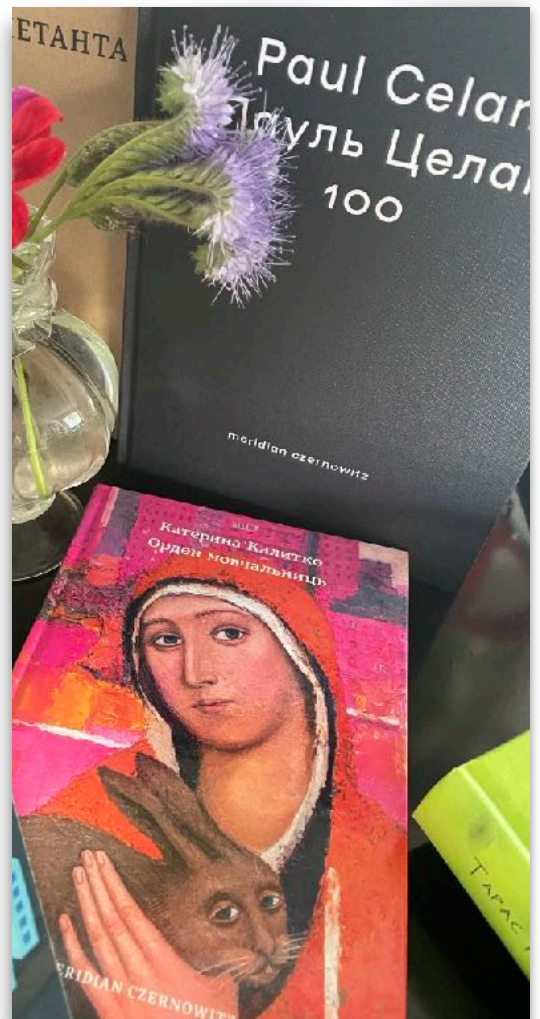
Як і ми прощаємо винуватцям нашим

І не введи нас у спокусу,

Але визволи нас від зла.

Амінь

In pictures





Distribution of children's books and painting in the community of Cologne





Painting with orphans in Lutsk



Exhibition of Ukrainian painters in the community of Cologne



Painting bunkers in Lutsk



Reconstruction of the bakery in Bucha near Kyiv



Children's picture from the Kyiv community

Donations to support refugees and humanitarian aid in connection with the war can please be transferred to the account of the West German Region of the Christian Community with a corresponding reference in the purpose of use:

Bank account holder: Die Christengemeinschaft

IBAN: DE96 3702 0500 0008 2597 00; BIC: BFSWDE33XXX; BLZ: 37020500

Oder:

Bank account holder: Die Christengemeinschaft in Deutschland (Foundation)

IBAN: DE16 8502 0500 0003 6204 00; BIC: BFSWDE33DER; BLZ: 85020500

Thank you for all your support, good thoughts and prayers!

Black & Black Production