

Dear supporters of the Ukrainian Bible Institute,

We have all been witnesses to the devastation and brutality of the attack on Ukraine. All our news and social media feeds are filled with graphic pictures and heartbreaking stories from the war which has been pushed onto Ukraine. As friends and supporters of the Ukrainian Bible Institute, we know you share our concern and have been joining us in prayer for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Ukrainian Bible Institute. Plans were already being made before the invasion to celebrate this special milestone in Kyiv later in the spring. And there certainly is much to celebrate. Since 1997 the school has trained well over 250 men and women who have gone on to plant churches, teach the Bible, and care for widows and orphans. The influence of UBI has contributed to half of the planted churches and ministries among the Churches of Christ that exist today, and it continues to stand as a lighthouse which lights and unites much of the work of the church all over Ukraine.

But hopes for celebration were crushed on the morning of February 24th when the Russian army began its full-scale invasion of Ukraine. If you have been following updates from people like Brandon Price, director of UBI, as well as others following the events closely, you may be aware that a good portion of the UBI family are now in Poland, Romania, Slovakia, as well as other nations. After a long and arduous journey, they have found places of rest and safety.

But the work continues. Just like in Acts 8 when we read that "those who were scattered went about preaching the word," the staff, alumni, and current students of UBI continue to preach, teach, and care for others no matter where they are. Refugee centers are being established around Europe where new gatherings of Christians are forming. There have been numerous baptisms within Ukraine as the church has continued to be a light during these dark times.

As partners in the work at UBI, we want you to know that Sunset is continuing to collect funds for the Global Relief Ministry, all of which is going to help provide relief to Ukrainians. We also want you to be aware that a portion of these funds are being set aside to help UBI directly and will go toward reestablishing the school when the time comes. We are excited to share that through this fundraiser, SIBI has collected *over \$1,000,000 in just over a month!*

We have a direct link with Brandon Price in Poland to supply him with the funds he needs for refugee work. He is also able to get money sent directly into Ukraine and is distributing help to churches and individuals who are in dire need. We can't know all the needs which will arise in the coming weeks and months, but we are confident that the continuous generosity of God's people will be needed to help secure and, in some cases, reestablish the work of the churches in Ukraine. Together we must be ready to continue to help.

Included is a print version of the latest email update that was sent out. We encourage all of you to subscribe to this newsletter at the bottom of SIBI's homepage. To view previous updates, visit https://sunset.bible/ukraine-crisis-2022.

We know you will continue to pray for the Christians and work in Ukraine. If you have any specific questions about our funds for UBI, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Doug Reeves

Dean of International Studies