



Alison Giblett

Link Letter no. 59 | December 2023

Contact details:
alisaukr@proton.me



Location: Ukraine



What I do: Providing spiritual and material care to those in need through my church and the Genesis ministry (helping people with destructive behaviours)

Dear Friends,

This has been a very interesting year. There is so much we have been learning, about faithfulness, holding onto peace, and specific obedience which has kept us reliant on God. It has certainly been stretching us in faith and perseverance. Of course, we all expected that the war would be over in a few months, but now it is dragging towards two years. We thank you so much for continuing to stand with us, particularly when most have shifted their focus to the Middle East. Ukrainians identify with being invaded and feel close ties with Israel, where there are many Ukrainians living. We are using the lessons God has been teaching us to intercede for peace in that conflict too.

Some of the highlights this year were being able to join some pharmacist friends on trips to the east, as they gave out medicines to villagers near the front line. Praise God that some support is still getting through. However, the humanitarian aid in general has significantly dropped off. It was heart breaking to see the huge amount of destruction in the Donetsk region.

Other highlights were our (Tabernacle of the Living God church – TLG) evangelism in the Makarov and Chernihiv regions. We had a week serving in three villages south of Chernihiv while Homes for Peace built 38 temporary 40sqm homes for those who had theirs destroyed during an earlier part of the invasion. Each night we (TLG) put on evangelistic concerts in the regional town. During the day two ladies cut hair outside the prayer tent, a team of professional dentists treated over 100 people and the TLG church ran a mission for 500 children and we shared the gospel with people being served by the different events. We have made many trips to the Makarov region west of Kiev, holding concerts, children's camps and helping to create two bomb shelters so children could attend school. During this work we have had a lot of fun and made many new friends. Many people have been led to faith and three also received baptism. Please pray for all these people.

Kyiv is continually adjusting to the transient population. Many have moved up from the areas of conflict and occupation, while many others are still living abroad. This is also reflected in the churches. We still have explosions and frequent periods of alert when public transport comes to a halt.

The Genesis ministry continues to provide support and motivation to help people overcome their destructive habits. One face to face group runs in the premises of TLG church. We are also starting an online group for Ukrainian/Russian speakers. People are very pleased that we are now able to provide the courses and materials in Ukrainian and Russian.

This last year a lot of my personal time has been taken up in gradually restoring and repairing my flat after



Scraping plaster during the repairs to my flat; a year later, in the same room with my new flatmate Oksana.

Support Alison Giblett:
churchmissionsociety.org/giblett

**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



the fire that was caused by electrical shorting due to flooding from a few floors above in June 2022. There is still quite a lot that needs to be done, however I am grateful that I was able to move back in during May, and in September God brought me a flatmate, Oksana. We regularly pray and support each other.

This Christmas we are planning a number of events in Kyiv and the Makariv region to bring greater awareness of the significance of God coming to earth, to be known by us. Some will be for bereaved women, while others will be in the schools.

This winter I am really looking forward to fulfilling a long-term desire to visit my sister, who I haven't seen for over 11 years. Cynthia moved to Australia 17 years ago and in 2010 married an Australian, Andrew Mariner. Together with our brother we regularly keep in touch via Zoom. Personally,

I also feel that after two years of living in the context of war it will be really helpful to be away from this pressure for a while. I am very grateful that God has already given me a number of confirmations. I plan to go during the winter after Christmas, when we do not have many mission trips.

Topics for prayer:

- ▶ Pray that in this time of difficulty and conflict many would form a strong relationship with the living God. Pray for God's direction, and for spiritual and numerical growth for the Tabernacle of the Living God church in Kyiv.
- ▶ Pray for all who responded to receive salvation, that they would continue to grow in God and that churches will be formed in their villages so they can be discipled and united in worship.
- ▶ For the 600+ Christian chaplains as they bring God's comfort and hope to those in the army, the many wounded, and to relatives of those who have died or gone missing.
- ▶ Please pray for unity politically, across the country, so that neither language nor geography will divide people. Unity among the churches and unity in families, especially those who are living geographically apart for a long time due to the war.
- ▶ For the expansion of the Genesis ministry and for all involved, both trainers and students.
- ▶ For the progress of the Ukrainian army to regain their territory and the end to the war.
- ▶ Pray that we will have power and the necessary resources for heating during the winter months in Ukraine, especially for those who've lost their homes.
- ▶ Pray for all the Christmas outreach – that many will see beyond the babe in a manger and find the love of our all-powerful saviour.

Many thanks to all who pray regularly. If anyone would like to occasionally join the Zoom prayer meetings we have each Saturday evening and/or our intercession group on Signal, please do let me know.

May the joy of the angels, the wonder of the shepherds and the reverence of the wise men remain with you this Christmas season.

Yours in Him, Alison



Photos from top to bottom: Meeting Babushka Zina during our mission trips: we shared faith with Zina, she received a new home, and she was baptised.



Going further with Church Mission Society

Stories from the edges:

Find out how God is meeting people on the edges around the world through CMS people in mission. Go to churchmissionsociety.org/stories

Please note that opinions expressed in link letters are those of mission partners, not necessarily of Church Mission Society.

If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400. Church Mission Society is a mission community acknowledged by the Church of England. Registered Company No. 6985330 and Registered Charity No. 1131655 (England and Wales) and SC047163 (Scotland).