

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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We help orphans and elderly Christians (many in their eighties, even 90s) who had been imprisoned for their faith in present or former communist countries.

At this critical moment, we also help many Christian refugees from Ukraine!



Late Reverend Richard Wurmland with wife, Sabina

August 2024

Announcement:

Free copies of the paperback books written by Pastor Richard Wurmland:
"Reaching Towards the Heights";
"Tortured For Christ";
"Was Karl Marx a Satanist?";
and "The Pastor's Wife" by Sabina Wurmland, may be requested using the order form at the <https://helpforrefugees.com> internet site. (See request form at top of the third column!)

"And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the Word, and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the Word, and it becometh unfruitful." (Mark 4:18-19)

Late Reverend Richard Wurmland suffered. 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmland was imprisoned for nearly three years, also for her Christian faith, in some of the same communist prisons.

From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmland
HOW TO CULTIVATE THE SEED OF GOD'S WORD

As the Virgin Mary had received a seed from God, and Christ grew in her womb, so Christians too have the seed of God, which is His Word, implanted in them. (I John 3:9) Just as a pregnant woman must be careful about what she feeds on and how she acts so as not to hurt the embryo, so also a Christian must avoid everything which could choke the Word of God in him.

Among the foremost enemies of Christ within our hearts are the cares of this world. The moment we awake, they rush upon us: hunger in some parts of the world, unemployment, the fear of being laid off, soaring prices, losses in business, serious troubles with one's life-partner or with children, competition with colleagues, griefs over alcoholism, drug addiction or crime in the family, the frustration of being unloved or unappreciated —who can enumerate all the cares which distract us from the one thing needful, which is to cultivate within us the Christ, who is our hope of glory.

You are among the unselfish who take part in the suffering of innocents in other parts of the world. If I take all the cares of this world upon my shoulders, the Word of God within me will not be able to bring forth the expected fruits of "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance." (Galatians 5:22-23)

We know that the world is run by madmen and idiots. General BLUCHER who defeated NAPOLEON at WATERLOO was always drunk, and he believed he was pregnant with an elephant. HITLER, STALIN, AMIN, MAO —madmen!

Most of us have children and grandchildren. What will their future be? Fifty hydrogen bombs could wipe out most of the USA population, twelve bombs the whole of Britain. But increasing defense costs alone cannot forestall all the evils which Communists can do. There is no need for a nuclear attack from Russia or RED China. A twenty-year-old student, without talking to any experts, succeeded in designing a perfect nuclear bomb. Any anarchist who succeeds in stealing a little bit of plutonium can annihilate a whole town.

Now, I am not God, and I cannot carry such responsibilities of world-peace. I have received the seed of God's Word and must see that it brings forth the fruits of love and joy. Refuse to allow your personal worries and those of mankind to destroy your inner peace, without which the Divine child will never grow in your hearts.

Reformer Martin Luther had the habit of going to the window in the evening and saying, "God, is it my world or Your world? Is it Your church or my church? If it is Your world and Your church, please take care of them. I'm tired. I go to bed. Good night, my God." What you can do in a serene and gentle manner to arrange your personal affairs and help your fellow men, you should do. What you cannot do, leave undone. God does not ask of you the impossible. Should we panic? What will it help if we worry? In all such matters, the cares of this world choke the holy seed. We quietly tell Jesus our concern in prayer.

When cares assault you, when prices and unemployment go up, when you have deep troubles with your family and with your health, never allow those cares to choke the seed of the Word of God. You will hear about frightening things happening in the world, in the church and in missions. But the great ones have the privilege of looking upon events as if from a terrace. We are seated with Jesus Christ in heavenly places.

We do the little that we can for our own good and that of our fellow men. We do the little we can by telling others about Christ, but our main concern is to cultivate our own inner peace, the vineyard of our beauty (Song of Solomon 1:6). From there we will gather rich fruits to benefit the world.



The Communist Jilava Prison.
Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunkbeds with no mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Mug-shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand when held in the Jilava prison, in communist Romania.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father are this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)

Heroes of the Faith and their Families, Helped with your Gifts

Some pictures of elderly Christians Imprisoned under Communism for the Faith.

Read their full testimonies in our past newsletters at <http://helpforrefugees.com> (third column!)



Rev. CHISHBORA Nistor

worked in former communist Romania as an agricultural engineer. He was imprisoned one year and his father-in-law for ten years under communism as punishment for their underground Christian activities. Became a minister after the fall of the communist regime. **Read his testimony in our online 12/2015 Newsletter.**



MOLDOVANU Nicolaie

(in picture with wife, daughter Daniela and grand daughter Cristina) was imprisoned for 5 years in former communist Romania. His daughter wrote: “I was 5 years old only in 1959 when my father was arrested by the Romanian communist secret police. He had been arrested because he was a composer of Christian hymns which circulated and were sung in the underground churches throughout the entire country. Before being taken away my father asked the officers of the secret police to allow him to make a prayer.” **Read Daniela’s full testimony in our online 1/2016 Newsletter.**



DUMITRASCU Gheorghe

was twice arrested for his faith and sentenced (in 1957 and in 1984) to 4 years imprisonment in former communist Romania. **Read about him in our online 1/2016 Newsletter.**

Testimonies of Ukrainian Christian Families, Helped with your Gifts!



Sister Melnik wrote: “We had to flee to Poland because we were afraid, and the children were crying that the Chechens would come and abuse us. We left and lost our jobs and housing because the apartment was not ours, we rented it, and now other people live there. The children were scared and cried all the time.

My children and I walked about four miles to the customs office under the gates and asked the drivers to take the children to Poland. (Husband had to remain in the Ukraine.) We were not able to take things with us because we were walking, we only took documents and food for the trip. The youngest child is 4 years old and had to carry her most of the time in my arms.

At the customs, the Ukrainian border guard put them in a minibus, where small children and women were taken, because the drivers did not want to take them because all the buses were already full, there was not enough oxygen in the bus, and it was difficult to stand for a day in an overcrowded bus. There were 5 people sitting on one seat.”

Apartment house destroyed through Russian bombing in Mariupol, Ukraine, where 40% of whole town has been close to obliterated.

Over eight million refugees have escaped so far from Ukraine into different European countries.



Testimonies of Ukrainian Christian Families, Helped with your Gifts!



Pastor Onishchenko VITALY Anatoliyovych who escaped the war in the Ukraine with his wife VITALY Inna and also with 11 children from his church (some his) wrote:

“At the beginning of the war, Russian troops attacked the Sumy region, and then went to Kyiv through the Chernihiv region.

Not far, only 100 yards from the missionary house named ‘Christian Center of the Good Samaritan’ was a column of the Russian

army, which was bombed by the troops of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. The road in the area where we lived was littered with battered and burnt tanks.

This is why we ended up in Spain, where we also conduct services for Ukrainians. Thank you for your interest and willingness to help. We congratulate you with the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and thank you very much for the financial support which was a timely and important help for us in the conditions of life we are currently in. Our whole family blesses you and your service, may it be covered with God's glory and have a great reward from the Lord!”



Brother Tuzenko wrote: “We woke up from loud explosions near our village at 5 in the morning, people ran out into the street in horror and realized that a full-scale invasion of Ukraine had begun, the military unit that was near us was destroyed by Russian missiles

We packed our things and realized that we had to leave the country. Since we don't have a car, it was very difficult for our large family to find tickets for the train

going west of Ukraine to the Polish border. Then we crossed the border on foot, where we were met by Polish volunteers. Now we live in Spain (Torrent), but we do not receive any financial aid, so we are asking for your help. Thank you in advance!”



Sister VASILIEVA Katia wrote: “My family lived in Ukraine in the city of Dnipro. After February 24, 2022, when Russia's war against Ukraine began, my husband and I decided to save our child from this horror. That is why I left Ukraine with my child for the territory of Poland. We traveled to Poland for 3 days. It was a very difficult road, because there was fear, despair, hopelessness and emptiness in my heart and thoughts.

My husband had to stay in Ukraine. The war separated me from my parents and husband, separated my daughter from her father for an indefinite period. It is very painful because of how many people died in Ukraine during this war. The heart is torn apart. It hurts a lot, a lot.



Sister VINKOVSKA Olga wrote:

War began in my country on February 24, 2022. We have a large family with three not-yet-mature children. We immediately made the decision to leave the country to protect the children. We lost our jobs in our country and we have no possibility to come back because it is very risky for life. My husband is a transport logistician by profession. We left Ukraine on the evening of February 24. We drove our car through Moldova to Romania, stayed there for three weeks, and then flew to Ireland.

Ukrainian Christian Refugees Helped with your Gifts

April 16, 2022*

Dear contributors:

My gratitude to all who donated generously toward helping so many refugees from Ukraine, a true flood of displaced individuals. More than four million have escaped the current war and another three million are expected to come out. If one reads the daily news, one will be convinced easily these are not exaggerated figures. These are persons who flee from extensive bombing and continuing total destructions of whole towns.

It happens that my birth country, Romania, and the Republic of Moldova (also a Romanian language country) have together the longest common border with Ukraine. At the same time, Romania is one of the poorest countries in the European Union and Moldova is economically worse. Between Romania and Moldova so far, one million Ukrainians have sought asylum already. **Refugees come at times at the rate of 10,000 every 24 hours.** * Most of these refugees are women with 3 to 8 children. Fortunately, many other countries in Europe and North America are accepting to resettle these refugees if they can arrive there. Many churches outside Romania, have sent transportation means, like buses and even chartered flights. These refugees speak Ukrainian and Russian. Here and there, the communality of the Romanian language is of help, since some closer to the border localities like the university town of Czernowitz (name in German, Cernauti in Romanian) where my mother was born, used to be part of Romania before WWII. Some of the younger generation might have a little knowledge of English. Through many dependable contacts of many years in Romania, we concentrated on helping with local Romanian currency of US \$200 to \$2,000 per family of **Christian believers**-refugees. Many came out with hardly more than the shirt on their back. There were miles-long lines at the border. Through the local Christians who deserve all praise, we provide pocket money given in hand for food and believers' lodging for a few days, until there is a partial resolution as to near- future plans of settling some place somehow or moving-on further to other countries. \$2,000 seems to be a large sum for an elderly couple who could escape but most couples come out with larger groups of 10 to 15 children and grandchildren. Just as one example, we paid for a Victoria village home, \$6,000 for a one-month lodging and food for three adults and twelve children. Most of these refugees entertain the illusion of taking refuge out of their native country and their lodging and work, for a brief time but the way the news comes out on this prolonged war, I doubt this will be the case. I believe these refugees will remain refugees for many years to come. We publish in these newsletters a few testimonies and some receipts of scores more, documenting what I wrote above.

*(**Update February 2024:** Refugees still pour-in most days at the rate of 8,000-10,000!) Michael Wurmbrand

409	Власенко	Валентин	Медфодьевич	1958	Украина
410	Вольф	Андрей	Корнеевич	1958	Казахстан
411	Куркин	АЛЕКСЕЙ	ЯКОВЛЕВИЧ	1958	Россия
412	Левен	НИКОЛАЙ	ВИКТОРОВИЧ	1958	Казахстан
413	Романюк	Владимир	Николаевич	1958	Украина
414	Тиссен	Давид	Давидович	1958	Россия
415	ТУРКЕВИЧ	Василий	Тарасович	1959	Украина
416	Бычков	Степан	Павлович	1959	Украина
417	ДРИСВЯНИКОВ	АЛЕКСАНДР	АЛЕКСАНДРОВИЧ	1959	Россия
418	СКВОРЦОВА	ЛЮБОВЬ	НИКОЛАЕВНА	1959	Россия
419	Варавин	Виталий	Федотович	1959	Россия
420	Дубицкий	СЕРГЕЙ	АДАМОВИЧ	1959	Россия
421	Ляшенко	Борис	Владимирович	1959	Украина
422	Ткаченко	ИВАН	ИВАНОВИЧ	1959	Казахстан
423	МАРЧЕНКО	Станислав	Павлович	1960	Украина
424	Донченко	Александр	Максимович	1960	Украина
425	Отмахов	Вениамин	Александрович (Валерианов)	1960	Узбекистан
426	Савченко	Михаил	Михайлович	1960	Эстония
427	Фадеева (ШВЕЦОВА)	ДИНА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1961	Алания
428	ШВЕЦОВА	АННА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1962	Алания
429	Богодимов	Александр	Валерьевич	1962	Эстония

Above, a **sample only** of a lengthy list, our mission was able to compile beside other lists, of over 480 elderly Baptist Christians most of them still alive, who suffered for the Christian faith in the former Soviet Union. The prison sentences amounted from 2 years, to as many as 18 years of communist prison. If considered together, their years of prison-sentences shown in our **abbreviated** table, would add up to over 2,000 years of prison. The 4th and 5th column together, show year of birth and the most recent country they live in (like Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, etc.) We try obtaining exact addresses, so we may be able to send encouraging help to those still alive. We were able to send repeated help to about 120 such elderly Russian-speaking Christians and over 110 speaking other languages. Many of their testimonies you can read in the monthly newsletter. Testimonies available also on the internet. **Look up third column at: website: <https://helpforrefugees.com>**

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Gifts are US tax-deductible. Help for Refugees is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Nonprofit Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Service. For IRS nonprofit status you may use this link:

<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/allSearch>

and enter EIN: 953064521.