

Update

Winter 2023



Ongoing Support for Ukrainians



Our Nazarene brethren and the people of Ukraine are facing a hard winter with electrical outages and fuel shortages. Most are out of work while those who work get very low pay. Approximately 7.7 million Ukrainians are recorded as living in other European countries. Since the start of the war, nearly seven million Ukrainians are displaced within their own country and nearly three million have returned home. Overall, nearly one

third of the country's pre-war population is displaced. Whether the Russians push the Ukrainians or the Ukrainians push the Russians, death and destruction result. The Russian invasion in Feb. 2022 has impacted people's lives world-wide. In Europe, many countries bought gas and oil from Russia and depended on Black Sea shipping for grain and other products out of Ukraine. Now they are taking care of millions of Ukrainian refugees.

The HarvestCall Eastern European Committee (EEC) has responded by focusing first on the needs of the Nazarene brethren in Ukraine and Romania and then to needs of

continued on back ►

God Uses Child Sponsorship to Invest in Lives –

EVEN BEYOND CHILDHOOD

Child Sponsorship allows us to bring positive change to the lives of children in several countries around the world.

Besides financial support for Christian education, sponsors may encourage and support "their" child through prayer and letter writing. Sometimes the relationship between sponsor and child grows into a true friendship. Below is the story of Elsie and Shannon.

Elsie's Story

A desire to protect her college-age son from tarantulas was the motivation for her first mission trip to Jamaica, jokes Elsie Eisenman. Elsie, a registered



Elsie,
Shannon
and Merle

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TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO: AND
WHEN HE IS OLD, HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT. ▲ PROVERBS 22:6

continued inside ►



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
HarvestCall
PROCLAIM CHRIST & SERVE OTHERS

God at Work at CVE

The last few years have brought transitions at CVE, but the evidence of God's work has remained constant! Our private school, Colegio Verdad y Vida (CVV), has grown, providing

opportunities to grow relationships not only with students, but also their families. Many CVV families have children in our after-school program, HILOS. These families seem especially excited about activities that build joy between parents and children.

We will continue to serve the current children in the children's home, yet our focus is shifting to support the family as a whole.

We are seeking to engage parents along with the students in our activities. To celebrate Children's Day (observed in Mexico each spring), school families and teachers, along with the rest of CVE, were invited to a track and field day. Participation from parents added a fun element of competition!

Another family event on campus was a Color Run to end our summer camp. Families ran, laughed, and enjoyed a pizza supper. This fall, our school hosted a softball game for middle

◀ Celebrating
Children's Day
with a tug of war.



**Casa Vida y
Esperanza, A.C.**

Anatomy and Physiology Lessons in Scripture

The HarvestCall Medical Committee recently had an annual conference in-person in Chicago, IL with some of our members joining virtually. During that time, we reflected on the past year, reexamined our guiding principles and vision, planned for the future, and searched out ways to serve Christ through HarvestCall. We greatly appreciate the support, love, and prayers given by many for HarvestCall as a whole, as well as our committee in particular. These facts make

us reflect on the anatomy and physiology lesson given to us in the Scriptures in **1 Corinthians 12:12** – *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.* We are one body with Christ as our head. How incredible to be united together with our Savior and Redeemer, who has conquered death and now rules on high, ready to return at his Father's command. We also see that we

are many members. We are different, we have different roles, different actions, and different functions. Together, we can live out his mission on this earth, edifying and strengthening one another. Another anatomy and physiology lesson can be seen in **Ephesians 4:15-16** – *But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together*

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▲ Families enjoy a Color Run, a fun way to end summer camp.

school students and families. In October, HILOS families were invited to participate in CVE's annual Chili and Pie night. A group of students from the HILOS cooking class won the People's Choice competition for chili!

This Thanksgiving, CVV directors hosted teachers and their families for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Our HILOS after-school program was also excited to host a Christmas gathering for parents and students.

As we seek to strengthen children and families in Magdalena, we see God adding the increase to seeds planted in our CVV school and our HILOS programs. Creating opportunities for families to play together allows us to model Christ-centered family relationships and share the gospel. We pray that God would be magnified as families in our community are strengthened and pointed to Christ!

By Kendra Neihofer and Carissa Schlipf

*and compacted
by that which every
joint supplieth, according to the effectual
working in the measure of every part, maketh
increase of the body unto the edifying of
itself in love. May we never forget that it
is only from Christ alone that we draw our
strength, unity, and life. To all those who
have supported the HarvestCall Medical
Committee over the years, thank you.*

By Anthony Baumann

**FOR THE BODY IS NOT ONE MEMBER,
BUT MANY ▲ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:14**

**AND GOD IS ABLE TO MAKE ALL GRACE ABOUND TOWARD YOU; THAT YE,
ALL SUFFICIENCY IN ALL THINGS, MAY ABOUND TO EVERY GOOD WORK.**

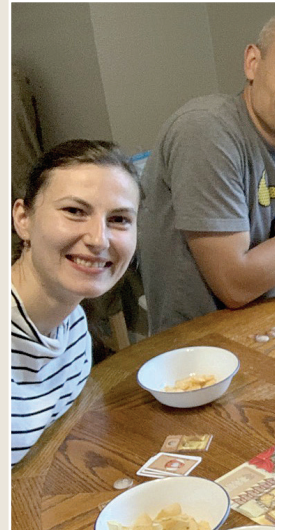
Finding Refuge in the U.S.

HOW THE CHURCH IS HELPING WAR REFUGEES

One war ended and one war began, all within six months. In both cases, there was an urgency for victims to flee to a safe place. Today's technology allowed Americans to witness in real time the chaos that erupted in Afghanistan as panic and fear took over. We witnessed the destruction and devastation as Russia fired missiles into Ukraine. So far over 75,000 Afghans, and 75,000 Ukrainians have found their way to the United States. This has prompted our church to answer the biblical call to "love the stranger, in giving him food and raiment." Scriptures teach us "the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself" and "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me (Jesus)."

This sudden and unexpected influx of refugees created its own chaos for governmental offices and refugee resettlement agencies already overwhelmed and backlogged. HarvestCall recognized the opportunity to serve the "aliens" among us, and despite the chaos, and with God's help, many of our congregations and individuals have responded to the call. Afghan families and individuals are being helped in Tremont, Sardis, Kansas City, Minneapolis, and Leo. Ukrainian families are being helped in Bloomington, Gridley, Rittman, San Diego, Chicago, Phoenix, and Bluffton. There are likely many other brethren and locations serving refugees in one way or another.

As refugees arrive with expectations and dreams, on one hand there is relief and thankfulness and on the other hand, there are frustrations



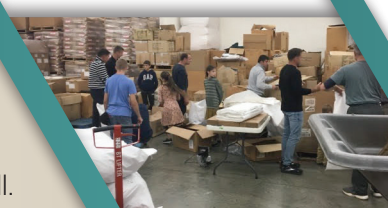


◀ Building a friendship with a refugee family

There are still thousands seeking refuge in the United States, some intending to return home at some point and some that would like to make their home here permanent, if possible. There are ways you can get involved. Resettlement agencies are always looking for volunteers to help refugees that have come to the United States from Afghanistan, Ukraine, as well as countries from all over the world. Explore the website www.welcome.us to learn about opportunities to serve refugees as individuals, as families, or as a church. For

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You can help refugees one-on-one by inviting them to your home, or through structured activities that support aid being sent from afar ▼



and disappointments. With a nationwide shortage of housing, some refugees are placed in hotels and Airbnb locations intended to be temporary, yet thousands still await permanent homes. In addition to the basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter, there are needs for English lessons, work permits, drivers' licenses, healthcare, and school enrollment. They need help with piles of paperwork. Expectations to replicate their occupations

back home are often prohibited by educational and licensing requirements here in America, thus creating employment and financial challenges. Of course, there is the emotional and mental toll as they fear for their families and friends back home still

living in dangerous conditions. Diligence is required in keeping up with the news as our government is constantly making changes and new rules in an effort to improve and speed up processes.

PRAYER REQUEST

What is needed most in this ministry is prayer. Pray for people suffering due to war and conflict throughout the world. Pray for the refugees who have relocated in the United States. Pray for the many in our congregations who are helping refugees. Pray for our government as they make important decisions that affect suffering souls. Pray that refugees will see the hand of God in their lives and God will be glorified.

guidance from HarvestCall, connect via www.harvestcall.org/refugees.

You may also contact HarvestCall's Kairos refugee representative Tim Hohulin at **309-923-7827** or email **afghanhelpers.bn@gmail.com**.

As you help people in need, you will experience rewards both in this life and in eternity. The following scriptures are just a couple among many that reveal this truth: *Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.*

Luke 6:38.

By Cathy Hohulin



▲ Every culture bonds over food.



**THE LORD IS MY
STRENGTH AND MY
SHIELD; MY HEART
TRUSTED IN HIM, AND I AM
HELPED: THEREFORE MY
HEART GREATLY REJOICETH;
AND WITH MY SONG WILL I
PRAISE HIM. ▲ PSALMS 28:7**

Child Sponsorship

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

nurse, did join that group of students and adults as they traveled to Jamaica. It was the first of many trips over the past 26 years and it's when she began sponsoring Deaf students at Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf (CCCD).

Two years later on a subsequent trip to Jamaica, Elsie met Shannon, a student at CCCD. The two formed a close bond that has grown and developed into a strong and loving relationship that continues today.

Though her father was somewhat involved in her life, Shannon's mother was absent. Besides the financial aspect of sponsorship, Elsie felt a strong conviction to stay involved in Shannon's life beyond her school years. "It's about souls and lives," states Elsie. "Personal notes to the students are important. Knowing they have someone in the U.S. who is thinking of them and

praying for them means a lot."

Shannon is now 38 and the two have a strong mother/daughter relationship. Shannon thinks of Elsie as her U.S. mother. The two agree that the relationship is a huge blessing. Shannon recently visited the Eisenmann family. While there, she was able to help others by volunteering for Midwest Food Bank.

Shannon's Story

Hello. My name is Shannon Brown. I started going to public school before my Grandma realized that I was not able to hear. With the help of the Jamaican Association for the Deaf, she found Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf for me. I started going to school there when I was 11 years old. In 1996, Elsie and her son, Lee, came to CCCD with a work team. That was the first time I met her. In 1998, she came again on another work team with her husband, Merle, and three of their children.

Elsie's daughter Jenny and I met that time and Jenny chose my name to sponsor. Mom Elsie and Jenny supported me while I grew up. After graduation, Elsie stayed in my life and "adopted" me like I was her daughter. I have visited her home many times and

Mom Elsie has visited me many times in Kingston, where I work as a baker at Deaf Can! Coffee.

When I was young, I knew something about God's Word but did not have a deep knowledge. A friend encouraged me to accept Jesus as my savior, but time passed and I was not ready to live for God. Later as I experienced more life, I realized that God called me to go to church and read the Bible and help other people. I continued to study God's word, pray, and talk to Mom Elsie about Jesus.

Last year I surrendered all my heart and life to Jesus. I realize I still make mistakes, but Jesus died on the cross for all my sins and I accept his peace in my heart. He gives me grace to stop sinning and live life worshipping him and serving him every day. In August 2022, I gave my testimony at E³ Ekklesia Church and was baptized.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP IN JAMAICA

Child Sponsorship's focus in Jamaica has been education for Deaf children. We work closely with CCCD where children study Jamaican Sign Language, (JSL), academics, the Bible, and in later years, vocational education.

God works through Child Sponsorship to plant seeds and invest in lives. Please join in this mission and sponsor a child if you are able. harvestcall.org/child-sponsorship

By Sally Gress



▲ Shannon volunteering at Midwest Food Bank, while visiting with U.S. sponsors

Ongoing Support for Ukrainians

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the refugees in Ukraine and bordering countries. The Antioch distribution center, built about 20 years ago in Vladimerescu, Romania (Antioch), enabled us to fill many needs. Antioch, supported by European Nazarene brethren, ACCA, ACCN, ACCF, Iron Curtain Ministries and individuals, was stocked with many items when the war began. The Romanian brethren led by the managing director and his family stepped up to fill challenges created by the war. The European brethren and the EEC are very thankful for a praying and supportive church in these efforts.

Trips to Europe

The managing director of Antioch and his wife have made twenty-one 12-hour trips each way to deliver much needed supplies and equipment with a full-sized van and a covered trailer to the Ukrainian Nazarene brethren. This vital lifeline also brings spiritual comfort and support to the Ukrainian brethren. EEC members have accompanied four of these shipments. The managing director is able to hand deliver EEC funds going to the Ukrainian brethren.

Before the war, EEC members typically made one trip to Romania and one trip to Ukraine each year. A deep bond has been built over many years. Each trip builds on previous trips and the responsibility of representing the American churches well is not taken lightly. We go to work together and support them and we learn much from their faith and difficulties. War is death, destruction and deprivation and we feel called to show up and assess and fill what needs we can during the war and the rebuilding afterward.

Communication and Support, plus Daily Prayers for the Nazarene Brethren and Ukrainian People

Communications are frequent through WhatsApp, phone calls and emails. Primarily, communication is in German

If you have an interest in outreach, this annual missions conference is for you!

Save the Date

PROCLAIM & SERVE 2023 MISSIONS CONFERENCE IN ROANOKE, IL

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023

Schedule, workshops, sessions, speakers and registration at www.proclaimandserve.org



▲ Much needed supplies and equipment for Ukrainian brethren

with the Antioch managing director directly or through a former EEC member who serves as Antioch President. The EEC treasurer makes a few phone calls monthly and transfers funds regularly. EEC members regularly receive messages and calls from brethren in Ukraine and Hungary. This correspondence is greatly appreciated by all parties.

Other Efforts

Working with the HarvestCall Grants committee, EEC has funded Christian Aid Ministries and Lifesong for Orphans as they have boots on the ground in Ukraine and Poland that we do not have. EEC has provided limited funding to support the Ukrainian refugees in Ohio, most of whom are Nazarene families.

It is with gratefulness that we can share this report and the ways the love of Christ has been shared during these challenging times. We know that the peace of God ruling in the hearts of people is the only true peace to be known on Earth and this is our prayer for all.

By Christopher Indermuhle

STAY CONNECTED

Prayer support is needed in every part of HarvestCall work. Here are two ways to learn about projects, how to be involved and how to pray specifically.

E updates | Get occasional emails with news and info by going to the HarvestCall website (www.harvestcall.org) and selecting "Join our email list" on the home page.

Social Media | Engage with us on Facebook or Instagram for the most current information.

Facebook.com/harvestcall

Instagram@acharvestcall



HELP FINANCIALLY

Choosing "Where Needed Most" allows us flexibility to direct resources to ministries most in want. However, if you feel moved to support a specific project, just indicate that on the remittance envelope. If specified donations are greater than the need for any designated project, they will be rolled over to the General Fund.

An envelope is provided with appropriate boxes to check. Checks can either be given to your local HarvestCall Representative or mailed to:

Apostolic Christian HarvestCall
PO Box 3797, West Lafayette, IN 47996

Or if you wish to donate online, visit the HarvestCall website at:

www.harvestcall.org/donate

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