

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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We help orphans and elderly Christians (many in their 80s, even 90s) who had been imprisoned for their faith in present or former communist countries.

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

August 2022



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand with wife, Sabina

Announcement:

Free copies of the paperback books written by Pastor Richard Wurmbbrand:

"Reaching Towards the Heights,"

"Tortured For Christ" and

"Was Karl Marx a Satanist?"

may be requested using the order form at the <https://helpforrefugees.com> internet site.

"Charity . . . does not behave unseemly"
(I Corinthians 13:5)

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand spent 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbbrand 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From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand

WHAT MEANS "CHRISTIAN-LOVE"

This description of the Christian charity virtue is usually understood in the sense that a Christian does not behave impolitely. But St. Paul himself was sometimes terribly unpolite. So was the Lord Himself. So were the reformers to their opponents. Where the fate of the church, of the world is at stake, politeness can do much harm.

The Greek word translated by "unseemly" is "aschemon," so a literal translation would be "charity does not behave without a scheme" or "without a plan."

Exactly as a zoologist, Christ is described in the gospels as categorizing men, He frames them in a system, in a scheme. Some men are "sheep," others "wolves," others "dogs," others "foxes." Some He calls fools, hypocrites and vipers. Others are beloved disciples. He knows about a beast, a red dragon and a chosen dove. Love does not behave unseemly, that is without having in view this scheme.

All men must be loved, but I cannot behave toward the "sheep-type" the same way like I behave

towards the "wolf-type." I cannot behave with hypocrites as with beloved disciples, with tyrants as with victims. Woe to the shepherd who would not make a difference and would behave the same towards his sheep, his dogs and towards wolves. Charity does not behave the same towards a good and a bad husband, an obedient and a disobedient child. The attitude of charity depends upon the situation.

If a group of gangsters attack an innocent man, I love them all, but try to protect the innocent man, opposing as much as possible, without compromise the gangsters. Otherwise, I would behave unseemly or "aschemon," not taking in account the fact that in the scheme of the world they occupy different positions. The same holds true in our attitude towards those who benefit the church and those who harm it, those who defend the fatherland and those who attack it. Our Christian attitude is one of love, but of a love which does not behave unseemly. It has a diversified love according to the place which every man occupies in the scheme.

To the world, our charity owes the Gospel. When I started in 1944 the secret missionary work among the Soviet soldiers who had invaded Romania, I saw that, though I spoke Russian, I had no common language with them. When I told them the parable that a man had a hundred sheep and lost one of them, they objected, "No man can have one hundred sheep. They belong to the collective." When I told them about the workers of the vineyard who refused to give from the fruits to the owner, killing his servants and then his son, their reply was, "These husbandmen did well to rebel. The owner of the vineyard was a landlord and his property had to be confiscated." They laughed about virgin Mary. "Why should a girl be a virgin?"—"King Jesus"? They had the worst opinion about kings. They had no idea what Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, temple, altar, tithe, psalms, Holy Spirit, angels were. It was out of the question for them to understand a Gospel, even if they had it in their own language. Therefore, I wrote book surreptitiously spread in many communist countries titled "The Answer to Moscow's Bible".

The world of leftists in all countries is beloved by us. Therefore, we give to them the Gospel. But we also oppose them, fight against their wicked designs to impose their rule by violence and deceit. Yet, even some church leaders embrace in the Free World subtle communist propaganda. Charity makes us to show them that they are wrong, to show them the danger, to bring them to conversion. Therefore, I wrote the book unmasking the devilish plot of Marxism titled, "Was Karl Marx a Satanist?" (Free copies may be ordered on our internet site, see above! – N.Ed.)



The Communist Jilava Prison.
Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunk-beds 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!)



**Vasile Tarasovici
Turkevich**

Was arrested during a church meeting, was interrogated during 4 months and sentenced to 3 years of prison. He wrote: “I was often visited by KGB agents (Communist secret police in Russia, N. Ed.) who asked me to give up my faith in God or become an undercover informer-agent. To all their proposals I replied that I do not want to deceive God and I am ready to suffer for my faith.”
Read his full testimony in our 11/2019 Newsletter.



**Evangelist Rogaliskii
Petru Abramovici**

suffered 3 years of communist imprisonment and deportation for the faith. The deportation trip, in a jail railroad wagon to the remotest parts of Siberia, Chita city, by the border with Mongolia, where the cold is lower than F -60⁰, lasted 5 months.
Read his full testimony in our 12/2019 Newsletter.



**Ivan Dmitrievich
Tzera**

was sentenced for the faith to 2 years of prison and was deported to the Komi Republic (in northern Siberia where the cold is below F-50⁰.) He wrote:” I had succeeded somehow hide a little pocket gospel with me. That brought me often comfort.”
Read his full testimony in our 12/2019 Newsletter.



Anatolii Rublenko

was sentenced for the faith to 10 years of Siberian prison and 6 more years of being banished in Siberia because of distributing secretly printed Christian literature of the “Khrestianin” (The Christian Publisher which issued an underground Baptist magazine forbidden under communist laws. It regularly featured pictures and information on Christians imprisoned for the faith. N. Ed.)
Read his testimony in our 12/2019 Newsletter.

Christian Refugees from the Present Russian-Ukrainian War Helped with your Gifts



**Mageramova Sevil,
from a Baptist church in Shpola, central Ukraine**

Sevil is 50 years old. Before fleeing Ukraine, she was retired due to illness, having cerebral palsy. She escaped with no money. She does have a Ukrainian passport with Cyrillic characters. Until the authorities will check her documents, she is living in a center for orphans named Victoria, we helped finance partially under the management of the Richard Wurmbrand College in Iasi, Romania. The center houses also two more adults and 11 children.

We surprised Sevil taking notes in a notebook with verses from a Bible in Ukrainian.

Christian Refugee Families, from War-Torn Ukraine Helped with your Gifts



Tetiana Tereshchenko is 32 years old, she is having a Ukrainian passport. Before leaving Ukraine she was living on social assistance, unemployed.

She is the guardian for Anton Socur who is 12 years old, 6th grade in school and Ruslan Socur who is 11 years old, 5th grade. Ruslan discovered recently problems with appendicitis and he was hospitalized for 2 days with rotavirus in Iasi. Sergei is 9 years and he is in 3rd grade. They are all coming from Matkiv town, with no money and their only travel documents were birth certificates with Cyrillic characters. At this moment they are housed in the center for orphans, Victoria, until they decide what they will do. Their desire is to go to Italy.

They are waiting for the authorities to check their documents, to change the incomplete ones and the ones with Cyrillic letters, to Latin characters, processes that take a long time and are also expensive both financially and in terms of the time you have to submit to solve the legal issues with their documents.

Valentya Pustova is 38 years old, has a biometrical passport but before leaving Ukraine she was unemployed. Her oldest daughter, Alina (16 years old, 10th grade) traveling with biometrical passport is very helpful taking care of the family.

Vladislav, the second born is 14 years old and in 8th grade. Nazar is 11 years old, in 5th grade in school. Diana is the youngest, she is 3 and just started kindergarten before the war began.

They are all coming from the village of Apolianska, Ukraine, with no money and with birth certificates written in Cyrillic characters.



At the children's center Victoria, the children have all the care and attention they deserve, they are cared for and fed. They also have volunteers to play with and forget about the war and the fact that they will not live in Ukraine for a long time to come.

Christian Refugee Families, from War-Torn Ukraine Helped with your Gifts



Tkach Ivan with wife Vika and children Timotey and Danil. In his receipt for the help received, he writes: "We lived near Kiev (the capital city of Ukraine.) On 2/24/22 when Russia started to bomb our region, we decided to leave our house for our lives. We decided to go to Romania to save our lives. We want to move to Canada because we have no possibility to come back home (to have work and a safe place in Kiev.)"

Președinte Mihai Wurmbrand
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CONFIRMARE/ Підтвердження

Nume si prenume/ ім'я та прізвище Tkach Ivan

Localitate/ Micro Kyiv

Biserica/ Церква МСЧ EXB

Membrii familiei/ Члени сім'ї wife- Vika; husband- Ivan

children- Timotey, Danil!

Describe situația/ Опишіть ситуацію (Напишіть, будь ласка, великими літерами, що зазнала ваша сім'я, будучи біженцями);

We lived near Kyiv. 24.02.22 when Russia started bomb our region we decided to leave our house for our lives. We decide to go to Romania to save our lives. We want to move to Canada next because we have no possibility to come back home (to have a work & no safety place in Kyiv).

I received the sum of 1000 RON (about US \$230) from the Richard Wurmbrand Christian Mission.
Am primit suma de 1000 ron din partea Misiunii Crestine Richard Wurmbrand/ Я



Tetiana Kushnir, 43 years old, member of Christ Church, Swan village near Zhuravka, Ukraine. Before fleeing to Romania, was working as a driver bread distributor for several bakeries. She is the tutor for Oleksander who is 14 years old, Kiril who is 6 years old in first grade. Arrived with no money.



Vokina Cristina – 32 years old lawyer from the Kharkiv Christian Church and 2-years-old son Robert. A friend brought them to the Romanian border by car. Her aunts live in Russia and accepted Putin's a propaganda claiming the Russian troops invaded to save Ukrainians from American slavery. They told her; she deserves her refugee fate. She left Romania for Bremen, Germany.

Ukrainian Christian Refugees Helped with your Gifts

Dear contributors:

My gratitude to all who donated generously toward helping so many refugees from Ukraine, a true flood of displaced individuals. More than 4 million have escaped the current war and another 3 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, nearly 1 million Ukrainians have sought refuge already. Refugees come at times at the rate of 10,000/24 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 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 reliable 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 3 adults and 12 children. Most of these refugees entertain the illusion of taking refuge out of their native country and their lodging and work, for a short 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 this newsletter a few receipts of scores more, documenting what I wrote above. Again, thanks and God Bless, **Michael Wurmbrand**

409	Власенко	Валентин	Мефодьевич	1958	Украина
410	Вольф	Андрей	Корнеевич	1958	Казахстан
411	Курикин	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
430	Миняков	Павел	Дмитриевич	1962	Эстония

Above, a **sample only** of a long 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 most likely 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 obtain 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 of 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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