

"as many as were willing hearted" - Ex. 35:22

New Year! Our motto: "Doing more in '24" is definitely in full swing. Despite the increased missile/rocket attacks on our city and surrounding areas, we deem it safe for Cathy to be here and her help is immense, especially amongst the deaf. Due to sickness/health issues, I'm rarely traveling down to any FOBs, instead we've been busy hosting our boys coming up off the front on rotation, some injured, some just needing rest after living 96hrs at a time in frozen trenches under constant artillery barrages. We picked up the pace on deliveries for humanitarian aid, along with Gospel literature. We delivered almost 2 tons to a nearby village, along with medicines, hygiene and Bibles. The sincere appreciation and gratefulness displayed by most folks is a blessing and we're thankful for the opportunity to both show & share the love of Christ. **Health: my Bell's Palsy continues as well does other neuro-related issues which we're hoping to address. COVID variants continue rolling across Ukraine infecting many hundreds, including our soldiers en masse, and the limited medical facilities is hard. FEB: Happy Anniversary!! Cathy & I were blessed to celebrate our Anniversary with a quiet dinner, relatively free from incoming rockets & air raid sirens serenading us. So thankful for a helpmeet who remains deeply committed to the cause of Christ and is active in so much of the ministry work here. MEDICAL AID: we received news that the medical storage of a brigade I've been working with since Feb '22 was targeted & destroyed by Russian terrorist forces. We responded with clearing out our existing vast supply of medical supplies and delivered them including dozens of Bibles and Gospel tracts. We also finished passing out the rest of the donated winter coats as the Ukrainian winter has chosen to hang around and with limited or no heating in so many villages, the humanitarian need remains higher than ever. Russia is staging massively about 90min from us but we're ready for evac!

Cathy's Corner

Humbly sent by:
FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
 Charlotte, N.C.
 Pastor Rick Baker

Support: CMC

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L-R Cathy continues her Wednesday night sign language classes. About 6 church folks come weekly for the lessons as well as Katrina joins online from Uzhgorod. The deaf are so touched that there would be "hearing" who want to communicate and each Sunday it's neat to see how Cathy's students put into practice the new words and phrases they are learning. She also helped with Winter Wool Socks, pictured with Deaf Larissa who walks pretty far in the frigid cold temperatures. Cathy is also often "adopted" as "mom" to many of our soldiers, like "Indy" a drone operator pictured with her, to whom she gave large packs of hand warmers. She also helped giving out the rest of the warm winter jackets we had donated, seen here with refugee. Whether with our deaf or in ministries in general, she's a huge part to everything here. Faithful!

Your missionaries in Ukraine - John and Cathy O'Brien



CLOCKWISE TOP LEFT:
 Soldiers from my new unit picking up cold weather gear. One of them I've chaplained for over a year now. *Boxes of warm jackets to be delivered to villages where hundreds live in extreme cold with no heat at all. "Diablo" was seriously injured and I drove the 3+ hrs to the military hospital to visit him. *Rita continues operating our Call Center for humanitarian aid including meds. She does a great job coordinating the hundreds of daily incoming calls. *Medical supplies with Gospel literature going out to a frontline battalion, saving lives of those dedicated to defending us from Russia.

