

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 also help many Christian refugees from Ukraine!



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand with wife, Sabina

OCTOBER 2023

Announcement:

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

"Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus 1. 20:15)

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand suffered 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From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand

THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

Not to steal is a commandment from God. This commandment has a wider scope than its four words would indicate. It comprehends the following: "Thou shalt return what has been stolen, thou shalt not eat knowingly stolen food, thou shalt not conceal stolen goods, thou shalt not cover up theft, thou shalt not take money under false pretenses, etc." It means not only that you will not steal, but that your country and your party will not steal; that you shall not be silent when you know about a theft, and that you will not propagate theft. There are no degrees in honesty. You are either honest or dishonest.

God acknowledges private ownership. He teaches us the duties of the rich toward their fellow men, but warns also against theft, against robbing a man or a nation of what he legitimately owns. Communism, on the contrary, teaches theft. By using the devilish trick of changing the sense of words, Communists condone murder by calling it justice; they lie freely calling the lie diplomacy and so on.

MARX sowed the seed of theft by proclaiming that ownership is theft. He wrote in REINISCHE ZEITUNG (Marx-Engels Archiv, 1927): "Is not all private property theft? Do I not by my private property deprive any other person of this property?" According to him, if I possess a house,

furniture and clothing, I deprive somebody else of them. So it would be wrong to have even trousers or a skirt of your own. Such stupidities are imposed as genial ideas in part of the world dominated by communists. Surprisingly, there are even some pastors in the West who, though having suits, furniture and a car of their own, would protest to the police if any were stolen; yet they admire Marxism. Marxism is just the opposite of the Christian teaching, because it comes from Satan, God's self-declared opponent. I published a book titled, "WAS KARL MARX A SATANIST?", in which I gave evidence of connections between MARX and sects of devil-worshippers. I indicated facts showing that MARX had been a Satanist, a hater of God, that his atheism, socialism and interest in the poor were only pretenses while he consciously strove for the dominion of the devil on earth. The essence of the Satanist religion is what the serpent told Eve: "You don't have to obey God. Eat of the forbidden fruit and you yourself will become like God" (Genesis 3:5). Listen to the following poem of MARX, about whom the lie is spread that his ideal in life was to help the oppressed build a righteous social system. He had quite other things in mind: "With disdain I will throw my gauntlet full in the face of the world and see the collapse of this pigmy-giant whose fall will not stifle my ardor. Then will I wander Godlike and victorious through the ruins of the world and, giving my words an active force, will feel equal to the Creator." If the poem is not clear enough, read it again and remember another saying of MARX: "I teach words that are mixed up in a devilish and chaotic mess!" His confessed aim was to ruin the world, not to make it better. So, the purpose of Marxism is not to enrich the poor; it is the old purpose of Satan: to drive God out of heaven. The poor are misled into an unrealistic program of equality to make them help the God-haters achieve dictatorial power in the name of the proletariat.

To fulfill this purpose, the Communists stole whole countries through deceit and terror. Their accomplices in the United States and western governments enabled them to steal. Catholic priests and Protestant pastors being Communists in disguise, others duped Christians, support the theft of whole countries by the Communists in the name of a new theology called "The theology of liberation." They call themselves Christian theologians while going hand in hand with devil-worshipping Marxists and preach only about class-struggle and revolution against governments under which religion is free. They never preach revolution against Communist dictatorships which oppress believers in God.

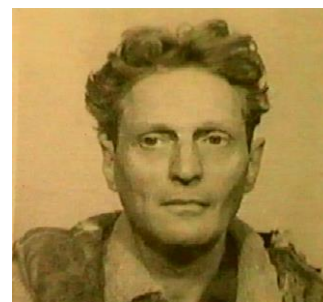
The elect of God stand unafraid. They resist in spite of severe torture. Christ will conquer and not Satan. The latter has the power of death (Hebrews 2:14) but Jesus has the power to resurrect.



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!)



Nadezhda REINER

Was convicted to 3 years imprisonment in a court in Moscow, former Soviet Union, for conducting a Sunday school with 25 children. When arrested by the KGB (communist secret police) the children surrounded her with a tight ring trying to prevent her arrest. The KGB policemen beat some children heads against the wall, tortured them so that Nadezhda could hear their groans and crying.

Read her testimony in our online 3/2022 Newsletter.



Bogdan Sergei EGOROVICH

Was able to organize in the former Soviet Union the distribution of underground Christian literature. More than 4 tons of paper were used for the printing. For these activities he was imprisoned and sentenced to hard physical labor together with many other Christians. He was freed after 2 years only, due to Gorbachev's liberalization named "perestroika."

Read his testimony in our online 3/2022 Newsletter.



Church choir conductor VINOGRADSKIY Daniil Mikhailovich

was among the organizers and leaders of a delegation to the authorities in the former Soviet Union. The delegation asked for the release of prisoners of conscience, for the provision of freedom to preach the Gospel. The Soviet authorities arrested and tortured the organizers of this petition. He was sentenced twice to three years imprisonment terms. Read his testimony in our online 4/2022 Newsletter.



Baptist Preacher SASIN Victor Pavlovich

was sentenced three times to terms of 3 years, another three years and amnestied under Gorbachev during the third term after one year imprisonment. He led more than 12 years of Christian underground church work.

Read his daughter's full testimony in our online 3/2022 Newsletter.

Christian Refugees of the Ukrainian-War Helped with your Gifts!



KOROB Alexander escaped Ukraine with wife **Anjelika** and daughters **Liz** and **Ina**. Alexander wrote: “Good afternoon! After the war began in Ukraine, I signed a petition stating that I do not support Russia's invasion of Ukraine and against the participation of the Belarusian army in it. I published also on Facebook a post with a similar text. When searches began in the editorial office of the independent newspaper in which I worked and searches of employees, I urgently left the country with my family.

“A month later they searched my house, my mother-in-law still lives there. She was in a state of shock with very high blood pressure, signed several protocols, not even understanding what was written there. Copies of the protocols were not left on hand and it was not announced in the framework of which case the search was conducted. After that, we definitely cannot return until the (Russian) regime collapses.”

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

Over 8 million refugees have escaped so far from Ukraine into different European countries.



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

Sister Likhodeeva Olga wrote:

„We lived in the city of Kropivnitsky, in our house. Everything was alright until 24/02/2022. In the morning we received a phone call from our children and friends from Kharkiv, who told us that the war had started and that there were shootings. We started to pray. At 5 a.m. military planes started flying; we were very scared and started packing in order to save our lives. We left for the border. It was very difficult to cross; we stayed in our car for 2 days.”

Sisters Olena Efremova and Oksana Popova wrote:

„We are from Ukraine, the city of Kharkiv. On February 24, 2022, at 5 a.m. we were woken up by the sound of explosions and we understood that it was war and that Russia had attacked us. We didn't want to believe it, but it was true. We found out that shootings were not only in Kharkiv, but also in other cities of our country. We crossed the whole country towards Chernivtsy and there we entered Romania. We thank God and we are praying for Ukraine.

“Though tired, they took us to the meeting point. I was shocked how well we were received. They fed me, warmed me and calmed me down. We slept on the floor as sisters and brothers from the church took us in for 2 days.”

Sister Chernous Albina and son Mark wrote:

“Everything was alright until on February 24, at 5 a.m., my sister from Kyiv woke me up and told me that the war had started. My husband and I quickly packed our things and left. We heard two explosions and were very scared. The way was difficult, we travelled for 3 days, we ran out of food and I had nothing to feed my 10-month-old son with. I managed to cross the border, but my husband was not allowed to leave the country. I am very worried about him.”

Sister Kotulska Irina wrote:

“On 24/02, early in the morning, we heard explosions. We got up, packed quickly, woke up our children, and left Kyiv in the direction of the border. On 27 February, at 5 a.m., we entered Romania where we were received in a Christian children's camp. It is very dangerous to stay in Ukraine at the moment; we worry and pray for our family members who are still there. We are thinking about moving farther, where God will lead us, and we are praying.”

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



Kudla Iulia and daughters
Milana and Zarina taking
shelter in the basement.



Sister Kudla Iulia wrote: “Hello, we are a family from the city of Mariupol. In the first days after the beginning of the large-scale invasion of Russia, we were still able to leave the house. The beginning of the war was not particularly felt during this period, I was able to stock up on drinking and rainwater and essential products.

“On March 5th, I and my daughters finally went down to the basement there and got to know the neighbors, who endured numerous rocket attacks, more than 3 airstrikes in our yard. In the basement, we made friends with a neighbor with whom we decided what to do, how to support each other.

“Someone was on duty near the fire because it was very cold because it had snowed. The men of the neighborhood tried in every way to insulate the premises where we were and to get at least a little water. When the electricity, gas, and water went out in the city, there was no communication even then.

“Everyone understood that Hell was coming. **Unfortunately there were a lot of us, 14 children, 2 of them infants and about 27 adults, there were not enough supplies for a long time.** We were even afraid to go out and breathe fresh air. Fresh? It is (what I call) the endless smoke from fires. I still can't believe it. Months of darkness. We have not seen sunlight. We were scared. And when there was no water at all, our two families and I decided to get out on March 21.

“We got out of the basement, and to be honest, then we weren't afraid anymore, we just wanted to save the children. We headed towards Volodarsk, there was a Russian checkpoint, we asked how we could get to Ukraine, they laughed and said that we have a road to Donetsk or Russia, but there is no corridor in Ukraine. There was a family with a baby with us, we drove for about 4 hours, watching all this horror. Around us, there were burnt-out cars, military equipment, buses along the highway. When we got to the school in Volodarsk, we spent the night there for two nights, they

fed us and gave us water. Then we were offered to go to Donetsk or Taganrog.

“Because we had no choice, we chose Taganrog, from there we were sent to Penza, where we were placed in a temporary accommodation point. There we met volunteers on social networks who helped us to reach Tallinn, Estonia, where we are today. Here we found a church and met pastor Pavlo Duchenko of the Christian Church "Salt of the Earth" in Tallinn. Here, people helped us to recover and move away from what we had experienced and seen. We thank God that He takes care of us and sends people who have become a new family. We pray for the end of the war in Ukraine and for peace in the whole world, hoping for a quick meeting with relatives and friends.”

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 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 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 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 these newsletters a few testimonies and some 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	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	ДРИСВЯННИКОВ	АЛЕКСАНДР	АЛЕКСАНДРОВИЧ	1959	Россия
418	СКВОРЦОВА	ЛЮБОВЬ	НИКОЛАЕВНА	1959	Россия
419	Варавин	Виталий	Федотович	1959	Россия
420	Дубицкий	СЕРГЕЙ	АДАМОВИЧ	1959	Россия
421	Лященко	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 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 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 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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