

# the Gazette



2020: Year In Review  
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# 2020

## A look back at 2020

A WORD FROM THE CEO

Greetings My Friends,

I love how white and bright everything is after a fresh snowfall. It even smells fresh. Maybe it's because I have spent most of my life in Florida, but I always want to break off an icicle and put it in my mouth, like a frozen treat. Most of us enjoy winter for a while, but then there is something within us yearning for the blossoms of springtime and the warmth of summer.



In this Gazette, you will read some amazing stories. On the next page, you'll see just how much God accomplished in 2020. We pray you are encouraged by this Gazette as you see the tangible ways God is at work and has provided for Ukraine, in spite of the pandemic restrictions. As we moved in and through the Christmas season, our opportunities to serve were met with great enthusiasm by our teams and recipients of our efforts.

For the first time in a long time, we could share Christmas gifts with those in need in Eastern Ukraine, like we do with our widows and orphans in Kyiv. Their gratitude is hard to put into words because it is filled with so much emotion. They shared it with tears in their eyes, and the children had the excitement of a Christmas morning. I may have teared up a little myself.

I hope these stories and pictures bless you as we begin serving in 2021.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg K.", written in a cursive style.

Greg

# 2020

## Year In Review

**\$14.7K**

RAISED ON GIVINGTUESDAYNOW  
FOR THE KSOC MUSICIANS

**170**

WIDOWS RECEIVED  
MEDICAL CARE

**1**  
NEW  
WEBSITE

**1,536**  
PEOPLE SERVED

**122**  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
UPDATES

**700**  
WIDOWS SERVED

**\$17.4K**

RAISED ON GIVINGTUESDAY  
FOR WIDOW'S MEDICAL NEEDS

**480**  
WIDOW VISITS

**1.3K**  
PHONE CALLS  
TO WIDOWS

**10K**  
WEBSITE VIEWS

# DONBASS TRIP

## December Trip to Donbass

WITH IRINA D. & SASHA A.

On our recent trip to Donbass, everyone was so glad to see us again—it had been two months since Irina D. and Sasha A. last visited.

The **You Are Not Alone Group** was our first stop. This group of 20 widows gathers at 2 p.m. on Mondays. We were a little late for the meeting because our train was delayed due to the weather. But that didn't stop us from sharing a word of teaching and sending our Christmas wishes.

This friendly group was delighted to see us. Diligent pupils sat with Bibles open and reflected on James 3 (the passage about taming your tongue). It was interesting to listen to their discussion. The meeting finished with drinking tea and giving food certificates. The women had tears in their eyes as we encouraged them and gave our warm wishes. When we gave presents, the tears really poured out. "What a care from God," one woman said.

15 people raised their hands when we asked who came to this group because of our ministry. Praise the Lord!

Many of the presents we delivered for the group were New Testament Bibles and Billy Graham books.

Our next stop was **Christ's Design Church**. This group missed us dearly and we could see the joy on their faces when we arrived. They are always waiting for us to visit them again. The opportunity to minister to these people is a great blessing. A few of them raised their hands when we asked who came to this group due to our ministry. Some photos from our trip are on the next page, except the men were too shy to be in the photos.



Tatiana K. is a widow who has attended the church for one year. She first visited because of our meetings and the welcoming invitations from Pastor Vladimir. Tatiana was also excited to share that she read the Bible for the first time when she was 65.

Ludmila S. is another widow who has attended church for a few years. While she has many difficulties in her life, God helps her, and she truly feels His love.



Lidya B. is a widow with a son who lives several hours away. She feels quite lonely, but she has learned about God's word because of our ministry, and when she reads the Bible, her loneliness goes away. Lidya has a much better understanding of the Bible now and has attended church for three years.

Lidia I.'s husband died in 1995, and her life is difficult. Thanks to our ministry, she found a new family (her church) and has recently started attending. She was delighted to see us again. In fact, Lidia calls us angels who showed her the right way. Glory to God!



Lastly, we visited the **Light Of The Gospel Church**. We had a great time together—full of warmth and love. We also felt their grateful hearts, tears of joy, prayers, and praise to the Lord during this Christmas season. Our mission did everything for these people to feel the touch of God’s love and care.



One woman’s husband died the week before we were there. She has three children, and even amidst this crisis, she told us that she felt God’s love and care for her and her children. When we gave her the food certificates, we reminded her that God would not leave her family. She answered, “I understand that now.” as she fought through the tears to break a smile.





Children always give warmth with their smiles and it's a pleasure to minister to them. Our hearts rejoice when they receive spiritual and physical food. We were the first to celebrate Christmas with them. It's always interesting to hear children's answers on questions that many adults can hardly answer. One of the questions we asked was: What does Christmas mean to you?



Thank you for your continued support as we share the Gospel with the country of Ukraine.



# Christmas Cheer

## FOR OUR WIDOWS

Christmas is always a joyous time for our widows—and this year was no different.



You'll notice in the photos that Irina L. and Valentina E. are distributing food vouchers and Christmas cards. Rina R., a military widow who recently joined our widows' program, volunteered to help pass out the Christmas honey cakes. It was a joy to watch her. Not only did she pass out the treats, but Rina also shared a word of blessing and encouragement with every widow.

Pastor Ruslan and Serhiy Basarab met with small groups of Stephen Ministers to encourage them and express our gratitude for all who want to serve. Pastor Ruslan also took the time to remind them gently that we are not just another social service agency delivering cards and other types of aid—our primary purpose is to provide spiritual care. He encouraged all the Stephen Ministers to spend quality time with their homebound friends by praying for them and learning more about their spiritual and physical needs.





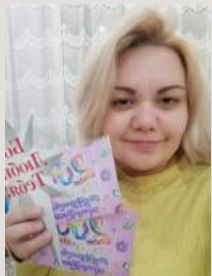


# Christmas Presents

FOR MILITARY WIDOWS

Oksana visited our military widows and their children to distribute Christmas presents on behalf of MMK. Thank you for your generosity.

Because of your donations, 42 military widows received Christmas presents. Each widow got a freshly baked honey cake and two food vouchers in a beautiful envelope that was designed and made by Oksana. Kudos to Oksana!





# *All That Hath Life and Breath Praise Ye The Lord*

VIRTUAL KSOC CONCERT (OCTOBER 19)



Watch Performance

[MUSICMISSIONKIEV.ORG/CONCERT](https://musicmissionkiev.org/concert)

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## I Can Tell The World

UPCOMING KSOC CONCERT

Later this month (February), Vika and the KSOC plan to perform a new concert, *I Can Tell The World*. For the first time in many years, we are performing at the Ukrainian National Philharmonic Hall, and tickets are being sold. This is a unique opportunity for evangelism with a completely different crowd, many of which are unchurched.

All readings of the text and Bible passages will be done in Ukrainian by a professional actor, who is the brother of one of our chorus singers. The concert will also be live-streamed in Ukraine with the purchase of a ticket.

We invite you to pray for this concert and the KSOC as they continue to look for new and creative ways to share the sacred classics with Ukraine.

# Parting Word

FROM CEO GREG KANNON

As you read through this Gazette, I hope you have seen a glimpse of our work in Ukraine and those you have impacted over the last several months. From our visit to Donbass, to our widows' Christmas, and our young military widows, the excitement and gratitude expressed in these stories is heartfelt and filled with emotion. If you receive nothing else from the stories, I hope you could sense how grateful these men, women, and children are for the love they received through our mission. You are bringing the light of Christ to Ukraine when they need it most.

Please consider supporting us in the coming months so that we may continue to proclaim the Gospel in Ukraine. As always, February through July are the lowest months of giving for our mission. Your support is vital. Please use our enclosed envelope to send in your financial gifts (or you can give online at [musicmissionkiev.org/give](http://musicmissionkiev.org/give)) and also keep us in your prayers.

Without your support, we cannot continue serving and blessing our Ukrainian friends and family. What would God have you do to help us honor these lovely people?





286 Wilshire Blvd  
Casselberry, FL 32707

*Website:*  
[www.musicmissionkiev.org](http://www.musicmissionkiev.org)

*Office Phone:*  
**1-800-467-5051**

*E-mail:*  
[info@musicmissionkiev.org](mailto:info@musicmissionkiev.org)

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PRAYERS AND SUPPORT!**

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