

## Csaba and Ilona Veres

Location: **Cluj, ROMANIA**

Mission: **Outreach ministry and children's ministry and teaching**



*Ukrainian flag heart drawn on the path in the church grounds*

### Diakonia Children's Ministries

As Easter approaches, the children's ministries are preparing for the Easter holiday Bible teaching clubs. We will deliver the resource packs that we have prepared during the first week of April to the various locations throughout Cluj and Salaj counties.

Over half a million Ukrainian refugees have come through Romania since the beginning of the war. In the midst of much suffering and pain it is amazing to witness a great outpouring of compassion and love in the city, for those forced to flee their homes and in need of emergency shelter.

Our home church in Cluj, Tóköz Reformed church, started hosting a network of volunteers in a daily ministry to Ukrainian children and families. This support was initiated within days after the arrival of the first Ukrainians to Cluj and offers help and support on a day to day needs basis.



*Tóköz Reformed Church*

We are involved daily in a variety of tasks, offering food, accommodation, organising transport to school and an after-school to help children who have been attending Romanian school or nursery school, distributing necessary items and offering support services. Ilona has been teaching English to some women who will possibly go onward to England. It has been a fast-moving ministry, with people only spending a few days in Cluj, however as the war is prolonged there is a growing number of Ukrainians settling here.

### Prayer points

- Pray for the teachers in each group as they take the children on a journey from Palm Sunday to the resurrection.
- Pray that the children would have lots of fun together but would also be attentive to the Word and experience and respond to the message of the cross and resurrection.
- Pray for the Tóköz congregation, as we serve Ukrainians praying with and for their specific needs. Pray for opportunities for pastoral care.
- Give thanks for the support groups available to refugees, doctors, teachers, drivers, cooks, paediatricians, councillors, pastors, vets... who give up their time and resources to help refugees either transiting or staying.
- Pray for the Ukrainian parents who have made heart-breaking decisions in order to keep their families safe. For those who are far from their homes and for those who have left behind fathers, husbands, brothers and sons, pray that they would know that the Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18