

Csaba and Ilona Veres

Location: **Cluj, ROMANIA**

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



Educational support is offered to children and there are opportunities to build relationships with their mums and grandmoms showing God's love and care in very practical ways.



In January 2022 the Hungarian Reformed Church (HRC) in Ukraine began the year with the bishop's announcement that 2022 would be the **year of thanksgiving**. When on February 24th the war broke out, some church members voiced opinion that the theme should be changed, for how could they be thankful in such circumstances. The bishop simply replied, *'let's search for it, for in the midst of trouble, God's caring love remains, for this we give thanks'*.

As we approach the one-year anniversary of the start of the war, we continue to pray for peace and an immediate end to the conflict. As we look back we join with the HRC acknowledging that God is the faithful one who strengthens feeble hands and fearful hearts.

In early January a HRC leadership group from Cluj took 4 large generators to southern Ukraine, to poorly staffed and resourced church institutions which only have electricity for two, two-hour periods each day. The group took time to listen to people's stories and pray with them. As they entered church on Sunday morning, Ukrainian military stood in the doorway checking every male member's documents and serving call-up papers.

In Cluj, the ministry to Ukrainian refugees in our home church continues with a mum and babies' group and an afterschool club each two days a week.

Prayer Points

- Pray for the HRC in Ukraine, for those serving daily in church schools, nursery schools, homes for the elderly and community diaconal work helping the elderly and unwell. Pray they would not become weary in doing good, and they will experience God's faithfulness, provision and peace.
- Pray for men in Ukraine who live in fear of being conscripted and sent to the front line.
- Please continue to pray for peace, for grieving families, for families separated, for the men in Ukraine and the women and children forced to live in other countries far from their home and loved ones.
- Give thanks for opportunities through Ilona's English language teaching, to listen, to offer support and prayer.
- Pray for the women who haven't seen their husbands or fathers for a year, for Lubi, whose balcony was bombed after New Year's Eve, and for friends and neighbours of Maria whose apartment block was destroyed in Dnipro. Pray that they would turn to Jesus for hope and peace.