

Dear MWB Prayer Partner –

“Thank you for your contribution in prayer! Greetings to all God’s children at the ends of the earth!
☺ God abundantly bless you!” Sarkis, Bulgaria.

What’s Happening: Winter. Cold, snow and ice bring challenges. Christmas (7 January) brings opportunities to share the real Christmas message with those we reach out to.

Let’s give thanks – Answers to Prayer:

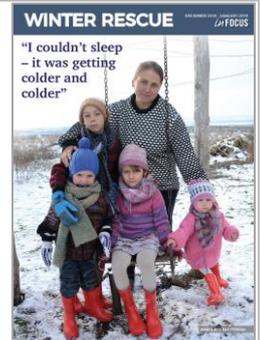
◇ Last month we received more than 600 new letters from Moldovan children and teenagers starting our Bible Correspondence Courses.

◇ From Ukraine: We are very thankful and delighted that one very problematic shipment of donated aid has been finally customs cleared (Hallelujah!!) after 3 months and the threat of fines, but we have seen God’s answer!

Special Prayer Requests – Ukraine and Bulgaria:

◇ For Ukraine: The war continues and so far the key political players seem not to want to follow the Minsk Peace Accord, with over 10,500 killed. Please offer prayers and petitions to God for Ukrainians and others caught up in the conflict. Pray for God’s intervention and for lasting peace. Please pray for the safe and successful Christmas Love Box distribution in the Eastern part of our country where there is conflict.

◇ Bulgaria’s parliament has drafted a new religious law which aims at controlling ecclesiastical matters – it restricts international donations to churches and religious organisations, forbids the opening of religious schools and seminaries, the only exceptions being the Orthodox church and Muslim faith; and smaller religious groups (like Evangelical Christians) are considered a threat to national security. The State and Church are supposed to be separate according to the Constitution. This bill has been rejected in submissions by all faiths and religious entities and awaits further consideration by Parliament. Pray that it will fail.



– Mission Without Borders NZ

December

1-2 Moldova	Tudor: We thank God for answering our prayers for T. family, whose house was destroyed in a fire this summer. Local authorities gave the family a home where they are safe for the winter; other villagers provided food; the Mission donated chairs, tables, beds, clothing, boots, firewood etc; relatives have given bricks for rebuilding, and the family has made a stove for heating/cooking.
3-4 Bosnia & Herzegovina	Please pray for all the staff and volunteers who are busy at work in December. Pray for their health, wisdom and wellbeing so they can assist, comfort and bless many.
5-6 All countries	Our teams will be delivering Christmas Love Boxes and special Christmas gifts to children and families. Please pray that the good news of Advent (Jesus) will be communicated as we show God’s love in this practical way; and may the recipients feel loved and cared for. Pray for wise distribution as there are so many people who need our help.
7-8 Ukraine	We are saddened that a few of our families’ children have died recently due to accidents and health problems. Please pray for those families to be comforted in their loss, for God’s supernatural peace and consolation to fill their hearts, and for the Coordinators bringing comfort to the grieving.
9-10 Romania	Our Coordinator recently found a family distraught as they had learned the mother has cancer and they can barely survive from one day to another. The father has spent their money on doctors and medicines, and he is unsure how they will buy firewood to survive the winter. We provided firewood. Please keep them in your prayers. They will soon join our family sponsorship programme.
11-12 Moldova	Please pray for God to intervene in the lives of children and teenagers in our supported communities whose parents are absent. Please pray for coordinators and volunteers to influence these children positively so they do not succumb to drugs or alcohol to fill the void of despair and rejection.
13-14 Albania	Many families have completed their self-sufficiency projects in the past weeks. Please pray over this blessing from God and that it will serve as a new start for them. Pray that God will bless their work, provide more for their families and continue to guide them. Pray for the new families joining up also.
15-16 All countries	We are organising several Christmas celebrations across the communities we work in. Please pray for God’s divine presence to touch the hearts of everyone present. Besides the gifts that the people receive we hope that they will be open to hear Him speak to their hearts personally. We pray that many of them will give their hearts to Jesus and will become His children.
17-18 Bulgaria	Our StreetMercy coordinator needs strong prayer support in her demanding daily ministry. She and her husband face every day social outcasts, beggars, thieves, mentally ill, those suffering from illnesses, without faith and hope. Ana and Iulian need strength, wisdom, and daily spiritual refreshment.
19-20 Moldova	Our Bible correspondence course with children is a great success. Please pray that the Word of God within these lessons would bring hope and continue to bring guiding principles to all children involved.

21-22 Romania	The people of Romania long to see corrupt leaders brought to justice and for good and just government. Please pray for good government in Romania.
23-24 Ukraine	Please pray for our Winter Rescue outreach. Pray the people we work with find heating for the winter and sufficient food. Many are struggling as prices for gas (for heating) increased again back in November.
25-26 Christmas outreaches	Staff and volunteers will visit State Homes for children, Day Care Centres for the Elderly and Prisons we work with, and also families and other needy people and communities, to put on Christmas celebrations. These events need earnest prayers to achieve the goal of Christ welcomed into every heart!
27-28 All countries	There are families and elderly who are facing this winter without being able to heat their homes. Please pray God provides abundantly for them (just like the widow's oil - 1Ki 4:1-7). We thank God for all gifts that have been donated, including practical ones such as warm clothes, shoes, blankets, furniture and mattresses. Often these items are the only valuable things they have in their homes.
29-30 Albania	Pray that this winter is not harsh. Pray God protects the susceptible poor living beside streams from the floods that have happened in recent years and that the government may be ready to respond if needed.
31 MWB leaders	Please remember our key leaders, Harry, Stephen, Liz, David (UK); Viorel (Rom.); Alan (USA) and our field country managers in our six field countries. Many new mission challenges will likely come in 2019.
January	
1-2 Ukraine	Please take a moment to pray again for Ukraine and its people; and for an end to the war and restoration of broken lives and families and especially for those in the War Zone and those receiving the 2000 Love boxes our team will deliver to those suffering.
3-4 Moldova	Please pray for God to raise people with integrity during elections in February. May God bring into power people who are capable of providing good government.
5-6 Albania	Domestic violence is endemic in Albania. Please pray for Sh. family whose mother was murdered some months ago by the father. Pray for comfort for the children and that they will learn to walk with Jesus.
7-8 Christmas (Orthodox)	January 7 is the traditional eastern date for celebrating Christmas. For those who are suffering in the cold, lacking food, jobs or hope, there may be nothing to celebrate. Please pray that many will turn not to despair and alcohol but to God through local churches or MWB and other agencies for hope and help.
9-10 Bulgaria	Our partnering church in Krupnik needs a new building and to repair the roof on the current centre. Please pray they are able to manage all the tasks in the best possible way.
11-12 Ukraine	The K. family received very bad news recently when their mom was diagnosed with cancer. The woman is 30, and they have 6 small children, the youngest is just a few months old. She is undergoing chemotherapy, and she feels very bad. Please pray for healing and hope for this family.
13-14 Moldova	We are thankful for the medical project that gives many families the opportunity to buy the minimum of necessary medicine that they would not have without our help.
15-16 Bulgaria	Metodi is a disabled and homeless man found sleeping in an abandoned car. Our StreetMercy coordinator is trying to arrange for him to be accommodated in a home for the disabled. Pray God will open a door for him to find a good living situation.
17-18 Health needs	Bosnia: The M. family are going through a tough time as the mother has breast cancer. A recent MRI suggest a benign tumour. Please pray for healing for her. Bulgaria: Bogomil, a young boy, needs a kidney transplant. A special test will determine if the father can donate a kidney. Please pray that everything will go smoothly and well.
19-20 Winter needs	Please pray for the elderly and the youngest among those we serve. Many of the elderly become house-bound because of the cold and snow. Please pray for our continuing Winter Rescue outreach and especially for those making the deliveries, often in snow and icy conditions.
21-22 Romania	Alexandru asks for prayer for our long-standing work in once atheist Victoria, where the church partner hosting the soup kitchen has run into some opposition from others with influence. The needs in this town are dire so please pray as our Coordinator and the local pastor seek God's wisdom as to how to proceed.
23-24 Romania	Mihaela, who has twice been to summer camp, is one of 5 children in N. family and has asked to be baptised but her parents oppose this step. Please pray for Mihaela and this delicate situation.
25-26 Scholarships	We give thanks to God that 300+ young people can continue their studies thanks to scholarships funded through the partnership of MWB and generous supporters, including several NZers. Please pray for them.
27-28 Ukraine	Please pray for the 75 students of our Vocational Training Centre in Sarny. Having had exams, they can graduate with a State-approved diploma this month. Pray for everyone to find a good job.
29-30 Moldova	From Tudor: The mother of C. family is battling cancer and is struggling to care for her four children. We several families battling similar chronic or incurable health issues. Pray God heals and protects them during the cold season when their health worsens.
31 Field staff	Please pray for our field staff as they come to the coldest time of the year and face many struggling people who need help. Ask the Lord to give wisdom and resourcefulness in providing the practical care.