

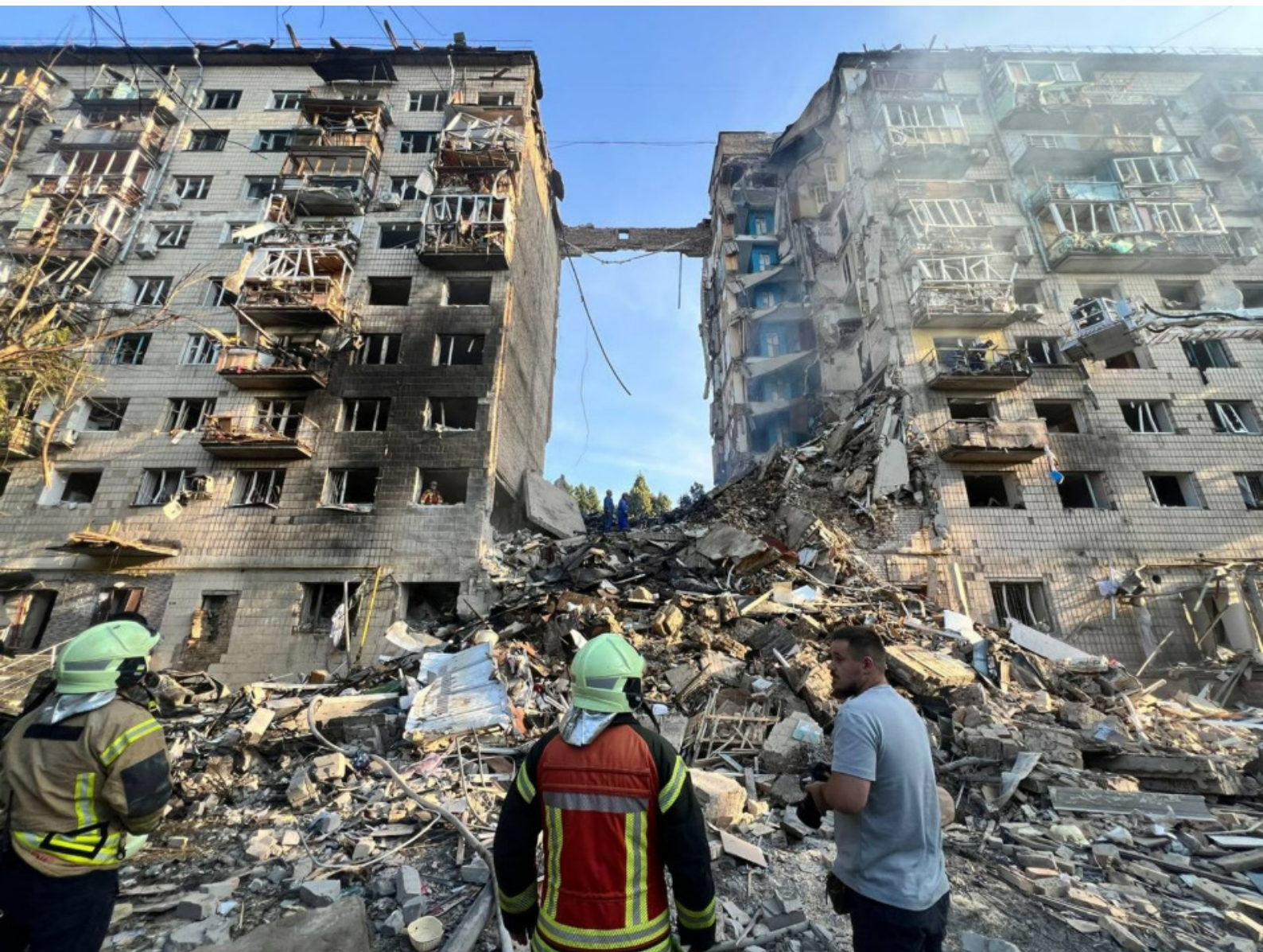


**Ukraine update
from the
Baptist Union**

April

2026

Does living *in* **UNCERTAINTY** draw us **CLOSER TO GOD?**



The prolonged stress of the war over these past years has reshaped the everyday lives of Ukrainians, forcing many to live with a deep sense of helplessness and uncertainty. The foundations people once relied on – their sources of stability, hope, and security – have been shaken. Among them, the very foundation of safety has been profoundly undermined.

Whether at home, in the yard, in a car, or on a train, it is impossible to fully protect oneself from enemy drones and missiles. In the first quarter of 2026 alone, 556 civilians were killed and more than 2,800 were injured. These figures exceed the same period in 2025 by 20%.

Amid the war, many people are rediscovering eternal values, because the image of God is within them. These values cannot be shaken by any war. In essence, this is faith in God – simple, sincere, direct, and childlike.

Brigade chaplain Anatolii Kushnirchuk shares:

“Over the past month, at the request of soldiers, I have distributed more than 300 copies of the New Testament, 27 audio Bibles, and over 670 prayer books. People are longing for hope, because we are living in uncertain times.”

In times of crisis, when many seek God, support, and meaning, the Church is reminded of the importance of intensified prayer for the unsaved and encourages believers not to miss opportunities to share the Gospel with open hearts.





The 40th anniversary of the **CHERNOBYL DISASTER**

Forty years ago, on April 26, 1986, the fourth reactor of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant exploded, causing the largest man-made disaster of the 20th century.

According to the International Nuclear Event Scale, the Chernobyl disaster was classified at the highest Level 7, indicating severe consequences for human health and the environment.



Looking back at the tragedy of Chernobyl, it is important to remember that many disasters are the result of human decisions and mistakes – just like wars. This is a reminder of the deep brokenness of humanity caused by sin. At the same time, Scripture reveals a broader reality: all creation is groaning, awaiting restoration. Such tragedies testify not only to human responsibility, but also to our shared need for a Savior and His mercy.

In the villages near the restricted 30-kilometer exclusion zone – Ivankiv, Krasiatychi, and Mlachivka – church services are held and missionary work continues.



The church in Krasiatychi gathers people from neighboring villages where there are no churches. It has existed for more than 10 years and has about 30 members. The village experienced occupation, and its population has declined.

In addition to regular Sunday services, the church organizes training programs, children’s meetings, and camps. They also conduct men’s ministry and various social outreach programs in nearby villages. The church is involved in ministry to soldiers and participates in chaplaincy work in hospitals in the Kyiv region.

Alongside its spiritual ministry, the church also has practical needs, including building a restroom, a kitchen, and a storage area, as well as transitioning to an alternative, independent energy supply.

We would deeply appreciate your prayers for the pastors and the ministry of the churches in Ivankiv, Krasiatychi, and Mlachivka.

Today, on the 40th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster – caused by the Soviet regime – let us also pray that our long-suffering nation would seek God and His mercy for Ukraine.



Seventy rehabilitation CENTERS *are currently operating within the churches of the Ukrainian Baptist Union.*

These centers serve both men and women, helping them overcome alcohol and drug addiction and discover a new purpose in life.

Among them is the men's rehabilitation center "Reconciliation" at Grace Church in Irpin. Since the beginning of the full-scale war, the team has ministered to more than 150 individuals, 16 of whom have been baptized.



The greatest value of this ministry is seen in transformed lives. There are powerful testimonies of men who, after completing rehabilitation, have left addiction behind and begun a new life: serving in the church, getting married, building families, and establishing strong Christian homes.



ONE FAMILY from Donetsk region has helped THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS

Druzhkivka remains a frontline city, under daily attacks from guided aerial bombs and drones. The difficult security situation makes ministry there extremely challenging.

Serhii, a volunteer from an Evangelical Christian-Baptist church in Druzhkivka, felt a strong calling at the very beginning of the full-scale invasion to serve in his hometown and across eastern Ukraine. He organized evacuations and regularly delivered humanitarian aid. His family faithfully served alongside him.

Military vehicles would often pass by their home, which was located near the road—soldiers coming from the front lines, dirty, exhausted, and worn out. In response, the family created a place of rest for them: offering access to a bath, laundry, and a chance to recover. This ministry continued for two years and served thousands of soldiers.

The entire family was involved—washing hundreds of kilograms of clothing, preparing meals, cleaning, and encouraging the soldiers. It was extremely demanding work, often lasting 10-12 hours each day.

Due to constant attacks on the city, Serhii's family was eventually forced to evacuate. Yet the people they met and served continue to need our prayers and practical care. Even the smallest act of kindness or support can become a breath of hope – a reminder that they are not forgotten or alone.

We received numerous messages of feedback and gratitude from military personnel on the social media pages of the Baptist Union for this family – their bathhouse and welcoming yard became a true blessing and an invaluable gift for those who visited.

Celebrating **EIGHT YEARS** of faithful ministry: a growing church *in Lviv*



The Ukrainian Bible Church in Lviv has celebrated its eighth anniversary.

The church's ministry covers a wide and active field of service. Among its many areas of outreach are six ministries for children, six for youth and students, five for teenagers, and four focused on families, as well as several dedicated ministries serving military personnel, veterans, and their families.

On the day of the celebration, April 12, the church also ordained new pastors and deacons. Three additional pastors joined the existing team of four, and eight brothers were ordained to serve as deacons.





The 16th annual “Woman of God” conference *for* DEAF WOMEN held at Irpin Bible Seminary

In April, the sixteenth annual “Woman of God” conference for deaf women took place at Irpin Biblical Seminary.

The conference brought together 70 sisters from churches across Ukraine. Among the participants were also sign language interpreters – students and graduates of the Seminary’s Deaf Ministry program.

The event consisted of five training seminars led by experienced women ministers, both with and without hearing impairments.

For nearly three decades, Irpin Seminary has been dedicated to training sign language interpreters and equipping deaf individuals for ministry.

During the conference, participants reflected on the importance for a woman of God not only to grow spiritually and learn personally, but also to teach others. They were introduced to practical forms and methods for doing this effectively.



Cooperation among REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS delivers 100 TONS of spring vegetable aid



Churches from the Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Dnipropetrovsk, and Chernihiv regional associations received 20 tons each of potatoes, onions, and carrots through the Zhytomyr regional association.

For example, 25 churches in the Zaporizhzhia region received vegetables that will serve as valuable support for those in need.

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” Hebrews 13:16





EASTER GIFTS TO *the* FRONT LINES

Dozens of churches and chaplains used the Easter season as an opportunity to share the Gospel with Ukrainian defenders. New Testaments, sweets, festive baked goods, clothing, medicines, and other essential items were delivered to the front lines.

Among those regularly visiting soldiers as part of a chaplaincy team is Valerii Antoniuk, head of the Ukrainian Baptist Union. He comes to encourage them through the Word, prayer, and simple, heartfelt fellowship.

Each of us can be present – through prayer, involvement, or support.

Serve where you are. Be the answer to someone's prayer.







We invite you to JOIN US *in* PRAYER:

- That the Lord would lead the hearts of Christians to serve soldiers, their families, the wounded, prisoners of war, and the families of fallen defenders.
- That this ministry would expand to more regions.
- That it would become an integral part of church life.
- That a just and lasting peace may come to Ukraine.



The ALL-UKRAINIAN UNION of EVANGELICAL
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