

August 2026 Germany, Ukraine, UK

GERMANY

Advance notice of the baptism of Rahel [Dominik and Anja's daughter] that's planned for Saturday, September 12th Lord willing, in Berlin. We hope to gather a few others together, so bear that in mind if you're in the area.

UKRAINE

Thanks all for your prayers for the recent trip in Ukraine. As you may have picked up from the media, the bombardments are now at a far higher rate than ever previously in the war. The volleys of ballistic missiles are terrible, and where they will hit seems so random when you're on the ground. Living in air raid shelters much of the time is so damaging, mentally, economically and in so many ways. Whilst we were there, it is estimated that 56,000 people took refuge in the subway stations in Kiev on just one night. This is a lot of people:

Last night, more than 56,000 people were hiding in Kyiv's subway stations from russian terrorist attacks.



We were able to achieve all we intended- baptizing MYKHAILO, getting goats for our sisters whose homes were destroyed by direct hits and who now live in formerly abandoned properties in villages, and seeking to get a mobility scooter for one of them. There are so many amputees

walking around... the scale of military losses and injuries is enormous. So it's very hard to get mobility scooters. Bringing one over from UK is highly problematic, so, although all shops are empty of them, we will have to order online within Ukraine and hope it gets delivered as promised.



MYKHAILO comes from the witness of our Jewish sisters in southern Ukraine- it's amazing how the Jewish community are responding to the Gospel here. Like many men, he is seeking to keep away from where the roving groups of military police are pressganging men off the streets [see our video at <https://youtube.com/shorts/0sWStKL-QBY>] and so we drove by night to near a river, left the car and walked some way through the forest to a place he knew as a youngster. And there, under a full moon, our new brother was baptized into, as he asked, Yashua Ha'Mashiach [with ballistic missiles passing overhead on their way to Kiev] :



We hired a car to transport goats to our Jewish sisters- goats eat anything and can remain outside during the hard winters. Their main interest is in getting milk from them. But the big lactating goats for sale were too big for the car, and they had horns. So we slightly ammended our plans and bought younger female ones and transported them in the trunk of the car to our sisters' village. The plan being to get them pregnant by local billy goats already in the village, so that our sisters will have a source of milk and cheese as Winter comes. This involved driving long distances over badly potholed roads, potholed partly from falling debris from shot down missiles and partly from general deterioration due to the heavy military vehicles passing over them. Sister Svetlana managed to keep the goat reasonably quiet and calm during the journey, and we weren't stopped at any of the military checkpoints, just waved through. If the soldiers had asked us to open the trunk... the goat would've popped out. For sure.

Here are some photos of us at the farm where the goats were, which was pretty far from civilization, choosing which ones we wanted, tying the front feet together in the trunk, and finally arriving safely at Svetlana's village:







There's a video of the journey and goats, and sister Svetlana's gratitude, at https://youtu.be/YpV7fYz_a9s . A lot of glory and thanksgiving was given to the Father as a result of this work and that is what we're about.

MARK AND DUNCAN WILL BE MAKING A LONGER TRIP TO UKRAINE AT THE END OF AUGUST, LORD WILLING, WHILST CINDY DOES THE PASTORAL TRIP TO LATVIA. NOW WE HAVE THE IDEA OF HOW TO SOURCE THE GOATS, AND MARK IS CONFIDENT IN DEALING WITH GOATS, THERE ARE QUITE A FEW BRETHREN AND SISTERS WHO ARE LIVING AS SUBSISTENCE FARMERS, HAVING LOST THEIR HOMES DUE TO ENEMY ACTION, WHO WOULD REALLY BENEFIT FROM HAVING SOME GOATS FOR MILK AND MEAT. WE'RE OPEN TO YOUR DONATIONS TOWARDS THIS WORK, AND INDEED TO ALL OUR WORK IN UKRAINE. AND AS EVER, WE APPRECIATE YOUR PRAYERS.

UK

Our meetings in Croydon continue as ever, nice to have Laura and Ava helping Evia with the food.

Yet another baptism in the big bath tub upstairs at The Woodfields, South Croydon. When we had the loft conversion done, the builders encouraged us to have a walk in bath, but we said no, we wanted to have a big bath with deep sides- for baptisms. The builder said they're not fashionable these days... and so we got one discounted. That for sure was the right decision, as so many have been baptized in it. Now it was the turn of SHIRLEY, a wonderful old lady struggling with COPD. Her testimony is quite amazing, it's at <https://youtu.be/-FXEoghxyKs> . She describes how she didn't come from a religious background, but was given a Bible in WA Australia when she was there visiting her brothers. She spent many years reading and studying the Bible, although not much interested in going to church, and now she has major breathing difficulties she can't go anywhere much. She now has a great grasp of the Gospel, and you can hear her talking of how wonderful will be the Kingdom of God, with the animals at peace and God's glory everywhere. She also describes how despite being an elderly invalid she has been mugged three times, a reminder that the south London suburbs where we live are facing rising criminality. Phone and purse snatching by youngsters on scooters is getting rampant and another of our sisters suffered this recently, the thieves specialize in grabbing your phone if you're standing on the kerb with it in your hand, they speed by and snatch it. Shirley fell over in one of these incidents and suffered a serious breakage, despite walking home in agony before being hospitalized for 2 weeks.



It's a really interesting chit chat and shows how ordinary folks in London are definitely turning to the Lord. Shirley did well to climb the stairs to the bathroom for the baptism, although heavily dependent on her puffer. She made a really great effort for the Lord as you can see in the video. If you'd like to just hear Shirley talking for 2 minutes about how wonderful the Kingdom of God will be on earth, see https://youtu.be/bt1OR0Wn_V4 . Such a powerful and encouraging message.



Elsewhere we spent a wonderful evening with GEMMA and her two adult daughters, hearing Gemma's amazing and brave personal testimony of how she came to the Lord Jesus and the things of the Kingdom, having passed through disillusion with church, drugs, prison, satanism and new age... until she bought a Bible, read it, researched everything online, and one evening in her bedroom quietly gave her life to the Lord. And then started thinking about baptism... which is when she encountered our Croydon Pub Church videos and podcast. She bravely agreed to tell her story on camera, and it's a wonderful testament to the Lord's patient working with a British woman over a lifetime, leading her finally to His Son in spirit and truth. It's at <https://youtu.be/RwTW2ls2ezU> . There was a very strong wind, so there's quite the background noise- but that's worth enduring with.



PRAYER POINTS

- For those recently baptized
- For elderly and fragile brothers and sisters in inner city suburbs facing increasing muggings and theft
- For the safety of our brothers and sisters and their families in Ukraine and Russia at this time
- For our plans to provide more goats

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks