VARNA BAPTIST CHURCH An update on the life of the church

April 2022

Greetings
from Pastor
George and
Ann



Thanksgiving

We give thanks to the Lord that in spite of the world's crises, the Word of God continues to increase and spread - Acts 12 v 24.



The worship group are slowly growing, with young leaders being trained to continue this area of the ministry. In December, they were blessed to have our daughter, Emma, join them for worship.

We give thanks for George's health - tests in December showed that he was clear of cancer. Praise God!



Our son, Daniel, and Pastor George singing together with members of Varna Baptist Church and an Orthodox Church in the centre of Varna on Christmas Eve.

We thank the Lord for the new people who are coming to church and pray for their salvation.



The special church Christmas tradition of carol singing on Christmas Eve.

We thank the Lord for the student ministry in the church that continues to grow. Students from our church are becoming young leaders, organising events and evangelising to students across Varna and beyond.



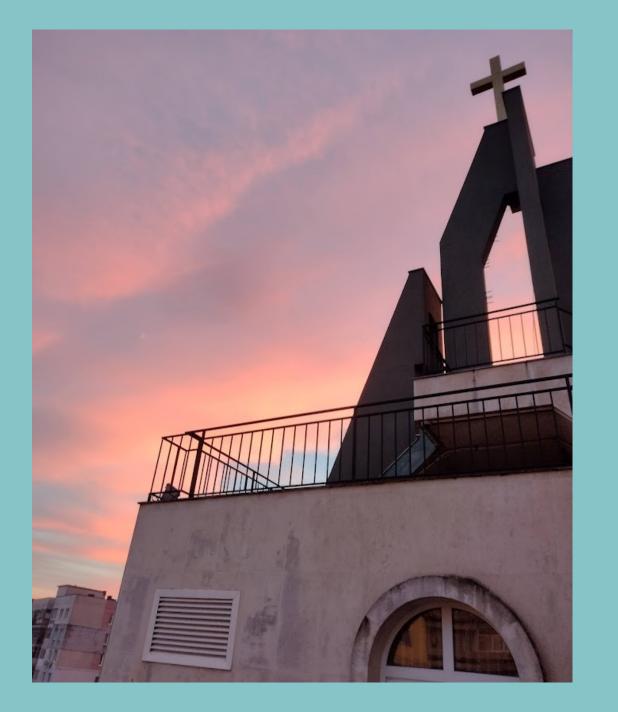
Students from Varna Baptist Church presenting about the work of the student ministry in a partner church.



Young women attending the student ministry meeting together to read the Bible and pray for one another.



Our son, Daniel, and daughter-in-law, Sarah, attended a student party organised by one of the student workers in Varna working with international students from the Medical University.



The view of the cross from the offices on the top floor of the church building.

Prayer Requests

Pray for the church plant in an area of Varna which has no evangelical church. The church plant meetings, which were stopped due to Covid-19, are planned to resume in April.

In February, we began a new Christianity Explored course in our home for new people interested in the faith. Please pray for these people to come to salvation and for God to lead us in our sessions and discussions.

Pray for the soup kitchen, which continues to serve many people, now including the refugees. The need in the community is ever increasing, and we are feeding more than double the number of families we were in 2021. Please pray for the soup kitchen workers too as they serve faithfully.

Pray for the foster care ministry which continues to serve the orphans with special needs and keep them out of the orphanages.



Members of the church visit the Roma communities (ghettos) where some of the foster families live, delivering donations and conducting home visits to check on the children and advise the parents.



An example of items donated monthly to foster families in Varna and the surrounding villages. Food packages, nappies, vitamins and medicines are given by the church.







Potties are hard to come by in the remote villages many of the foster families live in. One way the church can help is by buying potties for the children to potty train on.

Pray for the Ukrainians reaching Varna:

 For the many refugees entering Varnal and the rest of Bulgaria, that they will find safety.

Pray for the Ukrainians reaching Varna:

• For those in our church who are providing food and shelter to the incoming refugees.

Pray for the Ukrainians reaching Varna:

 For the ability for the church to provide more beds to the incoming refugees.



Two children waiting for a place to stay after arriving in Varna. They came with volunteers back to the church.



The building where refugees are staying. This building was previously used for the foster care ministry but has been cleared to make space for the refugee families.





Inside the temporary accommodation for refugees in the church.





A van being packed with food and other essential items donated from the church members before being driven to Odesa a few weeks ago.

Pray for the families currently staying at Varna Baptist Church:

One family have been with us for nearly 1 week. They are 3 generations of women and children who travelled from Eastern Ukraine for 4 days non-stop before arriving at the church, exhausted. One of the children had a birthday in the bomb shelter before leaving. Upon arriving, they were so traumatised that they didn't leave the church building for 5 days; they were just too scared.

On Sunday we were able to bring some joy to the family by taking them to zoo in the Sea Garden with some children from the Sunday school.

Pray for the families currently staying at Varna Baptist Church:

Another family arrived at the church last week: a church minister with his 3 children. He left them with us and returned to Odesa to serve the church family. The children don't know if they will see their parents again. Two of the children are musicians and led the worship in the evening service. They described worshipping God with us as a privilege. It was a very emotional time, but one full of God's presence.

One of the children is only 15 years old. Our church family have opened their homes to accept these refugee children.

If you would like to give towards the ministries of the Varna Baptist Church, including supporting the Ukrainian refugees in Varna, please do so via the Bulgarian Support Fund (BSF) using the details below or by scanning the QR code on this page:



BSF Bank Details:

Account Name: Bulgarian Support Fund

Sort Code: 60-23-07

Account Number: 41339444

https://www.give.net/20034842

With many thanks for your prayers and support,

Pastor George and Ann Todorov