



Extreme Siberian Cold Weather Hits Ukraine

Door of Hope International Volunteers Provide Relief to the Vulnerable

Dear full name,

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe it's already 2018!

Thank you so much for your generous giving at Christmas. You have blessed so many children and orphans and brought hope to the hurting with your gifts and the message that "Jesus loves them!"

Throughout 2017, you have eased the pain and suffering of refugees, persecuted Christians, and many others as we worked together bringing aid to those who God has called us to serve. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

This winter, many have been hit with severe storms. Here in Lynden, WA, an ice storm wrecked havoc to surrounding cities, leaving hundreds of thousands stranded without power for days. I realized how quickly a house turns cold with no heat. As the storm lingered I was glad I had food in my pantry. I wouldn't starve, nor would I freeze. I had no holes in my walls for the wind to howl through, and the dropping temperatures could be abated by an added sweater, extra socks and slippers. I was inconvenienced only a little.

I thought about those who are suffering unspeakable difficulties in this severe winter. My small "inconvenience" cannot compare.

In Eastern Europe winter is brutal with temperatures reaching well below zero. In remote villages severe winters create perilous conditions. The poor and homeless don't have food in their pantry or sufficient warm clothing. Food trucks stop delivering and many can't trek the miles to the nearest emergency food center. Without fuel to heat their homes they become prey to the dropping temperatures.

Anatoly lives in a small village outside Donetsk, Ukraine. Family, friends and neighbors fled when war broke out with Russia and he was left behind. Anatoly has no feet. He lives alone on a miserable allowance and is often hungry. There isn't enough money for basic food. Because of his physical limitations he almost never



Anatoly's home-made prosthesis help him move around inside his house.



Anatoly's only friend is a ginger cat that eats from his owner's plate and keeps him company through cold winter nights.

One simple action can save a life.

leaves home. In the winter he is totally trapped. His house is bitterly cold. There is no money for fuel to heat the stove. His house is falling apart with holes in the walls that liberally let the bite of winter inside.

"We brought Anatoly food and wood for his stove. Today, Anatoly has a feast. His eyes are in tears and his voice hopeful, "Will you come to me again?" he asks. Slowly we begin to cry too. We promised not to forget the old man and come back to him." ~Natalia

Our volunteers have set out to bring aid to those in severe need of assistance during this extreme winter condition. Anatoly's story broke my heart. I can't imagine being left alone like this.

Without help destitute people like Anatoly have no chance of survival in such a brutal winter cold snap. Trapped in poverty, the poor and the homeless are in desperate need of help.

Each year many perish in the freezing cold of winter. In Ukraine, 37 have died so far this month.

Our field workers are in need of more heaters, blankets, warm clothing, and food for families with children and forgotten elderly and invalids like Anatoly. Many die because no one took the effort to help.

One simple action can save a life.

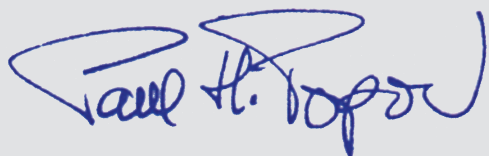
As the world focuses on each new crisis, we forget that winter brings its own crisis to marginalized people in poverty-stricken countries of Eastern Europe.

Will you extend His love by providing the needed heaters, fuel for cooking, warm clothing and food to help the destitute survive the next two months of this harsh winter?

Two months from now you may forget about Anatoly or Masha, but they will remember you, your kindness.

May God bless you for your heart of compassion!

Together in His Ministry,



Masha barely hears or sees. Nobody visits her and she always sits by the window alone. We brought Masha food and a gift at Christmas. She cried from immense joy. She could not believe that it happened, that someone cares for her.

A cold snap has swept across Ukraine as temperatures plummet to -28°C followed by heavy snowfall as much as 53 cm (21 inches), killing 37 people so far this month.



To donate online, please visit www.dohi.org.

Donations to Door of Hope International (DOHI) may be tax-deductible. Oversubscribed funds for a project may be reassigned by the Board of Directors.

