



# UKRAINE

## NEEDS OUR HELP LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

Peace, hope, and security will only come when we honor the principles of God's kingdom as Jesus instructed us in  
**Matthew 6:33**

To this end, **Marcel Fund Ministry** works closely with a network of local churches and faith-based NGOs to meet physical, material, emotional and spiritual needs, particularly towards the most vulnerable, with already twenty years of presence on the ground in Ukraine, assisting mainly elderly isolated persons.



# HISTORICAL MILESTONES OF THE “MARCEL FUND” MINISTRY

Marcel Fund Ministry (MFM) was founded by Nina Lord Winogradow, a founding member of Brussels Christian Center (BCC). Today, she is 102 years of age and resides in Waterloo, Belgium.

## **IT ALL STARTED IN 1999... (\*)**

After Nina's husband, Marcel Nicaise, passed away in 1999, at the age of 78, Nina went to Ukraine for the first time, at the invitation of Anatoliy Glukhovsky, a friend she had met during her ministry at Continental Theological Seminary (CTS) in Belgium.

In the meantime, Anatoliy had become the President of the Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary (UETS) in Pusche-Voditsa, northwest of Kyiv. During her visit, she met some of the disabled elderly whom he knew.

Nina couldn't believe the poverty and the deplorable conditions in which they lived, especially those who had no family, and received a miniscule pension of less than \$20/month. Nina clearly heard the Lord say to her: 'What are you going to do about it?'

She immediately planned for Tatiana, the first elderly lady, to receive appropriate care. And she added, 'The Lord clearly told me that a prerequisite to caring for the elderly was praying and reading God's Word with them.'

Upon her return to Belgium, during a brief hospitalization, Nina began sharing what she witnessed in Ukraine. Evangelos and

Valerie Evangelides were so moved they were the first to begin offering financial support, and others followed. Nina also shared this vision with U.S. Missionary Terry Hoggard, who was then the Senior Pastor of Brussels Christian Center. Over the years Nina did 14 trips to Kyiv.

God used so many faithful servants who have helped spread and support the vision of the Marcel Fund, including Nina's friends at BCC, others in the USA, Bishop Petro Zalizny in Ukraine, as well as Julia Obelets who became a local care worker in 2000 and Field Director of the program in 2009 under the leadership of Debbie Sutton from the USA.



Debbie faithfully served as MFM Executive Director until 2022. The Marcel Fund continued to grow and touched more than 3,500 these Ukrainians, with some 40 care workers. Along with the love and care they received from each worker on site, these Ukrainian were able to hear about Jesus, through electronic Bibles provided by the "InTouch Ministries" (USA) and other Christian resources.

### **2023: A NEW CHAPTER OF MFM**

After more than two decades of fruitful ministry in Ukraine, the unexpected and horrible war, raging since February 2022, could have shut down the whole ministry as most elderly people were dislocated, and buildings damaged or destroyed.

However, the Lord is never taken unawares! In His sovereign wisdom, He had already planned a new chapter for the Marcel Fund Ministry, not only to carry on the initial purpose but to expand the vision reaching this war-torn country in a variety of ways.

At the start of this year, after prayerful reflection in the face of so many needs, and with the blessing of Nina, it was agreed that MFM would function as a ministry of Brussels Christian Center where it started, under the supervision of Pastor Daniel Costanza and Evangelos Evangelides, with the operational assistance of Julia Obelets, long time MFM Coordinator, and Daniel Kuchurian, a local pastor and Director of humanitarian foundation in Ukraine. With the help of former and new donors from both Europe and USA, MFM has presently established a network of thirty church locations, including several being assisted in the war zone.

MFM has started sending funds to these churches regularly, which enables them to directly obtain priority items. In addition, the team on the ground is organizing the distribution of material items, as far as possible, and ensuring continued support and visitation to the vulnerable and isolated elderly persons. The vision is to increase the frequency and the amount of the support given to each location and expand the network of the supported churches with the prayers and donations of our friends.

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*Special thanks to Mrs. Michelle Lord Samples, Nina's daughter, for her historical notes.*

**July 2023**



# How can I help the Marcel Fund Ministry?



A contribution of any amount, whether monthly or a one-time deposit directly into the Marcel Fund will greatly help the cause of Ukraine.

## Europe:

Donations can be made to MFM 's Bank Account in Belgium:

IBAN number:

Marcel Fund

BE94 3101 3196 1314

## USA:

Donations can be made through this U.S. link:

<https://giving.ag.org/donate/600001-161383> .

Once on the site please, right under where you can put in the amount you want to give, please click the link for “Advanced Giving” options. You will see “class 60 Marcel fund”.

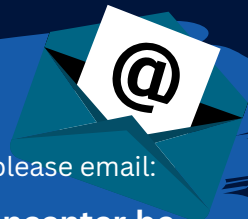
SCAN ME!



Please keep the Marcel Fund workers and the beneficiaries in your prayers!

**“...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”**

**(Jesus – Cf. Matthew 25:37-40)**



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