



Annual Report 2025



Equipping Leaders for Ministry in War-Time Ukraine

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Note from President

What can be said about another year of the full-scale war? Is it possible to see God's grace and serve others when life is threatened almost daily by enemy drones and missiles?

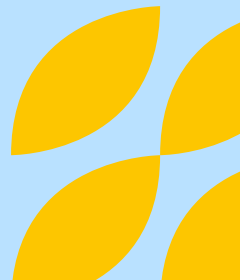
Although war is undeniably the most significant existential risk, it is also a context where God reveals His grace in a special way and draws His disciples into His mission as never before. We are witnesses to this in Ukraine, and this is what we want to testify to in this report.



We are grateful to all our partners for their prayers and support, which has enabled us to serve the Church and transform society in 2025 amid the ongoing war. Through your partnership, God has enabled us not only to endure but also to grow - both in the training of ministry and church leaders in Ukraine and Central Asia, as well as in our relief ministry to those most affected by the war.

Dr Ivan Rusyn

We remain committed to our ministry because we are driven by a vision: to see the values of the Gospel embodied in every sphere of life in Ukraine and beyond.



Mission & Values

Our mission is to provide comprehensive education for Christians by preparing them to participate in God's mission through faithful service to the Church and society.



Christ-Centeredness



Integral Mission



Responsibility
in Freedom



Relevance and
Innovativeness

Impact 2025

The impact of Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary is seen in the transformed lives of our students, the strengthening of local congregations, and the influence our graduates have on society. It extends across several important areas:

- Christ-centered formal and informal training;
- ministry to local churches, communities and vulnerable groups through the efforts of our team, students and graduates;
- development of resources to better equip ministry and church leaders with.

train

develop resources

build communities

We are pleased to share some of the results of the work God is doing through our ministry:



Impact 2025

427

Number of students trained and equipped through academics

Number of this year's graduates

308

1575

Number of church ministers equipped through non-formal education

Number of churches strengthened

170



2754

Number of baptisms celebrated in students' churches



48

Number of church-planters among faculty and students



50 000

Number of humanitarian aid recipients



1167

Number of people served through counseling and support groups



7

Number of developed resources

Appreciation Note

We attribute all of the above impact solely to God, who enables us to serve Him, Ukrainian churches and society during this challenging time. We are also deeply grateful to all our partners and friends from around the world who stand with us, helping us reach thousands through the ministry of our faculty, students, and graduates.



Academics

- Applied Theology
- Theology of Transformational Leadership
- Formation of Young Leaders



- Urban Mission
- Community Outreach Program
- Women's Leadership Development



- Worship and Leadership
- Theology and Practice of the Table
- Vocal Excellence in Worship



- Applied Counseling
- Christian Care and Psychological Counseling
- Art-Therapy



Our Students



Church leaders

Pastors

Missionaries

Worship leaders

Youth leaders

Chaplains

Counselors

Trauma-healers

Care-givers

Community builders

Oleksandr Boychuk Story

2nd-year student of Applied Theology and senior pastor of the Way Church in Vinnytsia.



My journey to faith began in prison. At 18, I was sentenced to 11 years for a crime I committed. In desperation, I prayed to God, promising to dedicate my life to Him if He granted me freedom sooner.

He answered — instead of the full term, I received a suspended sentence. Upon release, I kept my promise and began attending church.

My repentance wasn't sparked by a sermon but by reading the Bible in prison — that personal encounter with Scripture brought a profound transformation. For 20 years, I've faithfully served the Lord.

Today I serve as senior pastor of the Way Church in Vinnytsia. We try to meet the spiritual and practical needs of our community while extending support to others in challenging circumstances. Our church invests heavily in young families: themed regional dinners, men's meetings, children's services, and Bible study groups modeled after the Alpha Course. We also provide tailored aid parcels to soldiers on the frontlines, and I serve in chaplaincy ministry, visiting training centers for newly mobilized soldiers.

Studying at UETS has already profoundly transformed my ministry, and the impact is already evident within my church. My sermons have become more holistic and deeply resonant. This feedback from the church affirms the transformative power of my ongoing theological training.

Yevhen Chekh Story

2nd-year student of Applied Theology and youth pastor of the Light of Life Church in Poltava.



My story began at home — my mother became a believer when I was two and immediately threw herself into church service, so I grew up in a Christian household.

Though I attended church regularly, my teenage years became a season of moving from my parents' faith to my own. Around 17–18, I made a personal commitment to God, and my life changed from that point forward.

Today I serve full-time as youth pastor at Light of Life Church in Poltava, also involved in organizational development and worship ministry. During wartime, our church provides humanitarian aid and regular trips to villages in Kharkiv region, alongside worship services, youth gatherings, and children's programs. My goal is to help young people stay grounded amid war-related stress, grow spiritually, and become future leaders.

I pursued theology after realizing ministry requires competence as well as passion. Studying at UETS taught me theological humility, discipline, and a systematic approach to preaching — shaping my leadership and contributing to a recent reform of our youth ministry.

Alongside the academic and spiritual formation, I gained many meaningful relationships, networking opportunities, and practical ministry connections.

Church-Planting



48 students and faculty members are actively involved in planting new churches. According to a recent survey, 50–70% of the leadership teams in these churches have been renewed. In fact, many churches have reopened as a result of relocation, forced migration, and other war-related circumstances.

Petro and Ilona Polishchuk Story

UETS graduates from the Community Outreach program and evangelists.



We embarked on our first mission together shortly after we got married, first to the Mykolaiv region, then to Vysokopillia in Kherson region, about 45–50 km from the front line.

Before the war, the local church had around 50 members; today only 12 remain, yet each gathering now attracts 50–70 people. We agreed to move there to help restore the ministry.

Our primary calling is missionary work — we are evangelists, starting new churches and ministry locations, fully immersed in community life as if we plan to stay forever. Training at UETS gave us not only knowledge but practical tools, like writing projects and applying for grants. Through this, we started a children's ministry in Novodmytrivka, which grew from occasional visits into full programs of children's activities, prayer meetings, and social gatherings.

Serving near the front line involves real risk — we travel as close as 15 km from the front without protection. Once, our car got stuck; as I placed branches under the tires, I noticed a ribbon marked "Mined." Moments like that make you reassess everything.

We sacrifice our youth and dreams, but we know why: to see the people we serve baptized and truly following Jesus.



Oksana Achkasova Story

Graduate from the Women's Leadership program and church planter.

I came to faith in 1996 and joined youth ministry right after my baptism. Later, God led me to Ukraine to study missiology, where I met my husband, and together we planted churches as a team.

When the full-scale war began in 2022, we evacuated and started a new church in Bila Tserkva. My main focus became women's ministry and supporting displaced people. Every Sunday we share meals with dozens of people, many lonely or living with the fear of war — they need not only food but warmth, conversation, and prayer.

Serving during wartime brought real challenges: a shortage of ministers, youth moving abroad, and tensions between locals and displaced families. These struggles pushed me to grow as a leader. A turning point was studying in the Women's Leadership program at UETS — I discovered a church is strongest not when everything depends on the pastor, but when it can grow without them. I learned practical tools for recognizing gifts, building teams, and delegating responsibility.

I used to try to do everything myself; now I'm learning to serve by empowering others. My dream is to see the women I serve come to faith, be baptized, and become active ministers in their own communities.



Non-Formal Education and Networks Development



Recognizing the importance of interchurch collaboration, UETS actively develops networks of ministers — pastoral networks, youth leaders, worship leaders, and Christian counselors — both among its students and beyond.

We also provide ongoing training through conferences, seminars, colloquiums, consultations, and workshops. Our annual conferences for theologians, young ministers, counselors, and worship leaders offer valuable opportunities for professional and spiritual growth, the exchange of experience and resources, the strengthening of expertise, and mutual encouragement.

Mark Mishchenko Story

1st-year student of Applied Theology and youth leader from Mukachevo.

I was born into a Christian home in Donetsk region, but at 13 I fell into bad company and started living a double life, while also having serious conflicts with my parents. I knew I had to decide — to be in or out of the church.

I'll never forget standing on a seashore, pouring my heart before God, and experiencing His forgiveness. I returned to church that Sunday and was baptized at 16.

After losing two homes while escaping Russian occupation, our family resettled in Mukachevo. Starting from scratch wasn't easy — gaining trust among youth took time, regardless of past experience. It taught me that ministry requires openness and patience. Now our youth meetings gather 40–60 people, with camps, conferences, and a structured development plan. Though I once led worship on five instruments, I'm now delegating that to focus on youth — that's where my calling truly is.

My focus today is training young leaders to keep the ministry growing, since youth ministry is always in flux. Through UETS, I gained a theological foundation, learned to build a vision-driven ministry, and found valuable mentorship from professors and fellow students.



Social Outreach



Since the full-scale war broke out in Ukraine in 2022, Christians have stood alongside their fellow citizens, striving to alleviate their suffering. Many churches became relief hubs, hosting refugees and distributing humanitarian aid. Today, with most internally displaced persons settled, urgent crisis response is giving way to the need for strategic ministry to various vulnerable groups.

One way we help churches make their social initiatives more strategic and effective is through our short-term Community Outreach program (Workshop of Social Ministry). Through this program, church teams not only gain theoretical knowledge but also develop and present project proposals for local implementation. In addition, they receive practical support to help bring these projects to life.

Andriy and Oksana Mozoliev's Story

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UETS graduates from the Community Outreach certification program and pastoral couple from Kremenchuk.

Our church grew out of a simple outreach — serving hot meals to the homeless. As the war began, our ministry expanded rapidly, reaching displaced families and turning an outdoor tent space into a hub for humanitarian aid, worship gatherings, and a Bible school.



"Many visitors — mostly elderly locals and displaced families — come not only for food but for conversation, prayer, and support, so we now organize tea evenings and fellowship nights.

We also minister to children and youth through camps teaching practical skills like woodworking, bricklaying, and tool use, and we visit children's homes, juvenile facilities, and rehabilitation centers with mentorship and Christian care. One highlight was taking 28 children to McDonald's — a first for many of them.

The war reshaped our priorities: instead of material goals, we invest in people. We opened our home as a refuge during power outages and as a space for children to learn and communities to gather. Our dream is housing for displaced people with work opportunities, and restoring abandoned buildings into community centers, workshops, and rehabilitation spaces.

Training at the Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary broadened our vision, strengthened our leadership, and taught us to delegate, embrace instability, and trust God more deeply. What began as feeding the homeless has become a wide-reaching ministry: "We feed people physically and spiritually. We want them to feel loved and to discover meaning in God."

Relief Ministry



Since the beginning of the full-scale war in 2022, UETS has been actively engaged in relief ministry. Our efforts have included evacuating people from dangerous areas, delivering food and essential supplies to war-affected regions, providing hot meals to those in need, and distributing humanitarian aid.

Widespread power outages and blackouts across the country caused by ongoing missile and drone attacks on critical infrastructure prompted us to launch a winterization project to help people endure the harsh war-time winters. Through this initiative, we supplied power generators, power banks, warm clothing, blankets, and other vital resources.

Alongside material assistance, our relief ministry also includes psychological and spiritual support. We strive to encourage those we serve, offer basic counseling, pray with and for them, and point them to Christ as the ultimate Counselor.

Organizational Development



Despite the many challenges posed by the ongoing war, we continue to pursue the organizational development goals outlined in our strategic plan so that we can serve the church and society more effectively.

A key achievement — one we attribute entirely to God’s grace — is obtaining government licensing. This milestone opens the door for our graduates to serve in official capacities such as army chaplains, counselors, and other public roles through which Christian leaders can contribute meaningfully to the transformation of society during this difficult time.

Another significant achievement is continued faculty development, which includes advanced training for UETS faculty. Today, 15 of our faculty members hold PhD degrees, meeting an essential requirement for operating a licensed educational institution.

To expand our ministry and outreach, the seminary has also established the Dyalog public union. This organization focuses on rehabilitating wounded war veterans and people with disabilities, supporting individuals affected by domestic violence, and strengthening community life.

We are also grateful to God for the inclusivity project currently underway to make our campus accessible to people with different abilities. Given the growing number of war amputees, including among prospective students, we recognize our responsibility to care for them by ensuring they have equal opportunities to study within our community.



Inspiring Future

Called to Serve the Church and Transform Society

The terrible realities of war cannot keep us from looking boldly toward the future. In the coming year, under the Lord's providence, we plan to focus on the following priorities:

- launching a post-graduate program in theology;
- developing a UETS government-recognized academic journal;
- establishing a resource and continuing-education center for church ministers;
- operating an Institute of Dialogue and Peacebuilding; and
- starting the main phase of our capital construction project, which will enable us to train more students and also house a rehabilitation and counseling center for war-traumatized Ukrainians, PTSD patients in particular, and war veterans.



Thank you for your support!

