

## ***Start with Prayer***

- **Iran** – where peaceful protests against the extreme Islamic government with its powerful military, intelligence agency, & ‘morality police’ continue despite the increasingly harsh & violent government crackdown on all dissent. A death sentence has been given to a protestor this week.
- **People continuing to recover from storms & flooding in the U.S. & elsewhere.** Remember people who live in places where the impact of climate change on the severity of storms & flooding is making their home areas unlivable.
- **Ukraine where the war continues** – evidence of atrocities against civilians is discovered daily. Another round of rocket/missile attacks against Ukrainian cities is underway. Electricity has been cut to at least half a million homes in Kyiv & many more in other cities by these attacks. Anti-war protests in Russia & strong resistance to conscription efforts continue as does some degree of martial law in all areas currently under Russian control in Ukraine & Russia. At least 16,000 civilians have been killed in Ukraine since the start of the Russian invasion.
- **The People of Haiti** –dealing with a cholera outbreak, gang violence, & major political unrest. Gang violence has helped disrupt access to clean water. Medical supplies are in short supply. Both have worsened the cholera crises. Cholera spread has been slowed because people’s movement has been limited by months of fuel blockade but, now the blockade is easing, & people can move about more freely. This will help spread cholera.
- **Uganda** – the Ebola outbreak continues. The longer it lasts, the greater the risk of it spreading to other countries.
- **The People of Somalia** – facing famine & violence. Nearly half of the 16 million people there will be starving by December if nothing changes. The violence, tied to the al Qaeda-linked al-Shabaab, & a drought, have displaced thousands of people. Other parts of Africa are also facing food shortages which could lead to famine.
- **Victims of Gun Violence** – 38,866 people have died in gun violence this year (up 1,005 from last week), including 1,469 children (up 29 from last week). 34,605 people have been injured (up 804 from last week) including 3,968 children (up 113 from last week). Only 1,002 of the incidents can be attributed to ‘defensive use’. 21,120 of these deaths are suicide. There have been 599 mass shootings in 2022 (up 12 from last week). At least 68 of these have been on school grounds including 15 on college campuses.
- **The continuing COVID Pandemic, & the outbreak of the RSV virus. Also, the CDC has declared that flue is already an epidemic in the U.S.**



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