

Pray For Peace!



- **The Middle East** where Israel & Hamas are still at war. Civilians are bearing the worst of the violence, from the initial Hamas attacks on Israel to the ongoing Israeli attacks on Palestinians in Gaza. There are some attacks on Israeli targets, but the overwhelming attacks on Gaza have already left much of the Gaza Strip in rubble. In the 30 days since this war started, more Palestinian civilians have been killed than Ukrainian civilians have been killed in the 620 days since the Russian invasion of Ukraine began.
- **Ukraine. The war continues.** Attacks & atrocities against civilians are ongoing. Attacks on civilian targets in Odesa & elsewhere have damaged many homes as winter approaches.
- **Refugees & Migrants** – There is a crisis for refugee children from Guatemala. A growing number of Guatemalan children are trying to reach the U.S. Many are unaccompanied. In the last 2 years 350 of them have been deported from the U.S. & another 10,100 have been deported from Mexico. Most of these children are dropped off in Guatemalan cities with no way or help to get to their remote village homes hours away. Pray for the children, their families, & those trying to help including Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service which has just opened an office in Guatemala City to help these children.
- **Haiti** – the crisis in Haiti is continuing & grave. Gang violence is growing worse. Much of the country is living in fear because of gang intimidation & violence. 2 million people, including 1.6 million women & children live in gang-controlled areas where murder, assault, & sexual violence are common. Half the population needs help including 3 million children. There is an ongoing cholera outbreak. Malnutrition, especially effecting children is grave and growing worse.
- **Continue to remember those dealing with COVID** – The number of cases & hospitalizations is climbing in some areas & steady in others. Flu & the RSV virus are also an issue.
- **Victims of Gun Violence** –Already this year, 36,666 people have died in gun violence (up 816 from last week) including 1,464 children (up 30 from last week). 31,818 people have been injured (up 681 from last week) including 3,997 children (up 88 from last week). 20,526 of the deaths are suicides (up 462 from last week). There have already been 597 mass shootings (up 13 from last week) this year. (Gun Violence Archive).
- **Azerbaijan, Sudan, Congo, Myanmar, & elsewhere** where minority populations are facing persecution & possible genocide.