

## ***Pray For Peace!***



- **Tennessee** – multiple tornados caused death & destruction in Tennessee over the weekend.
- **The Middle East.** the Israel & Hamas war has resumed with Gaza under constant attack. Civilians are still bearing the worst of the violence. Between 18,000 & 20,000 people, mostly civilians, have been killed in Gaza. 1,200 Israelis have died. In Gaza, places where civilians were told to flee to for safety are now being bombed. Some 80% of northern Gaza is rubble. There are reports that half the people in Gaza are starving.
- **Ukraine. The war continues.** Attacks & atrocities against civilians are ongoing. Russia is sustaining very high casualties – 87% of their pre-war soldiers are dead (some 315,000). Their loses have not resulted in any significant gains on the ground. The number of Ukrainian casualties is at least 27,449 civilians. Some estimates put the actual number as high as 70,000. Attacks on civilian targets have damaged many homes as winter approaches. Russia's alliance with North Korea & Iran is providing military supplies to Russia that may expand the war. The shifting of media attention to the Middle east, has made the situation in Ukraine more difficult.
- **Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, & Somalia** where flooding has killed at least 350 people & displaced more than 1 million. Cases of water-borne diseases are also rising. The weather conditions mean the torrential rains & flooding are not over. Elsewhere in Ethiopia, there is drought causing starvation. The UN & U.S. have suspended aid to Ethiopia over claims that the aid is not reaching those in need. . .
- **Haiti** – The gang violence crisis is growing worse. 2 million people, including 1.6 million women & children live in gang-controlled areas where murder, assault, & sexual violence are common. Gangs are now also targeting farms & farmers. They occupy fields & charge farmers a 'tax' to work their own land. They beat or kill farmers, or steal their livestock & crops if the farmers will not pay. More than 45% of the people in these rural areas are threatened with starvation as a result.
- **Victims of Gun Violence** –Already this year, 40,825 people have died in gun violence (up 772 from last week) including 2,243 children (up 29 from last week).34,662 people have been injured (up 492 from last week) including 4,327 children (up 50 from last week). 22,902 of the deaths are suicides (up 462 from last week). There have already been 636 mass shootings (up 6 from last week) this year. (Gun Violence Archive).
- **Azerbaijan, Sudan, Congo, Myanmar, & elsewhere** where minority populations are facing persecution & possible genocide.
- **Dominican Republic** where recovery is beginning after torrential rains caused flooding in November. 21 people died. 13,000 had to flee their homes, many farmers lost their crops.