

This month we mark International Women's Day (Friday 8th). We pray for women leaders in challenging contexts who are playing a vital role in serving their communities through churches, ministries and enterprises.

1st - 7th

CENTRAL ASIA

WEEK ONE

"Women in Central Asia often do not realise their value, lack motivation and purpose. Our work is aimed at helping them." Zara, leading a team caring for women who have experienced domestic violence.

Thank God that Zara now has encouragement and advice from other women leaders in the region, through Innovista's networks and support. Please pray...

- for Zara and her team as they work with Innovista to develop a strategy to help more vulnerable women.
- that the Church in Central Asia would challenge culture,
- affirming women's worth in the eyes of God.
- that Zara and her team will be role models for other women, inspiring them to play a role in building God's kingdom in Central Asia.

8th – 14th CENTRAL ASIA (continued)

WEEK TWO

Nadija' leads a group of women in her church who are passionate about evangelism and want to support each other in mission trips to each district of their region. However, her all-male church leadership team are suspicious of their activities.

Thank God that, despite challenges, husbands of women in Nadija's group have turned to Christ because they have seen the difference in their wives. Please pray...

- for the relationship to improve between Nadija and her church leadership team, as they see that her leadership is having a positive impact.
- for Nadija as she supports women in the group who face
- opposition from non-believing husbands and families.
- that the church leadership team would be open to Innovista training alongside Nadija, and would see the value of her ministry.

"In Moldova, [women] cannot be seen as a part of the leading team of the church. Even though they have great potential and they do a lot of work, they have to be very wise and strategic to gain the confidence of the church leaders." Jana, Innovista trainer in Moldova.

Olga leads the worship programme at her church in a city in Moldova. She faces opposition from her husband and relatives, but is clear on her calling from God. Thank God for an older woman in the church who decided to mentor Olga, to help strengthen her faith. Please pray...

- for Olga to be equipped, through her counselling course, to mentor other women facing similar challenges.
- that Olga will stand firm in her faith, helped by the support
- and encouragement she receives from Innovista.
- that Innovista's Mindshift training will help a culture of mentoring and support between women leaders to flourish in churches in Moldova.

22nd – 31st UKRAINE

WEEK FOUR

"Women ministers are not always trusted at first sight. But, in our church, this is behind us in the past." Iryna, a founding member of a church in the Zaporizhzhia region.

Iryna is a member of the worship team and, before the war, taught art therapy for children. Now that two pastors in the church are fighting on the front line, Iryna has taken over all pastoral work in the church. Thank God that many women like Iryna have stepped up and used their existing skills to fill a leadership void left by the war. Please pray...

- for Iryna as she builds a new team to serve their community.
- for vulnerable people coming to Iryna's church for clean water, food and support.
- for those returning from the front line and their families, as Iryna's church begins planning to offer support and rehabilitation.

Supporting Christian leaders where they're needed most

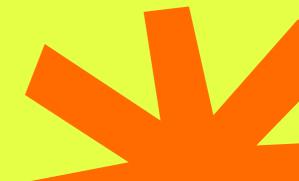
Future Dates for Prayer Events

Join us for our monthly Zoom prayers, and stand with Christian leaders who are serving in challenging places:

- Thursday 21st March 7.30am and 7.30pm (GMT)
- Thursday 18th April 7.30am and 7.30pm (GMT+1)

Please register <u>here</u> and you will be sent the Zoom details. If you have any questions **please email Lydia**. See you there!

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Cover image: Irina is playing a vital role within her organisation, serving young people in Moldova.

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