

‘Pray for Our Church’: Worship Leader’s Family Killed in Bombing of Pentecostal Church Building

President Trump has warned he will impose tariffs on buyers of Russian oil if Vladimir Putin does not seriously address the ongoing violence in Ukraine. So far, the Russian president has refused to accept a proposed partial ceasefire.

Meanwhile, Russian drones continue to strike Kyiv, recently hitting a Pentecostal church, which resulted in casualties among church members.

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On Sunday morning, March 23rd, a Russian drone approached the Emmanuel Church compound in Kyiv. It exploded 20 meters from a modular home housing Alexandra, her husband, Oleksandr, and their five-year-old daughter, Nicole.

Pasha Tupchyk, one of the church pastors, explained the house is used, “For people who need sleep and to stay in church. It’s for ministry and something like that. (There was) an explosion, big explosion (that) damaged this house in seconds.”

Oleksandr and Nicole died instantly, while praise team lead singer Alexandra miraculously survived the blast. “She was asleep on the mattress. (The) explosion (made) this mattress – and she’s on the mattress – fly away,” Tupchyk explained.

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Although Alexandra required surgery, the mattress protected her from shrapnel that could have caused more severe injuries or even death.

Just a few hours later, the Emmanuel congregation gathered for a worship service. With the congregation traumatized and grieving, one of the pastors, Vitaly Bondarenko, urged them to remain focused on eternity rather than their earthly losses.

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