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FEATURED TOPICAL

# 'All we can do is our little bit' Local youth send supportive messages to Ukrainian children

A chalk drawing event for children to support Ukraine was held in North Port

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Dozens gathered with chalk to support suffering children in Ukraine over the weekend.

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NORTH PORT — Tens of thousands of children have been kidnapped, raped or killed since Russia invaded and began a war that has been raging since February 2022.

Because of that, Ukrainian National Women's League Branch 56 in North Port congregated Saturday at a ceremony.

People gathered at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church to show their support to children suffering in Ukraine.

Children were given chalk to draw out messages, and later paper, crayons, and more to write them.

A prayer service was also held in their honor as well.

Branch 56 helped facilitate the event.

June 1 was International Children's Day, hence the timing of the gathering.

Messages will be sent overseas, finding their way to the youth suffering atrocities from war, according to Branch 56 officials.

"All we can do is our little bit," said Ivanka Olesnycky, of the branch.



Branch 56 has worked hard to support Ukraine in the past, previously equipping female fighters on the front lines, and holding rallies and prayers.

People of all ages were invited to the Saturday service.

To learn more about the UNWLA visit [unwla.org](http://unwla.org)

