

Mission Newsletter



July - August 2016

Number 122

"Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow." (Isa. 1:16, 17)

Without righteousness toward God and toward our fellowman, there is no true salvation. And while we are saved by grace through faith in the shed blood of Jesus at Calvary, there are still responsibilities on our part in living, the Christian life. The prophet Isaiah gives us ten commands that, when followed, will make us true examples of Christ's love in action. And after all, is this not what being a Christian is all about?

"Wash you, make you clean." The first thing we must do after our sins have been forgiven is to "put off the old man." We do that by studying the Word of God and then applying it to our everyday lives. We wash and make ourselves clean by conforming to its teachings.

"Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes." We put off the old man not only by repenting of our sins but by forsaking them as well. Even the roots of the old sins must be put away. Don't leave temptation around; even God doesn't want it where He can see it.

"Cease to do evil; Learn to do well." These two seem to go together. A river cannot give forth both bitter water and sweet. Once we cease our sins and wash ourselves by the water of the Word, it is natural that we begin to do well. As we mature in our walk, we take on more of the Christian graces.

"Seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow." If a person knows he is going to be judged, he will make every effort to be perfect in that which he does. We will be judged according to our works of righteousness. Wouldn't it be better not to have any surprises on that day because we anticipated and took care of things now?

Summing up, the true child of God will seek out and help those who are in need, such as the oppressed, the fatherless, and the widow.

To encourage ourselves to do these things, let us remember Paul's advice to Titus: *"This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, That they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men"* (Tit. 3:8). ♦♦♦



Fundraising Sausage, Baked Potato & Dessert Supper

Saturday, October 1st, 2016

from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

at the

Winkler Mennonite Church

31 Willowdale Cres - Winkler, MB

Call: 204-325-5446

Freewill Offering

All Proceeds going toward the ministry of Faith Mission

Everyone Welcome!

We invite you to come out for a Fundraising Supper on October 1st, 2016. As in other years, donations in July and August have dropped again. We trust that this event will help to recover from the pinch we have felt this summer. Shipping 2 containers within a month has really impacted our finances. Then to top it off, our property taxes are due at the end of this month.

Please help us out with your donations and your prayers.

Evangelizing the people in the Carpathian mountains through the camp ministry in 2016

My testimony about the camp in 2016.....

It will take many pages to describe what happened in the camp. But I want to tell you about the main thing. This camp brought some special kindness and goodness to my heart. It gave me more love for God. I came to realize that I don't want to live like I did before. I want to change my life. Something has changed inside. Right now while I am writing this testimony my heart is disturbed. Disturbed because I will leave this camp facility in a few hours. Surprising, but I don't want to leave, because I don't know where I am returning to. Everything is different there.

This camp is a little planet where there is no hate, aggression and humiliation. All people are equal here. The leaders loved every one of us with no exception, like God loves us all. I want to thank the teachers, they diligently worked with us so we could understand what is good and evil. I will never forget the prayers with our teachers and everything they taught us. More than that, I want to live out everything my teacher taught me.

I also want to add, that after being in eight different camps all over Ukraine, this one has left the deepest impression on my heart. I can't explain it but I can just feel it right in my heart. I want to thank our cooks, we never had to go hungry. I am very grateful for that!

Finally, I want to say that all these people will be rewarded from God because how their ministry has changed lives! This camp is the best!!!

Our dear friends from Faith Mission!

This is just one of the testimonies shared by one of the young ladies that was in our camp. I can see quite a life between her lines. God has shown her something new, something she hasn't experienced before – something better than her life used to be. I can see that her family situation is difficult, there is no peace and love. Children are very sensitive and can quickly feel if they are loved or not. In this camp they saw that there is not only hatred and evil in life but also good things and love. This will remain in their hearts for a lifetime. I see that God gave strength to my camp teachers and they were able to love these children even though some of them were really difficult to work with.

One day I was asked to talk to one of the 15 year old girls, who was very special. We sat down in a summer house and she started telling me about her short life. She asked me to send her back home otherwise she would do something evil here. "I don't know what's going on with me," she said, "but I want to choke somebody to death or do something else like that. It happened to me before at home," she continued, "as I hate my relatives and my sister." (she was also in the camp). "I also don't love myself and I've tried to commit suicide several times, as I see no sense in my life. I don't know what I live for. My Mom forbid me to read the Bible. It's more important for you to study and go to a medical college," she said.

This girl looks like a smart girl and this year she is hoping to enter a medical college. But it wasn't easy to give her the

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message that God wanted her to hear. But I did my job the best I could. I was happy to hear that she repeated several times that she is going to read the Bible despite that her Mom said she shouldn't and that she will pray every day. In the evening her drunk father came and took her home.

The next day I had another similar conversation with another girl with the same kind of story. She just cried and didn't know what to say. "It's so difficult for me," she said. The children are just spiritually crippled. They see no sense in this life, no good things. But we are so happy that many of them find the answers to their questions and problems. I received hundreds of testimonies from these children and I can see how God has blessed this ministry with children because they see the world with different eyes.

One of our deacons gave a young man a ride, he was in his early thirties, and he was drunk. He now had children he said he remembered that he was one of our campers about 18 years ago. "I remember a lot," he said. "I even remember the song you taught us." And he started singing one of the songs he learned. We will leave this earth, but God will keep reminding all our former campers how great it was to be in His presence.

One of the girls wrote: "If our public school teachers would have taught us the same way you do, we wouldn't have made so many mistakes in our life. Come to our schools and teach us!" she says.



When I read these testimonies with tears in my eyes, and I see the ruined lives of these children in the very beginning of their life, I am so happy to see their desire to change! All the difficulties they had just vanish. I thank God for this opportunity to have this ministry. The Holy Spirit changes hearts and thoughts. I also thank God for all our friends from Faith Mission who make it possible for these people to hear



about the love of Jesus for them.....

.....Children came from poor families. There were orphans, poor children and children who's Dads went to the war in the Eastern Ukraine. Many of them could see love what real love looked like for the first time in their life. They felt that somebody wanted to take care for them. "I don't understand why they love us, we are children they've never seen before," wrote one of the teenagers.

We were quite discouraged when the arrangements to have camps in three villages, were cancelled. We had arranged these events a long time ago. We found out that this was the result of the work of the local Orthodox priests. They see that every year we have more camps and they started persuading parents not to allow us to teach their children as we mislead their children "into a strange religion or faith." We were even mentioned in two of the local paper articles that we teach different things than the Orthodox church teaches. But our desire is to spread the teaching of Christ among the children. We ask them to tell their parents and relatives about what they have seen and heard. It means that even more, maybe thousands of people will get to know about Christ. We had children from dozens and dozens of villages. Some of them had to walk for two hours every day in order to get to our day-time camps and walk the same way back.

God gave us wonderful weather. We had a phone call from the neighboring village that they had a heavy rain with wall-nut-size hail and it was coming our way. I gave a warning to all the children to get inside as the dark clouds covered where we were located. We had just a few raindrops and the clouds changed their direction. Another time my son Anatoliy and I drove to the neighboring village and we couldn't go outside without being soaked all the way through. When we came back to our camp, there wasn't even a drop of rain there. Actually the sun was shining brightly! I told them that there was heavy rain just 1 kilometer from us and they were amazed it didn't come there. This same thing happened several times! We saw the hand of God above us because he is merciful. Praise the Lord that all the children returned home with no accidents with the exceptions of a few bruises because of some games.

I always thank God for you, my dear friends and for the ability to serve Him together!

Sincerely, Peter, and all the children and teachers! God's blessing in your ministry! We love you very much!

blanket. What we like to do when we have these kinds of blankets is to put a pillow with each blanket, then we roll it up together and put them into garbage bags and tie them up. We do not bale these kind of blankets for a few reasons. One reason being that we think that it wouldn't be good for the blankets to get compressed so much, second reason being that it would fill up the bale too far and there wouldn't be enough room for clothes, and when we load a container there is always space on top of the bales where we can nicely put bags with blankets. We need more pillows for all the blankets we have gotten and are still getting. Could we ask you to donate new or nearly new pillows? The pillows we are asking for should be bought especially for this project or they should be a nice soft, clean pillow that is like new. Please, for this we want no old, stained, lumpy pillows. This way we can pack up all those blankets that have been donated and are waiting for a pillow so we can send them.



Please, don't think that we don't appreciate all the blankets that are made by so many different ladies, as well as some men, and donated to Faith Mission. They are all worth so very much to us! Without them it would be hard to make nice, neat, bales. In the past we have sometimes run out of blankets; which makes it hard to make the bales. Many of you are aware of it that blankets are very important to us because each bale usually gets two blankets. One blanket gets put onto the shelf right at the bottom of the bin, then the clothes get stacked in layers on top. Then another shelf is put in with another blanket on top of that, and more clothes are stacked to fill it up. This way, when the piles get moved into the baler, the blanket provides a nice base and holds the stack together as it slides right into the baler.

All your blankets are very important to us. We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the blankets that you have sewn and thank you also for any part you have had in the work that is involved in the making of the blankets. We have been abundantly blessed this last year with blankets. Now don't think for one minute that, "Oh, then I should stop making blankets." Because no, we need all those blankets. If you stop making blankets then we will run out again. Even though we have more than we've ever had before, if you stop making and bringing them we will eventually run out. We are so grateful for every single blanket that has been made and with that we would like to encourage you to keep doing what you have been doing!

Please continue to pray for the War-torn country of Ukraine. Recent news reports have confirmed that the fighting has intensified in the last few weeks.

We Need "New or Like New Pillows"

When you go to bed at night, the place you lay your head is nice and soft and clean, right? We lay our head down on a pillow. Well, we believe there are many, many people that do not know the comfort of this. They do not have such a thing as a pillow. We'd like to ask you to donate "New or Nearly New Pillows" so as to get more pillows out to more people. We don't get very many pillows that are suitable to send. What has been happening here at Faith Mission is that many thicker, nice and fluffy, blankets, many with covers or duvets, have been donated. We really appreciate all these blankets! However, we would like to put at least one pillow with each

Thank you - Tabor Home in Morden

We would like to express a hearty thank-you to Tabor Home in Morden for the wheel-chairs, geriatric chairs, walkers and lifts that they donated to Faith Mission. We will be loading these into the next container which should be leaving for Ukraine in the next few weeks.
Someone will be Blessed!



Office Hours

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Clothing sorting & baling:

Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Bags or boxes of clothing may be dropped off at the "DROP-OFF" door on the west side of the Faith Mission warehouse building. This drop-off room is opened 24 hours a day, emptied on a regular basis, however, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange delivery.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

Volunteers Welcome!

If your Youth Group, Bible Study group, or Ladies' Sewing Circle would like to volunteer for an afternoon or evening (Monday-Saturday), please contact the office to make arrangements.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. solicits your gifts for the purpose identified in this appeal. However, if the project for which the gifts are received has been fully funded or cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the charity, the board reserves the right to use such funds for other similar projects.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc.

New Mailing Address: 425 Roblin Blvd East
Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0H2

Phone (204) 325-4086
Toll-free Fax (866) 478-0345
Email: info@faithmission.ca
www.faithmission.ca

Office and Warehouse located at
NEW LOCATION - 425 Roblin Blvd East



*I would like to receive the Bi-monthly
Faith Mission Newsletter regularly.*

- Please add my name to your mailing list.
 Please change my address as indicated below.

Name.....

Address.....

Town Prov.

Postal Code.....

Telephone

Board of Directors

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jake Elias (204) 325-5446 | Peter Penner (204) 325-8606 |
| Henry Penner (204) 829-3318 | Abe Unrau (204) 685-2320 |
| Andy Elias (204) 325-6446 | John Peters (204) 325-1383 |
| Ben Wall (204) 325-8240 | |

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. is a nonprofit, registered charitable organization based in Winkler, Manitoba. Faith Mission was incorporated on May the 16th, 1994 in the Province of Manitoba

Purpose of Faith Mission

- to provide humanitarian and spiritual aid to the people of former Communist communities of the world.
- to call others to pray for the suffering people in the world.
- to provide information about the people of the former Communist communities to fellow Christians in North America.

The **Faith Mission Newsletter** is printed bimonthly and mailed at no cost to those people who have supported us in the past or to those who request information about Faith Mission.

Banking Information - Access Credit Union

Box 1060, Winkler, MB R6W 4B1
Account Number 19940-9

**Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc.
 Statement of Operations
 (Unaudited)**

| For the year ended December 31 | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Received donations | \$ 245,867 | \$ 255,125 |
| Collections | 6,805 | 6,003 |
| Interest and miscellaneous | 54 | 242 |
| Book and rag sales | 255 | 250 |
| | <u>252,981</u> | <u>261,620</u> |
| Operation costs | | |
| Freight | 94,054 | 71,640 |
| Overseas missions | 21,661 | 28,424 |
| Shipping containers | 23,100 | 9,758 |
| Packaging, supplies and materials | 11,488 | 4,359 |
| Direct wages | 6,218 | 3,456 |
| Foreign exchange gains and losses | 10,580 | 2,130 |
| | <u>167,101</u> | <u>119,767</u> |
| Administrative expenses | | |
| Advertising | 2,147 | 4,190 |
| Bank charges | 736 | 708 |
| Donor newsletters | 5,023 | 4,084 |
| Fundraising expenses | - | 460 |
| Goods and services tax | 6,084 | 7,923 |
| Insurance | 2,625 | 2,548 |
| Interest on demand loan | 8,332 | 837 |
| Memberships | 1,459 | 1,459 |
| Office expenses | 2,368 | 1,798 |
| Postage and shipping | 4,699 | 4,776 |
| Professional fees | 3,236 | 2,435 |
| Property taxes | 8,075 | - |
| Rental | 3,379 | 13,239 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 708 | 4 |
| Supplies | 2,288 | 1,683 |
| Utilities | 8,733 | 5,411 |
| Vehicle expenses | 1,006 | 916 |
| | <u>60,898</u> | <u>52,471</u> |
| Excess of revenue over expenditures before other items | <u>24,982</u> | <u>89,382</u> |
| Other items | | |
| Gifts in kind | (5,728) | (2,184) |
| Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year | <u>\$ 19,254</u> | <u>\$ 87,198</u> |

**Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc.
 Statement of Cash Flows
 (Unaudited)**

| For the year ended December 31 | 2015 | 2014 |
|--|------------------|-------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | |
| Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year | \$ 19,254 | \$ 87,198 |
| Changes in non-cash working capital: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (1,299) | (1,623) |
| Inventory | 651 | - |
| Prepaid expenses | 1,459 | 1,459 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 8,019 | (1,078) |
| Deferred contributions | (3,589) | 4,972 |
| | <u>24,495</u> | <u>90,928</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Purchase of tangible capital assets | (209,866) | (284,977) |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| Repayment of demand loans | (241,299) | (5,399) |
| Proceeds from demand loans | 337,505 | 191,583 |
| | <u>96,206</u> | <u>186,184</u> |
| Net decrease in cash | <u>(89,165)</u> | <u>(7,865)</u> |
| Cash and bank, beginning of the year | <u>132,095</u> | <u>139,960</u> |
| Cash and bank, end of the year | <u>\$ 42,930</u> | <u>\$ 132,095</u> |

**Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc.
 Statement of Changes in Net Assets
 (Unaudited)**

| For the year ended December 31 | Invested in Tangible Capital Assets | Unrestricted | 2015 | 2014 |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Net assets, beginning of year | \$ 124,316 | \$ 128,134 | \$ 252,450 | \$ 165,252 |
| Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year | - | 19,254 | 19,254 | 87,198 |
| Investment in tangible capital assets | 209,865 | (209,865) | - | - |
| Transfer for advance/repayment of demand loans | (96,205) | 96,205 | - | - |
| Net assets, end of year | <u>\$ 237,976</u> | <u>\$ 33,728</u> | <u>\$ 271,704</u> | <u>\$ 252,450</u> |

**Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc.
 Statement of Financial Position
 (Unaudited)**

| December 31 | 2015 | 2014 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current | | |
| Cash and bank | \$ 42,930 | \$ 132,095 |
| Accounts receivable | 9,175 | 7,876 |
| Inventory | 4,680 | 5,331 |
| Prepaid expenses | - | 1,459 |
| | <u>56,785</u> | <u>146,761</u> |
| Tangible capital assets (Note 2) | <u>520,366</u> | <u>310,501</u> |
| Incorporation costs | 515 | 515 |
| | <u>\$ 577,666</u> | <u>\$ 457,777</u> |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | |
| Current | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 10,047 | \$ 2,028 |
| Deferred contributions (Note 3) | 13,525 | 17,114 |
| Demand loan (Note 5) | 282,390 | 186,185 |
| | <u>305,962</u> | <u>205,327</u> |
| Net assets | | |
| Invested in tangible capital assets | 237,976 | 124,316 |
| Unrestricted | 33,728 | 128,134 |
| | <u>271,704</u> | <u>252,450</u> |
| | <u>\$ 577,666</u> | <u>\$ 457,777</u> |

**Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc.
 Notes to Financial Statements
 (Unaudited)**

December 31, 2015

2. Tangible Capital Assets

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Land | \$ 80,288 | \$ - |
| Buildings | 412,060 | 3,234 |
| Vehicle | 3,745 | 3,745 |
| Baler | 910 | 910 |
| Equipment | 8,240 | 5,190 |
| Computer and office equipment | 12,983 | 12,983 |
| Utility storage trailer | 2,140 | 2,140 |
| Assets under construction | - | 282,299 |
| | <u>\$ 520,366</u> | <u>\$ 310,501</u> |

3. Deferred Contributions

Deferred contributions represent designated donations received during the year that have not been forwarded to the specific project at year end. The following designated donations represent the balance of deferred contributions:

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Christmasbox | \$ 563 | \$ 6,842 |
| FriedensBote (Germany) | 372 | 372 |
| Peter Nastasiychuk | 12,590 | 9,900 |
| | <u>\$ 13,525</u> | <u>\$ 17,114</u> |

4. Line of Credit

The organization has an authorized line of credit in the amount of \$5,000 from the Access Credit Union bearing interest at the Access Credit Union's base rate (2.7% at December 31, 2015). As of December 31, 2015, this line of credit was not being utilized by the organization.