

Mission Newsletter



**FAITH
MISSION**
FriedensBote Inc

May - June 2018

Number 133

“In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works, in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.” (Titus 2:7, 8) KJV

Paul's instruction to Titus and to us is to remember that the lives we lead testify louder than the words we speak. We cannot teach others to practice good works if we ourselves do not. Paul said, *“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ”* (I Cor. 11:1). And again he said, *“Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample”* (Phil. 3:17). Are we confident enough of our standing with Christ that we too can tell others, "Follow me"?

We should each be an example of what a true Christian is, “in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned.” In other words, we should exhibit godly traits. This includes not distorting Bible passages to suit our own motives and interpretation, but bringing forth God's truth through an honest exposition of the Scriptures. Another godly trait we should exhibit is gravity, which is soberness and dignified conduct - that which does not bring shame to the cross of Christ. Sincerity, or honesty, should underlie a Christian's every thought, word, and deed; and his speech, in addition to being honest, should be flavored with graciousness and faith.

No man shall be able to find fault with the Christian whose life radiates godliness. But that doesn't mean that some won't try. The world is full of cynics - perhaps because there is so much around us that merits suspicion - so we must be careful of the face we show to people. The follower of Christ who does everything within his power to be a good witness will not only stop the mouths of the cynics, but bring them shame for having thought badly of an innocent man.

Peter said we should be prepared to give an answer to those who would question us concerning our faith, *“Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of [us], as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse [our] good conversation in Christ”* (IPet. 3:16).

A sterling life-style speaks volumes to those who have seen too much hypocrisy and deceit. Rare is the person who appears genuine and is genuine. Such a one can win souls to Jesus simply by the life he leads. 🍁🍁🍁



**Please Help Us Out.....
Praise the Lord! Bins
are Full and Overflowing!**
Although this is also a problem for us, it is a much 'better' problem than if we run out of clothes. All we need now is more people to come in and sort through the bags of clothing, bale them and get them shipped out. A recent trip to Ukraine and Moldova, again confirmed that there is still a tremendous need for our clothing, footwear and blankets.



Faith Mission Ukraine Tour 2018:

We received an invitation to come to the Carpathian Mountain region of Ukraine. When Peter sent the invitation, it was sent to me (Jake Elias) but it was a special invitation for two of our sons to come out and help with some special youth meetings they were planning. Nathan had spent 6 months in the Carpathian villages back in 2004 and Jeremy was there with my wife Helena and me 4 years later, in 2008.

Well, Jeremy declined the invitation for this time but Nathan “jumped for joy” at the opportunity. Nathan also decided to take their 7 year-old son Robert with him. We had a



On the morning when we visited the center, there was a group of mom’s with small children having a Bible Study under a shade tree outdoors.



Day 1 - Taking a stroll in Odessa. Starting in the City park and finishing up at the Port of Odessa.



wonderful trip and I will again share a few of the highlights in this Newsletter.

Starting in Odessa: Our friend, Meesha, picked us up at the Odessa Airport on the 2nd of May. The next morning Meesha gave us a tour of the Drug & Alcohol Rehab Center in Odessa. The large facility also serves as a church, school, and workshop for the clients in the rehabilitation programs. Some clients work in the basement, producing very nice concrete paving stones while others bake bread and



In the evening, Meesha took me along to visit a needy family in a village not far from Odessa. We spent the evening playing soccer, singing and reading some scripture passages. We had picked up some bread, meat and drinks so we had a snack later.



On our way back to the city for the night, we stopped in another village where several couples were meeting for Bible Study. We found that there were many small groups, meeting in their homes, to study God’s Word and building stronger relationships with family and Jesus.

In 2017 we visited Tatiana and her family in her small house in a village not far from the Uzin Church. We decided to help repair and insulate her tiny house and build a small addition.

You may remember this from 2017 when we wrote about Tatiana and her 4 children, one being a very sick young boy. She has to spend whatever she has on medical bills and doctor's visits.

We visited Tatiana and her family again and were very impressed with how the project had turned out. She was so very happy with their "new" home. She mentioned that this last winter was the first winter that they had been able to enjoy a warm house. Pastor Victor shared that they were now hoping to do a bit of fix up and painting on the inside. However, the roof was leaking and would have to be repaired first. Victor had a few cost estimates but was waiting for another quote to be submitted. He estimated that the total cost would maybe be about \$1500.

If this is a project that you would like to support, Please designate your donation for the Tatiana Roof Repair project on the Mailing Card.



Victory Drug & Alcohol Rehab Center

Verhovyna Soccer Stadium Bleachers packed with youth and children



We were so blessed to participate in the final service of our tour. A lot of preparation had gone into the Sunday service at the Cheremosh Soccer Stadium in Verhovyna. The threatening clouds did not dampen the spirits of the 700 + children who attended the morning service. The afternoon crowd was smaller due to the intermittent showers but it was still an excellent opportunity to introduce the message of salvation to many local people.

Most of these men would say that God has worked a miracle in their life, giving them hope, security and in many cases their family.

When we visited the center last July, we were really encouraged by the sincerity that we saw so we decided to help out this ministry. We decided to provide some funds for some equipment to produce paving stones or patio blocks. They were excited to begin the new project as soon as they had finished constructing a barn where they were hoping to milk 1 or 2 cows and keep some chickens.

Some research has been done and apparently there is not a market for the paving stones in Ukraine at the moment so they have decided not to pursue this business venture. The funds which we donated will now be used to finish the barn, purchase the cow and for the day-to-day operation of the center.

Right now, the only income that the Rehab Center has is when the men who are in the final step of the program, go into the city and earn some wages in a supervised employment program. Their wages go back into the Rehab Center.

The country of Ukraine has very many different Drug and Alcohol Rehab Centers. Some are obviously much more effective than others. This is likely one of the smallest centers but it has a very high success rate. It also has a waiting list of men just waiting to get into the program. For me, it was my third visit to this place. Every time I step inside the small meeting / bedroom / living room, Jaroslav has new miracle stories to share.

Please pray that this small program can keep growing and that Jaroslav can continue to share Jesus with many more men who are ready to do whatever it takes to get out of their life of bondage.

If you want to support the Victory Drug & Alcohol program, please designate your gift on the mailing card as Victory Rehab Program.



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 and is emptied on a regular basis. However, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange your 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.

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.faimission.ca

Office and Warehouse located at

425 Roblin Blvd East

Board of Directors

Jake Elias (204) 325-5446 Henry Penner (204) 331-3309

Abe Unrau (204) 685-2320 Andy Elias (204) 325-6446

John Peters (204) 325-1383 Philip Elias (204) 750-8187

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

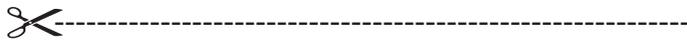
- to provide humanitarian and spiritual aid to the people of former Communist communities of the world.
- to call others to pray for the suffering people in the world.
- to provide information about the people of the former Communist communities to fellow Christians in North America.

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 10010019940-9



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.....

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Postal Code.....

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- \$2000 \$1000
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This mailing card with your donation

"God loves a cheerful giver....."



(2018-#03)



Date: _____ Cheque # _____

- Please use my donation for: Wherever Most Needed
- Shipping Costs Children's Camps
 - Victory Rehab Sucholessy Camp Building
 - Gift Boxes Tatiana House Roof Repair
 - Staiche Well Project Ukraine Orphans

Please fold along dotted line and return
.....
This mailing card with your donation

**Please make all Cheques payable to
Faith Mission
Tax deductible receipts will be issued at
the beginning of the following year**

News from the Carpathian Region of Ukraine.....

Our dear friends and co-workers of Faith Mission! It's so dear to me to communicate with you via this letter about the ministry in our area.

All ministries are different. At different times of the year we have different ideas and approaches. Sometimes when we visit a village for the first time, people are very attentive and sometimes very surprised about what we are telling them.

Preparation for the Easter programs started right after Christmas. It's not always easy as there are some places that refuse to accept us. The Orthodox priests don't like the fact that their people come to our services by hundreds while their temples are practically empty.

Many churches from Chernivtsi and the surrounding region were involved this time. About 20 vehicles were used to transport people, volunteers and about 6 tons of humanitarian aid bales. Welfare workers from three regions were involved too. Looking back, all we can say is: "Praise the Lord!"

We were so happy to have our friends from Canada - brother Jake, his son Nathan and grandson Robert. They participated in every service. We had 8 services in 6 days in the following towns: Zabolotiv, Snyatyn, Rozhniv, Stopchativ, Kuty, Kosiv in Community Halls, one service in our central church in Verhovyna and the final service was at the Cheremosh Stadium in Verhovyna. On Sunday morning there were more than 700 children that came from dozens of villages and towns nearby. We had two music groups – one from Chernivtsi and an orchestra from Zdolbuniv who came to help us out on Saturday and Sunday. It was truly a time of Praise and Worship, all praising our Great God and the Lord Jesus Christ!

In total, during this week, we ministered to about 1500 children in all the services and more than a thousand adults. All the Community Halls were full. We had bought 40,500 school notebooks which we gave to all the children. Only 2500 were left after the final program on Sunday. We are hoping to follow up with all these children before the next school year starts.

For lunch at the stadium service, we gave out about 750 large buns and about the same number of bottles of water or juice. The mayor of the town also participated in our stadium service. He greeted all the visitors and had a short speech



which sounded more like a sermon because he quoted a number of Scripture passages. He was surprised to see so many children and adults coming to the service on a rainy day. After the stadium service, moms were given vouchers to receive a clothing package at our church later. In the next couple of days, about 300 women came for their package.

In the town of Kosiv we were invited by the new head of the local administration. We have been working with him for about 7 years. He said we will now have even more opportunities.

We had never had meetings in the town of Zabolotiv before. The locals were surprised when they realized that we came with clothing, blankets, and literature. They said they would never expect somebody would give away things like we did. This is a great opportunity to witness to the people about the great love of Jesus. They asked us to come again when we can. The administrator of the Community Hall even offered the use of the hall for our summer camp this year, if it is God's will.

Dear Faith Mission friends!..... We thank God for all your prayers! Once again we saw God's hand in all of this. We thank God for all the friends from different Canadian churches who supported this ministry financially and who collect, sort, bale and load clothing to send to Ukraine. Your love and support travels in your containers for thousands of kilometers and then is distributed among thousands of families and brings joy to the children.

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In a few weeks we will have summer camps. We have planned 10 camps at Staische and 9 camps in different places. We will have about 500 children; 95% of these children are the children of Orthodox and Catholic families. We are having a problem recruiting leaders and teachers for these camps. We also expect many children from the churches of other regions of Ukraine. Please, pray for this ministry also.

Last week we started digging another well at the Staische Camp. It will be the third well. Every year we have a shortage of water. Please pray that this well will produce plenty of good water. ***(If you want to support this project, Please designate your donation for the Staische Well Project on the mailing card.)***

So, this is the life we live here in the Carpathians. Every month, every week, every day comes with new challenges, but God takes care of all of them.

“Verily I say unto you, In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Matthew 25:40)

..... May Faith Mission continue to bring joy and blessings to many people in this part of the world!

..... Send our warm greetings to your families, churches and the Faith Mission board.

You are in our prayers, Peter N., Carpathians.