

Mission Newsletter



May - June 2019

Number 139

*"Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David:
But David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed
Weaker and weaker." (II Sam. 3:1)*

Before David ascended to the throne of Israel, he fought a long, hard, bitter struggle against the house of Saul. This long war tried the faith and the patience of David and made his establishment on the throne more welcome to him. It taught him that truth and righteousness will triumph at last.

Men that are out of the favor of God, that have turned their backs on God, tend to go down, to decrease. Men that believe God, as David did, tend to wax stronger and stronger.

There is a long conflict between grace and corruption in the heart of each believer. The flesh will war against the spirit, and the spirit will war against the flesh. But as the work of sanctification is carried on, corruption, like the house of Saul, grows weaker and weaker. Grace, which produces righteousness and holiness, however, like the house of David, grows stronger and stronger.

Peter said this: *"But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you"* (I Pet. 5:10). David was eventually victorious after his war with Saul. If you will believe God over the weaknesses in your life, then divine grace will eventually be victorious over all opposition.

In our day, Saul represents those who have once known the Lord but have turned aside to the enticements of their own lusts. Spiritual blindness will set in and they, like Saul, will seek the Lord but not find Him. *"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame"* (Heb. 6:4-6).

David represents those who love the Lord but sometimes, in a time of weakness, fall. They grieve over their sin and repent; then they are restored by God's grace. ◆◆◆

**Greetings, Dear Brothers & Sisters, and all
co-workers of Faith Mission! Christ is risen!**

(Email - Letters received May 16, 2019)

Numbers 6:22-27

Dear friends and coworkers from Faith Mission!

All the Carpathian and Chernivtsi churches want to greet you as you celebrate the 25th anniversary of Faith Mission.

We thank God for your ministry.... glory to God! We have been working together for about 15 years already. God has done so much for our local people through your mission.

Thousands of children have been able to attend summer camps. Thousands of gifts have been distributed. Tens of thousands of adults and children have received Canadian clothing all over Ukraine. Thanks to your care and help, we were able to share God's Love with all these people.

We believe you will all receive your precious rewards from the Lord Himself in eternity.

God bless Faith Mission!

Pastor Peter N.

May 05, 2019



Letter #2 - On May 11th we celebrated 22 years of our ministry in the Carpathian Mountains. Years ago, we went to the mountains as guests with a trunk filled with Christian books. We've had many difficulties, concerns, etc., but God brought us a lot of joy when we addressed all the problems to Him. God changed our plans and we became long-term guests there. Over the years, many souls have gotten saved and today, many of them are ministers.

The Easter season gives us another great opportunity to meet local people and children. We had two small camps in Verkhovyna and Staische. They also were our preparation camps for summer.

We had a service in the town of Snyatyn in the Community Hall. There were about 100 children and many adults.

Then in Verkhovyna we had an Easter service in the local youth service building. There were also about a hundred children.

Later, all the children from the previous meetings gathered together at Staische. Our friends from the local church prepared a good program. We distributed more than 350 gifts among children. In Snyatyn we gave away 25 bales of clothing from Canada. We had three families from Germany as guests.

A month ago, several brothers from our church went to Zakarpattya (a region behind the Carpathians, about 300 km from Verkhovyna). They visited the local gypsies there and delivered about 2 tons of clothing from Canada and 100 gifts from Faith Mission.

On May 10 we had two services in Verkhovyna Church at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. We invited mothers with school age children. We talked about family values and responsibility before God for the education of our children. We have Mother's Day service like this every year. We also gave them a lot of children's clothing from Canada. Once again, many people visited us for the first time ever.

Faith Mission Friends, we thank God for the ministry of your mission. Thanks to your help and humanitarian aid, we have so many opportunities to meet people and share the Gospel of Jesus Our Savior with them. Our churches want to express a huge note of gratitude for what your ministry is doing in our area for the local people.

We have started weekly meetings with Orthodox people on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. We already had more than 40 meetings like that just this year.

Now we are actively getting ready for summer camps. We invited young people from different towns of Ukraine to help us with the camps. It's not easy to find good teachers and helpers every year.

We plan to have 6 -7 camps this summer in different places. We hope to have about 400 children from Orthodox and Catholic families.

Please, pray for this ministry. Satan is trying his utmost to keep the children away from the Love of Christ. We thank God that we still have the opportunity to build relationships with them and share God's Love with them. If they attend our services, they will hear the Good News and hopefully will remember it for the rest of their life.

We keep praying for you!

Peter from the Carpathian Mountains. May, 2019.

Sucholesy Camp - Uzin, Region, Ukraine



Greetings, brothers & sisters!

Enjoy with us! The camp season in Sucholesy is open - we are the first to hold a camp for the disabled. During the day, more than sixty people are in the camp, and some are taken home for the night. Thank God! Each Church is responsible for one evening and does a special service for the participants of the camp. Most of the campers are non-believers.

And there's more excitement... We are preparing to eat in the brand new kitchen!!! It was challenging, but we made it work..... Thank God!

I will write more soon and send more photos.

Bless you! Victor M. - Uzin, Ukraine

The following article about the "Special Needs Camp" was translated with permission from the May/June German Missions Nachrichten.

Living healthy

We are living at a time when many people in this world live according to the motto: "living healthy is number 1." There are also many Christians who are following this lifestyle. For many people, there is a question whether unborn children, especially with disabilities, have any value. The Bible very clearly states that God created every Human Being and that God loves everyone: *"Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;"* (Isaiah 44:24)

Even if we do not understand why someone suffers from a disability, we know from an example in the Gospel of John, that everything has a purpose: *"And as Jesus passed by, he saw*



Viktor has Multiple Sclerosis. Christians from Khmelnytsky, Ukraine shared Jesus with him. He accepted Christ and decided to be baptized in 2018.

For people with physical limitations, the Christian Camp is a very special Gift.

Children with Down Syndrome understand that God loves them and accept Christ into their heart.

a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him." (John 9: 1-3)

So, as Christians, we have an obligation to help people with disabilities and also to explain the way of salvation to them, because that's exactly what the Lord Jesus did when He lived on this earth.

But, how can we help in the 21st century?

This spring, our Mission has already received five requests from Ukraine and Abkhazia (Caucasus), whether we could again support a camp for the handicapped. There are many young people suffering with blindness, speech and hearing disorders, autism, polio and Down's syndrome. We expect about 370 participants. Many of these people need one on one supervision. They come to camp with a family member or a relative who takes care of them. As a result of this, many of the relatives hear the gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ for the first time in their life. In the past years, we witnessed where several people with mobility problems were converted and asked to be baptized. We have also seen where relatives came to the church services after their Christian Camp experience.

Dear mission friends, we ask you for your support in this very important part of our ministry. The total cost for sending one person to this "Special Needs Camp" is about 40 euros or \$60 cdn.

Please remember to pray for all these "Special Needs". Pray that they will realize that they need Jesus in the life.....that they will accept Him as their personal Saviour and Lord!

Missionswerk FriedensBote / Faith Mission

Sending a child to Camp - Is it really worth it?

There are many people who believe that sending a child to camp is a waste of time and money. We have been to several excellent Summer camps in Ukraine the summer of 2017 and 2018. We have seen what these camps can do for these young people....many from non-Christian families.

We do not have enough space to print all the letters that these children wrote but we have compiled a poster with just a few of the notes that were written by the children after the camp was done last year. Please pray that this year's camps will have the same effect on these young people.

children write...
Summer camp experiences

"These were golden days for me, because Jesus came into my heart. Words can not describe how I feel."

"The group leaders have given us an understanding of the good life. I will never forget their prayers for us."

"Our leaders have made a wonderful journey with us through the pages of the Bible."

"The most important thing for me at this camp was, that I have accepted Jesus Christ into my life. He is now my Savior."

"In a few hours, I'm leaving this camp. I'm very sad because I am going home... where everything is so very different..."

"This Camp was like being on another Planet, no hatred, no force, no humiliation. Everyone is the same. The leaders love us all without exception - the way the Lord Jesus loves us all..."

"I want to live my entire life like this...the way I have been living this week at Camp."

"I understand that Jesus died for me...in great agony. This is why I dedicate my life to Him."

If you would like to support these camp projects in Ukraine, please designate your donation for **"Special Needs Camp"** on the Mailing Card.



More “Good” Bikes Thanks for your response

In the last Newsletter, we had asked for more good bikes to ship to Ukraine. Thank you so much to everyone who donated their used bikes that were ready to drive.

Some supporters have sent us a donation so that we could purchase a bike on their behalf. That is also a wonderful idea. Thank you very much. If you wish to do this, designate your gift by checking off the “Bicycles” check-box on the Mailing Card.



Office Hours



Tuesday (Office only) 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.

¹⁷ But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

¹⁸ My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:17-18 (NKJV)

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.faithmission.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
Nathan Elias (204) 212-1041

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.....

Address.....

TownProv.

Postal Code.....

Telephone.....

Faith Mission - 25 years of Humanitarian Aid to
Former Communist Countries

God is so good!

When Faith Mission started in 1994 we had no idea what would happen in the next 25 years. If someone would have said that in 25 years we would ship almost 4 million kg of humanitarian aid to the needy people of the world, we would have thought they were joking. But God has been so good to us. It's because of God's Great Love that we have made many close friends in Ukraine, Moldova, Germany and France. Thanks to the ongoing support from all over Canada, we were able to build our own warehouse and office building in Winkler in 2015 while we continue to ship humanitarian aid.

Here are a few statistics that we would like to share with all of you. We have shipped 247 Containers, 82,090 Bales, 3808 Bicycles, 10,171 Christmas Gift Boxes, more than 10,000 Blankets (blankets were not recorded accurately in the beginning). I wish we had a number of all the people who have come to help us during these 25 years..... God knows!

I am not sharing this to make it look like this is what we have done! I am sharing this because this is what you have done. We could not have accomplished this without you and God. Yes, we know that God has been part of our mission all along. Why else would He keep blessing us like He does. *Faith Mission thanks all of you for your support!*

Loving God and our Neighbors - "Faith Mission" 25 years of service

When they had dined, Jesus spoke to Simon Peter: "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me ...?" He says to him: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you!" Jesus says to him: "Feed my lambs" (John 21:15)

Simon Peter and the other disciples had just eaten with Jesus. Jesus used this appropriate moment to direct their thoughts to the needs of others. His mission was to "feed them". The importance of this mission is underlined by Jesus' threefold repetition (verses 16-17).

No less important is the motivation to "feed my sheep". Jesus connects them with the love of Him! That is why Jesus begins his mission with the question to Peter: "Do you love Me?"

Why does Jesus do that? - Because God has repeatedly proven His love for us humans. (John 3:16, Romans 8:15). He also wants to see our love for Him confirmed (John 14:21). The Apostle Paul also writes to the Corinthians: *"Now give the proof of your love ..."* (2 Cor 8:24)

For 25 years, "Faith Mission" in Winkler (Manitoba / Canada) has been fulfilling the ministry of charity for the love of God. Very many shipping containers with clothes, shoes, bicycles, food, and Christmas Gift Boxes have been sent to the needy in Ukraine, Estonia, Moldova and Georgia.

We, Alex Janzen and Eduard Ewert were invited to the 25th Anniversary Celebration of "Faith Mission" as members of "Missionswerk FriedensBote" (Germany). In May 2019, we visited many communities in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta over three weeks.

We spent some time reminiscing about our common roots - our Mennonite ancestors in Ukraine, and thanked God for our beliefs. Secondly, Eduard shared about how important the service of love was to him and his family, when he himself spent time in a Russian prison from 1981 to 1987 for the sake of the faith.

Especially important for us was the time we spent sharing about the different projects Missionswerk FriedensBote and Faith Mission have been doing together in the last 25 years. On our trips through Russia, Ukraine and other countries, we often experience the great joy and gratitude shared by the people who receive humanitarian aid from Canada. Some unbelieving people were so surprised and amazed by the help they received (Christmas Gifts and others) from Canada that they saw in it the miracle of God and for the first time in their lives prayed to God and thanked Him for His love. Thus, the practical teaching of love to the needy serves to spread the Gospel message.

In eternity, we will be able to see the final meaning of this ministry of love even more clearly.

On behalf of all the recipients of the relief supplies as well as all staff members of "Missionswerk FriedensBote" in Germany, we wish this for all the dear co-workers of our sister mission "Faith Mission" and all their volunteers: *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."* (1Cor 15,58)

May your love for God make you capable and willing for this service of love.

God bless you.

Alex Janzen and Eduard Ewert