# Mission Newsletter

November - December 2021

Number 154

"I have chosen the way of truth, thy judgments have I laid before me. I Have stuck unto thy testimonies: O Lord, put me not to shame. I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart." (Psalm 119: 30, 32)

The principles of true religion are founded on God's Word - the eternal truth. The way of truth is the way of serious godliness, the only way to real happiness. But, as the psalmist said, it is a matter of choice. Your choices in life are not decided in heaven: you make them.

"Thy judgments have I laid before me." In choosing truth, the Word of God is made the guiding rule of our daily lives. The Word of God will be our model as we live according to its truths.

"I have stuck unto thy testimonies." I like that! Those words are plain old bread-and-butter words.

They can't be misinterpreted or misunderstood: "I have stuck ... " In my mind's eye I can see that person literally glued to the Word of God. He can't be pulled away or coaxed away. The two have become one and the same. The choice for truth is a choice that you can stick with. You don't have to always be changing your story when you tell the truth. There's just one side to it, not two. It stays firm at all times and through all tribulations and trials.

"O Lord, put me not to shame." When we choose the way of truth and stick to it, we will pray in faith, as the psalmist did, that God will accept us and never forsake us; that is, "O Lord, do not forsake me or leave me, for without thy grace and mercy I cannot be true to thee."

"I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart." Finally, when we choose the way of truth, we will go the way of God's commandments. And if we plan on making heaven our eternal home, we need to make haste and press forward (Phil. 3:14). God enlarges our hearts when the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost given unto us (Rom. 5:5); there is then a greater capacity to know God, to love God, and to walk with Him as we choose to serve Him.

Walls are going up! It is very exciting to see the progress that has been made. Except for the sidewalk and a few small pads, all the concrete work was finished just before the serious frost came. God has been so good to us again. The contractor had covered the floor with the orange insulated tarps to be safe but the weather has been very nice and we have a very nice floor. It is now our



hope and prayer that the weather will continue to be nice so that the building can be closed up and that work can begin inside. We are also hoping to get the hydro, gas and telephone hookups done in the near future.

Please pray for safety At the job site.

## Pray for the Safety of Ukraine!

We have been informed that Russia has been actively placing military equipment and troops along the Ukrainian borders. (See the map at the right). They say that Russia is plotting a coup in Ukraine on December 1st.

Although Vladimir Putin denies the possibility of a war, the rest of the world is preparing for another attack which they fear could be much worse than the 2014 attack. More than 14,000 lives were lost after the 2014 war when Russia took over the entire Crimea Region of Ukraine.

Please Pray for the safety of all the Ukrainian people and also pray that Faith Mission, FriedensBote and all the other Christian Mission organizations will be allowed to provide Humanitarian and Spiritual Care to all the needy and hurting people in Ukraine.



A map shared with Military Times and replicated above shows how Ukrainian Intelligence is bracing for a bloody and ferocious invasion that could see swathes of Ukraine captured in an assault which would dwarf the annexation of Crimea in 2014.

## Gift Boxes From Far and Near - Thank You for Each Gift



When we started our Christmas Gift Box campaign this year, we had no idea what impact the Covid-19 restrictions would have on this very special part of the Faith Mission Ministry. Well, we have once again been pleasantly surprised with all the boxes that have already been delivered to our warehouse. The photo (above) was taken when this young couple from Taber, Alberta delivered close to 300 boxes which were prepared by the Reinland Mennonite Church Youth. The





photo (below-left) was taken after the Morden Sommerfeld Sunday School was finished with packing their boxes. At the time this is printed we have 2150 boxes ready to ship plus the

five hundred which were shipped to Kharkiv on the last container. Our storage space is getting very crowded with 12 pallets of Gift Boxes ready to go. Photo at the right is a happy young boy in Moldova who received a Gift Box last year.

Faith Mission does not require anyone to pay for shipping the Gift Boxes packed, but if you want to help us out by donating toward this project, we would really appreciate it. Please check the box  $\square$  on the mailing card next to the Gift Boxes and send it with your donation.



## Pray for the needs in Ukraine......

We as the Faith Mission Board, have received numerous requests from the pastors and leaders from many areas of Ukraine. Faith Mission has been blessed again in 2021 so we have been able to share some of our blessings with the people in Moldova and Ukraine. The photos on this page represent the four recent projects which we decided to support this winter.

- #1. Food parcels for the Seniors and Invalids in the country of Ukraine. These packages will be prepared by the concerned and caring Christians and Young People throughout the country.
- #2. **Firewood Project.** This year, more than ever, the need for this project is critical because many people have had their natural gas shut off because Russia is no longer supplying it to Ukraine and some of the surrounding countries.
- #3. We have shared about the **Paul Nikolajenko Family** from the Sukolovo village, not far from Kharkiv. This family has adopted 26 orphan children over the years; many with handicaps and special needs. Several of their older children have gotten married and need their own home. Paul says that there many are dilapidated homes in the area which can be bought for very cheap. He says that the boys can repair them and make them liveable for \$2500 \$3000 USD.

#4. The fourth project also involves the Nikolajenko family. Paul is the chairman of the **private Christian K-12 school** which is located near their home. The school has 18 teachers and due to the economic situation in the country, some of their support has been terminated. They asked us if we could provide some support so we have committed to support them for 2022.

If you feel that the Lord is prompting you to help out with any one of these 4 projects, please mark your donation choice on the mailing card and return the card with your cheque to our office.

REMINDER: ALL MAILED IN CHEQUES MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31st IN ORDER TO BE RECEIPTED FOR 2021



#### Thanksgiving - A Celebration of God's Mercy

The year 2021 is almost done. It's hard to believe....this year has been a very challenging year! Shut downs, permanent closures, layoffs, shortages, escalating prices all because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Many families have lost someone to the virus. Hardly a family can be found where nobody was seriously sick with the Corona Virus. We are very grateful that God has been so faithful to us at Faith Mission.

Since January 1st, we have shipped 7 - 40 foot, high cube containers with Humanitarian Aid to Ukraine and Moldova. So far in 2021, we have shipped 2,334 bales of clothing, 226 (Bale-sized) Boxes of shoes, 158 Bicycles, 342 Bags with Blankets and Pillows, 1152 Packages of Dry Soup Mix, 4 Wheelchairs, approximately 40 - 50 pairs of crutches and walking aids. To date we have sent 500 Christmas Gift Boxes and we hope to put the rest into the next 2 containers which are supposed to leave

in December. PTL!



Special Reminder for all our supporters with **NEW ADDRESSES in Southern Manitoba** return Change of Address slip below

### Office Hours



Tuesday (Office only) 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Clothing sorting & baling:

Thursday 1:00 to 4:30 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

Email: info@faithmission.ca www.faithmission.ca Office and Warehouse located at **425 Roblin Blvd East** 

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

☐ Please add my name to your mailing list.

Prov..... Postal Code..... Telephone .....

☐ Please send my Newsletter in PDF to my email:

## **Board of Directors**

Jake Elias (204) 325-5446 Abe Unrau (204) 685-2320 Henry Penner (204) 331-3309 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.

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\*\*Please enclose a blank cheque marked 'VOID'

## Please Thank God and Keep Praying ....

- 1. ... Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus into this world to redeem us! Thank Him for the freedom we have to celebrate this special Christmas Holiday.
- 2. ... Thank our Heavenly Father for the Blessings He has bestowed on us so that we can share them with people all over the world who are much less fortunate.
- 3. ... Thank God that He has helped us during the Covid pandemic. Pray that it will be over soon and that Faith Mission will be able to continue to collect, sort and ship Humanitarian Aid to those in need.
- 4. ...Pray for the many Ukrainian orphans.... that there will be more Christian families committing to adopt these children and give them a meaningful life.
- 5. ...Pray for the safety of all the people in Ukraine, as Russia is threatening to start another war and take over more of Ukraine. More than 14,000 people have already died as a result of the war, since it began in 2014. Please pray that God will not allow the war to escalate again.
- 6. ...Pray for our friend Jaroslav and his co-workers at the Drug and Alcohol Rehab Center near Bila Tzerkov, Ukraine. Pray that he will be able to help many more men out of their life of drugs and alcohol and show them God's way of freedom, peace and love. Please also remember to pray for all the other Christian Rehab Centers in Ukraine as well.
- 7. ...Pray for all the volunteers who have faithfully heeded God's calling....coming in to help with various tasks at our warehouse or working with projects at home.
- 8. ...Pray for Faith Mission, as we continue to follow Christ's command by providing humanitarian aid for the people in desperate need.... Pray that we will be patient and respect the authorities during this difficult time in history.... Pray that we will listen to what God wants us to hear.... Even though it may not be what the world wants us to hear. We still have many important decisions to make.
- 9. ...Pray that our building project will all go well and that it will all work out in spite of the challenges and shortages caused by the Covid pandemic.

Thank you for your support!

May God bless you and your family this Christmas Season!