

Mission Newsletter



FAITH MISSION

FriedensBote Inc

March - April 2023

Number 162

"Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it..." (Proverbs 3:27)

Turkey / Syria Earthquake

On February 6, three earthquakes struck northern Syria and southeastern Turkey. The magnitude of all three earthquakes ranged from 6.7 to 7.8. According to official estimates, more than 20 million people have found themselves in an extreme emergency situation. It was the fourth strongest earthquake in 400 years. Since March 23, there have been another nine 4.3-5.6 magnitude earthquakes in the same area. Currently, around 57,000 dead and over 110,000 injured have been recovered.

In March 2023, Missionswerk FriedensBote out of Germany, was already able to support several missions by our Bulgarian and Gagauz evangelists and is planning further services in the earthquake area. Help is mainly provided in the Hatay area, where the city of Antakya is also located. Antakya is the Biblical Antioch where "...the disciples were first called Christians..." (Acts 11:26b). To this day there are Christian communities in this area that have been in great need as a result of this humanitarian catastrophe.

The task forces first assembled a few camp tents and temporary houses so that those who had become homeless could find shelter. Blankets and food were also distributed. A children's camp for the



An outreach team of fellow believers from Bulgaria and Moldova is building emergency shelters in the Hatay area.

children in the area is also planned soon, because the schools are cancelled and the children are sitting in the rubble. As bad as this natural disaster is, it still offers great opportunities to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people there.

Please pray for the dramatic situation in the earthquake area. If you would like to support this project with a donation, check "Earthquake" on the Mailing Card.

HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE TURKEY / SYRIA

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

(The Bible / Proverbs 3:27)

Please pray for the earthquake situation in Turkey and Syria that has left thousands homeless and so many are now in a very desperate situation. Friedensbote/Faith Mission is working with the local Christian churches to help those in need in the earthquake area.

If you would like to support our ministry with a donation, you can do so by designating your donation as "Earthquake".

Donation account CANADA:

Bank: Royal Bank of Canada
Bank Address: PO Box 1328, 225 Main Street / Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4B3
Bank Phone: +1 (204) 325-1455

Swift Code: ROYCCAT2
Routing or ABA: 021000021
Account Number: 03257 1008820
Account Holder: Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc.

FAITH MISSION.CA



Faith Mission FriedensBote Inc
520 Circle K Drive
Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0K4
Phone: +1 (204) 325-4086



Moldova News

Dear Mission friends, almost seven months after the European Union granted Moldova the status of a candidate member, our country continues to struggle to survive. Although Moldova is an indirect victim of the war in Ukraine, the economic situation in our country, as a result of the war and numerous overlapping crises, is going through hard times.

In 2022, the highest inflation growth rates over the past 20 years were recorded in the Republic of Moldova. This amounted to more than 34% at the end of the year (according to official information). All major commodities rose sharply: bread +30.3%, vegetables +56.08%, fruits +48.78%, sugar +55.74%, eggs +59.11%, electricity +168.66% and natural gas +77.11%. Currently, many Ukrainians can be found in shops and markets in Moldova, and, as a rule, all of them, express bewilderment at the fact that in our country the prices for food products, significantly exceed the level in their current dilapidated country. On average, the cost to support a family in these countries is about 1,500 euros.

There is still lack of stability within Moldova and politically, Transnistria remains the main issue. This region was separated from Moldova in 1992, but was not recognized as a sovereign state by the international community or by Russia, which still maintains a significant military contingent there. Russia now uses this zone to its advantage.

There has been an increase in illegal migration in Moldova. Moldova is used as a transit country. The number of migrants is not very large now - much less than at the beginning of the war, but it is important that it does not grow nor become permanent. Since the beginning of the war, more than 750,000 people from Ukraine have entered the small Republic of Moldova. Of these, about 102,000 people continue to stay in our country. Also, during this period, more than 11 thousand people have applied for asylum.

Moldova does provide citizens of Ukraine with refugee status (6 months under consideration, but the opportunity to obtain citizenship of Moldova after 8 years), temporary protection status (within a few days, but with less benefits). Ukrainians living in Moldova, have the right to legal employment and children can study at schools. Most of the immigrants are mothers with small children or people of retirement age so the opportunities for work are very limited. Most of the refugees are very unsure of what to do next as there is much uncertainty on any further development in Ukraine so they cannot decide what to do next.

Christian organizations and churches try to provide

assistance where they can. Churches continue to be a place of unshakable spirit and firmness of hope in God despite the complexity of the whole situation and the disunity of citizens due to the growing fear of a hostile outbreak in our country. Interestingly, many unbelieving citizens of Ukraine find, not only material assistance in churches, but they also become children of God! God turns evil into good. Not all churches provide accommodation but many do continue to give out packages with food, basic necessities, clothing and shoes, as well as provide spiritual assistance.

One woman, who came to Moldova from eastern Ukraine with a serious illness, could not get enough necessary medication from the state, due to supply shortage. "VLASTAR" not only provided the medication but also living accommodations, food, and most importantly - God provided miraculous healing, restoration, and acquired another soul for the Kingdom of God! A week after praying, this woman testified: "I feel like the medicine will no longer be needed, because nothing hurts. Well, the soul hurts only because the war continues, but my body does not hurt." We

believe that the Lord also gives healing to the soul.

At one of the distribution points, administrator Lyubov opened a vocational school to train refugee women in the profession of confectionary / pastry chef. So, every day, these women don't just collect and receive food aid packages, but have the opportunity to get a better education in an area that will benefit them for the rest of their life. The director of the distribution

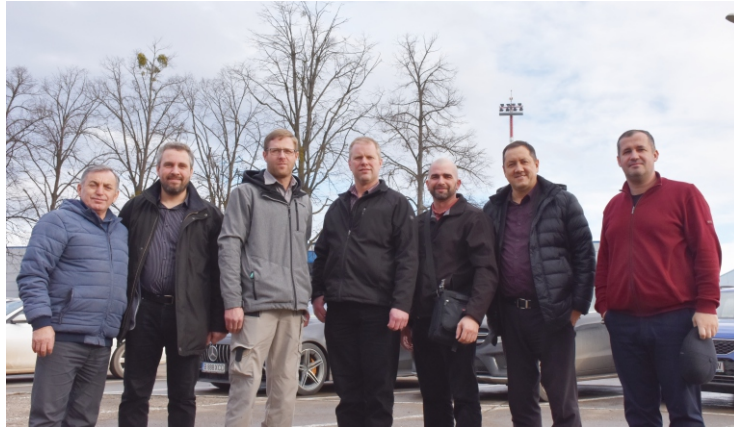


center, Lyubov, rejoices that she can give more than just temporary help. "With the support and food supplies from VLASTAR, we can give these women the tools they need in the long run to provide for themselves and their children." VLASTAR also continues to support and care for hundreds of Ukrainian citizens in Moldova, as well as in Bulgaria and Ukraine itself. Thank God, we are able to provide accommodations, food, basic necessities, and also transportation abroad for those wishing to move further into Europe to search for permanent place of residence. We assist with resolving medical, legal and other issues, and provide spiritual and moral support, as well as assisting with finding employment. Since the beginning of 2023, we have seen a slight increase in the flow of refugees, although mainly those who are in transit through Moldova. However, they still need help, for a couple of days or a couple of weeks. About 300-400 people a day receive assistance from VLASTAR.

Over the past year, VLASTAR's workload has not slowed down. Our aim is to provide social, legal and material assistance to anyone living in poverty in Moldova especially orphans, adolescents and youth, large families, and the elderly. VLASTAR provides spiritual and moral education, rehabilitation of adolescents and youth in critical condition, with their reorientation to general and vocational education with the subsequent provision of jobs.

Of course, any material assistance or implementation of projects to provide the above assistance to those in need has one main goal - to share the Gospel! We direct everyone with whom we come in contact with, to our Lord, by demonstrating Christian values to them and warming the hearts of the beneficiaries to accept these values. Each program or simple meeting with these people, is accompanied by prayer, blessing, preaching and distribution of Christian literature

You too can help! We have four areas that we would request prayer for: Firstly, there are new waves of missile strikes and attacks on Ukraine with plans for a wider scale. Secondly, the lack of stability of the political situation in Moldova. Thirdly, the large-scale and general state of spiritual decay of many citizens of Ukraine who have lost all hope. There are many who no longer have the strength to move on. Fourthly, local Christians and ministers, like many other volunteers, are devastated and are at



the limit of their moral, mental and physical state at times. Therefore, if there is an opportunity to remember us in your prayers, we will be grateful.

We as Christians rely on God, on His provision for everything, and on His divine intervention. We do not know how long this war will continue. However, we will not stop praising Him for safety, for you and for your support, and for the opportunity for us to continue to serve. We will do this as much as we can for as long as we can. We will be grateful if you continue to pray for us! We will also pray for you! - Ivan Nedeoglo - Chisinau, MO

(Ivan is on the far left in the above Photo)

Lord willing, the next FM container ships to Moldova.



Emanuel Christian Clinic

North American statistics show that about 57% of Canadians and 70% of Americans over the age of 18 need some form of corrective eye-wear. With doctors suggesting that your eyes should be rechecked every one-to-three years it is reasonable to assume



that there are a lot of pairs of glasses that are not getting used anymore in many of our homes. What do you do with old glasses? Very often there is nothing wrong with the frames - it's only the lenses that aren't the right prescription anymore.

So, how can we put these old eyeglasses to good use? On our recent visit to Moldova we spent several hours visiting with doctors at the Emanuel Clinic, one of their requests was that we send them glasses, they have the ability to exchange lenses in them if they don't have the correct prescription in them so if you have some unused glasses that you're not sure what to do with please bring them to Faith Mission and we will get them into the hands or onto the faces that need them.

For our supporters in Southern Alberta. Our Grassy Lake facility that we started in a small garage in January of 2022 was relocated into a larger shop in Grassy Lake last October and the clothing donations are increasing in that region. Along with more clothing comes more opportunity for volunteers to assist with sorting and baling at that location as well, if you want to set up a baling day or evening please contact Dave @ 403-308-6523, or stop by sometime @ 605 First St N Grassy Lake. Please note that the container for clothing donations and the shop are not at the same location.

Growing Pains / Blessings

Faith Mission has been in operation for about thirty years. On our recent tour of Western Canada we had a number of people asking about how things got done. We know, many people, even locally, are not sure about the how things operate within the organization. I will take this opportunity to explain how things have been done in the past and also the changes coming this summer. Over the years, our many faithful volunteers have done pretty much everything; sorting/folding/baling, loading containers, folding and stuffing newsletters, sewing blankets and underwear, packing gift-boxes, and donating the funds that are used to purchase necessary supplies. God only knows how many thousands of hours have been given directly to Him in these ways. We are ever so grateful to the hundreds of volunteers that have done innumerable deeds. We could not begin to name them for lack of space in this newsletter and also for fear of missing so many that have donated their time, humanitarian aid, finances, many times behind the scenes. THANK YOU for your service in the past and it is our sincere desire that you will continue to serve in whatever capacity the Lord asks of you. The only work that is done at FM that is currently paid for is the bookkeeping and.....

Continued on back side of Mailing Card>>>>>>>>>

Although we are always looking for volunteers, we are currently in an awkward position where the more urgent need is clothing. Before we request more volunteers we trust that the seasonal changeover will help take care of this "problem".



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.

Drop-Off locations



Bags or boxes of clothing and bicycles may be dropped off at the "DROP-OFF" door on the east side of the Faith Mission building in Winkler.

Faith Mission also has drop-off containers at
821 - 1st St North in GRASSY LAKE, AB.

325 Queen Street in WEYBURN, SK.

These drop-off locations are opened 24 hours a day and emptied on a regular basis. However, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange your delivery.

-Winkler,MB	Jake Elias	204-362-7575
+Grassy Lake,AB	Dave Teichroeb	403-308-6523
*Weyburn,SK	Henry Goertzen	306-450-8871

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

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: 520 Circle K Drive

Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0K4

Phone (204) 325-4086

Email: info@faithmission.ca

www.faithmission.ca

Office and Warehouse located at

520 Circle K Drive - Off of Cargill Road

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.....

- Please send my Newsletter in PDF to my email:

Email.....

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

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

Nathan Elias (204) 212-1041 David Teichroeb (403) 308-6523

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.

(.....continued from page 4)..... cleaning. Everything else is done by volunteers. In the last few years I have had a number of conversations with a few of the other board members about the potential of Faith Mission needing someone in a more full-time role. We needed someone that could look after more of the day-to-day activities - so that not so much is dependant on the eight board members. They all have full-time jobs and need to support themselves and their families. Especially over this last year, the workload has seemed to increase. During the recent trip to Ukraine / Moldova it became apparent to a number of us that Faith Mission is not reaching it's full potential. Upon our return to Canada, we had several board meetings where this was discussed further and through some divine leading in several eye-opening instances it was decided that it was now time to make this change. According to the Faith Mission by-laws, a board member cannot be a paid employee so I will no longer be a board member but will become the Executive Director, looking after the many different tasks, including but not limited to:

- 1) Volunteer coordinating. Lining up groups to come and work at Faith Mission and coordinating the supervisors for those days.
- 2) Writing the newsletters. This will include communicating with FriedensBote and the missionaries in Ukraine and Moldova in order to pass on the most up-to-date and relevant information to our supporters.
- 3) Updating website and social media pages. As I have been involved with this job as a board member in the past, I feel like this is something that will benefit Faith Mission very much if it is someone who is more involved in all aspects of the mission. It will be much easier if it is someone who knows the current happenings both in Canada and in the countries that are receiving the aid. We have attempted to do this while working full time. That is the reason the postings have at times been delayed and things aren't always updated as regularly as they should. Hopefully that will change.
- 4) Booking containers and processing all documents, ensuring they get delivered in a timely manner.
- 5) Sourcing more food items to ship to Ukraine, with the amount of funds we have sent to Germany in the past year to purchase food there to send into Ukraine we are hoping to be able to source more non-perishable food items and send them from Canada, by donation or purchased in bulk to lower the cost, if you have any leads on suppliers that you feel would be able to help us with this please feel free to forward those to us.
- 6) Building and yard maintenance, this was also done by a few of the board members in the past and seemed to usually be most needed when everyone was in their busiest season.
- 7) Arranging presentations/fundraising events both local and inter-provincially working to build a stronger relationship with our supporting churches and growing their knowledge of the happenings at FM.
- 8) Frequently communicate with and visit LaCrete and Grassy Lake to keep everyone informed on the current happenings at all locations.
- 9) Maintain a strong relationship between Faith Mission and FriedensBote in Germany, as well as building a stronger connection with the other missions involved in both

Switzerland and France.

- 10) Becoming better acquainted with the recipient missions in Moldova and Ukraine and to know how to best assist the needy souls at the other end and to gain a stronger relationship with them.

All of these jobs, and I have only mentioned a few of them, have been getting done before this but it is getting difficult to accomplish them with part time volunteers and we as the board feel like many of these were not being done as effectively as they could have been and that it will be a benefit to the Mission to have someone be able to spend more time and attention on these tasks.
-Nathan Elias

“NEW” 2023 Gift-Box Instructions

Having been in Ukraine during the gift-box distribution, gave us a perfect opportunity to see how we could better meet their needs



and make distribution easier for the organizers of the events. We have decided to change our gift-boxes to be similar to Friedensbote's. Our “New” Gift

Boxes will be **suitable for either girls or boys**, and we will only have **two age groups; age 4-9 and age 10-16**. There were very few preschoolers at the distribution services. Those that attend still receive a gift-box. We would ask that you pack the box to fit all ages in that category, for example for an age 4-9 gift-box put in a toque and pair of mittens that would fit a 9 year old even if it would still be big for a 4 year old). The gift-boxes from Friedensbote also have food items in them. We are planning to also add a small package of cookies or sweets to each box. The Faith Mission Gift-box Committee will look after this to make sure we meet the “Best Before” date standards.

Following is our new packing list:

- | | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| socks (2 pair) | scarf | mittens |
| toque | toothbrush | toothpaste |
| washcloth | soap | comb |
| 3 pencils | 2 pens | pencil crayons |
| eraser | pencil sharpener | scissor |
| ruler (metric) | glue stick | |
| school notebooks (minimum of 64 pages total) | | |
| toys (gender neutral or one of each) | | |

Note to our faithful volunteers who knit toques, scarves and mittens for gift-boxes: please keep knitting! We appreciate your beautiful handiwork. Because of the change in our gift-boxes, we will be needing more medium to large toques. The small toques that you send are still just as valuable and will be sent in the clothing bales where the mothers can take them home as they need.

Thank you for all your hard work, may God bless you for it!

\$2000 \$1000

\$500 \$300

\$200 \$100

\$50 \$25

Other Amt \$ _____

God loves a cheerful giver....."

Date: _____ Cheque # _____

Please use my donation for: Wherever Most Needed

Shipping Costs Ukraine – War Relief

Bicycles Drug & Alcohol Rehab Food

Gift Boxes Heating Earthquake

Other _____

(2023-#02)

Entered

Deposit

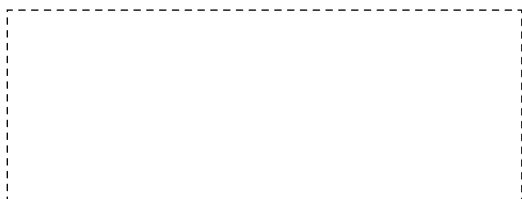
Mailing List

XFer to FB

Please 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



Faith Mission - Automatic Donation Plan

Worry free monthly payments - Your monthly payments to Faith Mission (FriedensBote), Inc. can now be made efficiently and economically by using this preauthorized chequing system we call the ADP. - Save Time - no monthly cheques to write. Save money - no postage or cheque expenses - You will receive an official tax-receipt for your total annual contribution at the beginning of the following year. By using the ADP we will be able to apply your gifts more quickly and more efficiently. For your convenience, this service will continue until you notify us otherwise. Simply complete this form and return it to Faith Mission (FriedensBote), Inc. Your first automatic transfer will occur about four weeks after we receive your information.

I hereby authorize automatic withdrawals from my account on the 1st or the 16th day of each month.

Total monthly donation amount \$ _____ , commencing on _____ .

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Code _____



Signature : _____ Date: _____

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

When donating with e-Transfer, please make sure to provide us with your mailing address so that we are able to issue a Tax-Deductible receipt at the end of the year. Email: info@faithmission.ca