

Mission Newsletter



January - February 2008

Number 72

We had better quickly discover whether we have mere religion or a real experience with Jesus, whether we have outward observance of religious forms or hearts that beat in tune with God.

(Jim Cymbala)

"This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." (Lam. 3:21, 22)

The preceding verses of this chapter find Jeremiah lamenting the downfall of Jerusalem. God had passed judgment on Judah because of her sins, causing her to be taken captive by the Babylonians. This was a dark moment for Judah, and Jeremiah's burden of grief was heavy. Through his heartbreak, however, the sky started to clear and the sun began to shine.

He said, *"This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope."* Jeremiah's memories of God's goodness to His people over the ages brought him hope. One of the good things he remembered was God's mercy. *"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed."* He used the word "mercies," plural. God's fountain of mercy is inexhaustible. He is *"the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort"* (II Cor. 1:3).

Even the most devout of Christians is not immune to failure. God could severely judge us or even destroy us - but instead He chooses to show us mercy and forgiveness. He is *"the God of patience and consolation"* who asks that we follow His example in our dealings with others (Rom. 15:5). We cannot expect God to show us mercy if we are less than merciful to those who have wronged us.

Peter asked Jesus, *"Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?"* To this Jesus responded, *"I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven"* (Matt. 18:21, 22). He then went on to tell the story of a man who was forgiven a large debt but who in turn would not forgive someone who owed him a small amount. The former was dealt with harshly because of his lack of compassion. Jesus concluded, saying, *"So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not everyone his brother their trespasses"* (Matt. 18:35).

"[God's] compassions fail not. Considering the great love and mercy God has shown unto us by sending His Son - and that which He shows each time we repent for a sin we've committed - there is no excuse for not forgiving someone who wrongs us and asks our pardon. If we are truly sons of God, we will exhibit His characteristics in our lives, and most definitely included among these is mercy.

Special Missionfest 2008 Issue



Come and see us at Missionfest Manitoba which will again be held at Grant Memorial Baptist Church in Winnipeg.

Faith Mission has been a part of the Manitoba Missionfest for many years. This event, which features more than 125 different missions and ministries, has given us a lot of exposure. Through Missionfest Manitoba, we have made connections and built relationships that have been very beneficial for our mission. We are again looking forward to meeting many of our friends as they come to check out ministry opportunities.

Or, visit us online! www.mfest.mb.ca

Does it really Get There?

Over the years, one of the questions that we are asked the most is this: Do the clothes that we pack here in Canada actually get there? Do people really use the humanitarian aid that we send to Ukraine or and of the other countries? Well, see for yourself! Here are some pictures of the various distribution stations in Ukraine. I know there are many other churches of organizations that have distributed many items as well but we have not received any photos from them.

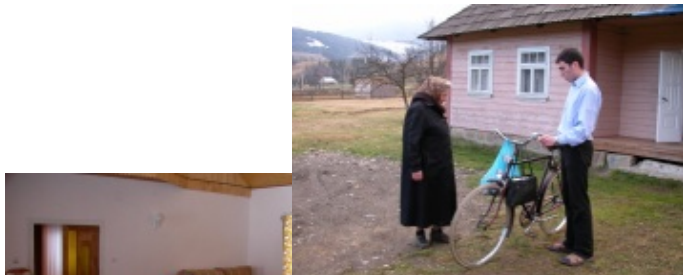
Ukraine



*Chainsaws,
Two-Wheel
Carts,
Hospital Beds,
Clothing &
Shoes,
Khmelnitzky,
Ukraine*



*Clothing & Footwear - Kharkov,
Ukraine*



*Clothing,
footwear and
many Bikes -
Carpathian
Village of
Steiche,
Ukraine*

*Faith Mission
Ukraine Pillow
Ministry*

*Joint effort with
Pillow Ministries
International*



Estonia



Faith Mission Sponsors an English Language Institute in Ukraine

(Submitted by Irene Loeppky)

Faith Mission is helping to sponsor a mission venture in Ukraine this summer. The English Language Institute Ukraine 2008 is a short term mission program which combines sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with English language teaching to students in Kharkov, Ukraine. This program was started in 2000 by Len Loeppky of Steinbach and was previously sponsored by the Steinbach Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church (2000 - 2005) and Steinbach Bible College (2006).

Between sixteen and twenty teachers and assistants will travel to Kharkov in early July, under the direction of Al Loeppky of Winkler,

Manitoba, to teach a three week English course to Ukrainian students. The students are mostly college age with English levels ranging from beginner to advanced. The teachers are predominantly from Manitoba. Teachers presently use the facilities of Kharkov National Economic University in the centre of Kharkov. With 1.6 million people, Kharkov is



Students at the English Language Institute in Kharkov, Ukraine

Ukraine's second largest city.

There are four English classes each day and one chapel style assembly. Almost all students come from nominal Orthodox or atheist backgrounds. Although attendance at the assembly is optional, seventy-five to ninety percent of the students attend. During the assembly, teachers share their personal faith stories and lead students in Christian praise and worship songs. The ELI team witnesses through sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, team unity, developing personal relationships with students, and exemplary Christian conduct.

Many teachers consider this a significant enough experience that they return year after year. Each year there are also a number of returning students.

The English Language Institute serves Ukrainian students through the combined efforts of the ELI volunteer group from North America, Faith Mission, and Taras Paslavskyi, the host in Ukraine. Paslavskyi directs the Providence Education Centre in Kharkov, an education centre which teaches courses (in English) in Bible,

English, and Social Studies. It also involves its students in an orphanage support ministry. Faith Mission has already been supporting Providence Education Centre through the shipping of books and photocopiers to Kharkov.

The English Language Institute Ukraine 2008 is pleased to work with Faith Mission to serve the Lord in Kharkov, Ukraine.



"Huge" photocopier being loaded into Container in Winkler MB, to be shipped to Kharkov, Ukraine

Tuchapy Update

Tuchapy is a village in the Carpathian Mountains (south-western Ukraine). We had reported about the Christian group in the village in a previous Newsletter. The group which is still quite small is presently meeting in a private home. However, it is a very small house, and the unbelievers are very reluctant to accept the invitation to meet in private home.

The Christians of this small group are very excited about their project. They have, with the help of Missionswerk FriedensBote in Germany purchased a suitable property and Faith Mission was able to fund part of the concrete foundation work. Bricks for the walls have also been purchased.

Construction work should commence in spring. The finished structure will be 24 ft. x 36 ft. Although this is



Peter Nastasiychuk preaching a sermon in a House Church in Tuchapy



New Church foundation in the Carpathian village of Tuchapy

not a large sanctuary, it will be much more spacious than where they are meeting now. The church sanctuary will be on the ground floor and the second floor will be home for a young, childless, Christian couple who are hoping to provide a home for 3 - 4 orphans. Every inch of space in this new building will be utilized.

The church group is also planning to use the property for different Christian activities which would include Bible Studies, DVBS, children's camps, youth activity centre, and more. This would also involve children from non-Christian homes from the municipality, or the surrounding villages.

The people of this village, just like many other mountain villages, have become very dear to our missionaries Peter and Elena Nastasiychuk. God has richly blessed many people in the area through the projects that were directed under Peter's leadership.

The cost to finish the walls and roof of the structure is approx. \$7000. If you would like to help with this project, please designate your donation for the **"Tuchapy Church."** \$\$\$\$

Urgent need to replace high mileage van!

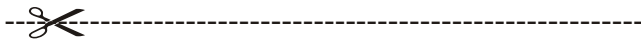


\$\$\$\$ Your HELP is needed \$\$\$\$

Our dear missionary friend in the Carpathian region of Ukraine, Peter Nastasiychuk, has put many thousands of kilometers on the VW van which was imported from Germany a number of years ago. Although the van has served the ministry very well, it needs to be replaced with a newer reliable vehicle which could cost approx. \$10,000. If you would like to assist with this very important mission project please designate your donation for "Peter's Van". Thank you and may God Bless as you support the work in His mission field.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote)

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I would like to receive the 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.....



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.
 Clothing may also be dropped off in the small white trailer at the south end of the warehouse building. This trailer is open 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.

Board of Directors

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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 - Heartland Credit Union
 Box 1060, Winkler, MB R6W 4B1
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