

Mission Newsletter



September - October 2008

Number 76

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? (Isa. 53:1)

Filled with astonishment and wonder, the prophet Isaiah cried out against the unbelief of the Jews. Years later the apostle John also applied this Scripture to the Jews when he said, "But though [Christ] had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?" (John 12:37, 38).

What would Isaiah say to our generation? Would he cry out again, "Lord, who has believed our report?"

Unbelief causes people to be cut off from God (Rom. 11:20). Countless millions hear the report of the gospel today, but how many really believe it?

How many lives are changed because they adhered to the gospel?

And why don't people believe the gospel? Has not the arm of the Lord been revealed to them? According to John, the arm of the Lord had been revealed to the Jews because Jesus did great miracles before them. They saw His great power, yet they still did not believe.

Just like the Jews, many today see and hear all about the power of God, yet they choose not to believe. If the Holy Spirit is not allowed to work that power in a person's life, that person will forever remain in unbelief. God will never force this issue with man.

Even we who believe the gospel should each ask ourself, "Have I experienced the divine power that goes with the Word of the gospel? Have I allowed the Holy Spirit to work in me with the Word so that I live the Word of God? Has the arm of the Lord been revealed in me and through me, and not just to me?"

As we consider these searching questions, let us, with David, cry out for understanding: "Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come unto thee ... quicken me, O Lord, according unto thy word" (Psa. 102:1; 119:107).

If we cry out to Him and let Him, He will reveal to us His arm of power and greatness

Sharing the Love of God in the Midst of Greatest Need



More on the Carpathian Flood

Article by Missionswerk FriedensBote Ukrainian Contact - Leonid Tkatshev who took a youth group from Kharkiv area into the flood-stricken area. Used by permission - Translated from Sept/Oct German Missions Nachrichten.

The need

No camera can do justice to the results of the tragedy. First of all, we recognize the grief in the eyes of the people; afterwards in their devastated houses and gardens. Fallen trees are strewn everywhere! There are piles of shrubbery and mountains of mud with corpses of domestic animals. The harvest is destroyed. Most villagers have no other source of income before the winter sets in. The destroyed streets and numerous landslides add to the desolation.

Today we can admire the peaceful and crystal clear rivers again and be astonished at the fact that they could destroy steel and concrete bridges and buildings. During those awful days and nights the people depended on themselves. Many parents took their children in their arms and fled up into the mountains.

In one house, the mother, together with her small children, knelt for prayer, before she left her house. The still non-believing husband screamed at them: "Do you have no fear of dying?!"

Quietly, the religious woman answered, "No, we want to bring our needs to the Lord first and then we will do what we are able to do." Then, in the darkness of the night, she and the children left the house under the pelting rain. It was a difficult trek up the slippery mountain terrain. In a few hours her house disappeared among the swelling mass of water. Chilled to the bones, soaking wet, this family was later rescued from their mountain refuge.

The help

After only a few days the Missionswerk FriedensBote truck, loaded with relief supplies reached the crisis area. Also, during the first days following the disaster, two containers with humanitarian aid from our sister mission "Faith Mission" in Canada arrived in Ukraine. Although their destination was to another region in Ukraine, the authorities were ready and very willing to readdress the container and change the Customs documents to the flooded Carpathian Mountain region. Ukrainian Christians distributed the relief goods not only in the local houses, but

also on the playgrounds, in schools, on parking lots and sports fields. In this way they proved to the outside world that they were no egoists from a certain cult or sect.

From the cash donations, the local Christian brothers bought potatoes, flour and sugar and distributed these supplies in remote villages where many inhabitants had lost everything. With impromptu services outdoors, or during the scheduled church services,



This school teacher lost everything in the flood. The Christians provided her with clothes and many other things. During the first church service she ever attended, she shared; not only about these precious gifts but also about a much greater gift she had received as a result of this. She was now included in the family of God! God had truly revealed His love to her

our choir sang and provided music. The visiting preachers comforted the people and encouraged them to look up to God no matter what the circumstances.

The beautiful melodies and the hearty condolences

deeply touched the people. Some of the listeners were converted, and God blessed them with his heavenly peace.

The results of the flood which affected so many will still be still visible for a long time. However, now many people know to whom they may express their needs and concerns.

Leonid Tkatshev

Dear mission friends, your support for the flood appeal has been overwhelming. We thank you for it and it is our hope that you will continue to support and pray for these people.

Here are some letters that Faith Mission received after the flood. Thanks again for your donations which made this possible. We also thank God for the perfect timing which made it possible to distribute our clothing in this area.



Translation:

A Thank You Letter to Faith Mission. - Canada
The administration, staff and students of Verkhovyna Special School of I-III levels express sincere gratitude for your humanitarian aid, for your support and understanding during the times of the flood which happened on July 23-27 2008.
Signed: Director of the school - O. Volyniuk



Thank you letter to Faith Mission - Friedensbote -Canada
A Thank you letter:
The staff and parents of Verkhovyna Children Educational Institute "Sonechko" (A Little Sun) thank Faith Mission Friedensbote for giving humanitarian aid because of the flood.
Signed: Vice-Director - Tetyana Korzhuk



Thank you letter to Canadian Friedensbote Mission Administration and staff of I-II level Bukovets School, member of the the Local State Counsel thank you for your help after the flood (24-27 of July 2008). May God bless you with health, long life and earthly success for your merciful deeds.
Signed: Director -Lesla K.P. & Head of the Local State Counsel - Molodyk T.K.



Humanitarian Aid from Germany and Canada being distributed on the church parking lot. Each family was also given a Bible.



Our Christian friends in the Republic of Georgia count it a privilege to be able to distribute humanitarian aid after the recent Georgia \ Russia war

How to Pack a Christmas Shoe Box Gift:

1. Find an empty shoebox or any box of this approximate size.
2. "Fill" the box with mittens, socks, underwear, school supplies, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, and small gifts or small toys (Please, no war toys or items that might easily break, leak, melt or spoil.). Add a Christmas card, note or picture of yourself, if you would like. Indicate on the outside of the box top whether the gift is for a boy or a girl and the appropriate age category: 5-8, 9-12, 13-16.
3. Place a rubber band around the box to hold the lid in place.
4. Deliver the box(es) to Faith Mission, 500 Cargill Road in Winkler.
5. Above all, pray that God will touch the life of every child who receives a shoebox gift.
6. Please have the Gift Boxes at Faith Mission in Winkler by November 1st.

More details are available if you call to the Faith Mission Office on Tuesday or Thursday.

Needs at Faith Mission

With winter coming we were thinking that if we put this in our news letter maybe there would be some of you out there that could lend us a hand with some duties. We have very many blankets piled up here from over the summer, which need to be taken apart and remade and new covers made for them. We also have very many jeans that need to be cut up into patches and sewn into blankets. There are also lots of patches that have already been cut and only need someone to sew them into blankets. There are also many patches that are cut up that are not jean-denim but other pant patches. If you could help us with any of this please come over to the Mission at 500 Cargill Road on Tuesday between 9:30am and 4:30pm. Or, you could stop in on Thursday when there is someone there from 1:00 pm till 5:00pm and from 7:00pm till 9:00pm. We have also been doing some sewing every other Monday from 9:00am till around 5:00pm for the last couple of years. If you would want to join us for a very rewarding day, call 325-4086 to find out which Monday we are working and come join us. It is rewarding because we are working together and sharing our time and talents and also encouraging one another at the same time. Maybe you would like to take home some sewing projects like sewing panties or T-Shirts. If there is anyway that you could help us get our piles smaller, that have piled up so much over the summer months, we would really appreciate it.

Then there is another thing that we are putting out for you the public. Although our automatic washer at Faith Mission has served us well for many years, we know that sooner or later it will give out. It has done very many loads of laundry for us without any problems. We have two ladies that do the laundry on a regular basis. The washer we have does not take very big loads so they are often staying behind because we are so often swamped with very much laundry. We would really like to buy a bigger washer so that we could wash larger loads at a time. This could possibly help the ladies to catch up with their job. Now please understand, this is not to say that we are encouraging anybody to bring us dirty clothes. By no means! We would really prefer that everyone bring their clothes nice and clean so we didn't even need a washer at all. But seeing as that has never been the case we thought we would ask for some donations to be designated for a new, larger washer that uses less water and less detergent. Could you help us in this way?

If you would like to help along in some other way, why not come on down to our warehouse and give us a hand on any Thursday afternoon from 1:00pm - 5pm and 7:00pm - 9pm. Faspas is always served at 3:00pm!

Another way you could plan on helping us is by coming in on a different evening with a group of friends, a Bible Study group, youth group or a ladies group. We are always in need of more volunteers as we have an abundance of clothes that are waiting to be sorted and baled! See you soon! ☘ ☘

Tragedy takes the Tkashev's only son

The blessed family of our co-worker in Ukraine, Leonid Tkatshev, is still grieving after a terrible tragedy. At the end of July, their only son, 17-year-old Ruslan, the joy and hope of the parents, died while he was picking apricots for the family. He was enjoying the summer holidays, when he slipped and fell about 6 meters. After approximately 40 minutes he succumbed to his internal injuries. He passed away with a prayer on his lips, in the arms of his weeping father, Leonid. The Tkatschevs have four young daughters.

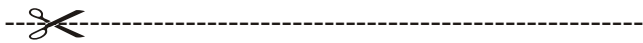
Leonid's family has become very special for Faith Mission. Leonid was responsible for booking all the Containers in Ukraine for many years. Let us continue to pray for them.



The Tkatshev family - taken in February 2008

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. If you would like to have a Faith Mission Director in your church for an oral or visual presentation, please contact the FM office.

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

Peter Penner (204) 325-8606 Jake Elias (204) 822-6063
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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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