

Mission Newsletter



FAITH MISSION

March - April 2010

Number 85

“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.” (1 Pet. 5:6-7 KJV)

We find in this Scripture two great things: a warning about pride and an exhortation to cast our problems upon the Lord.

The first issue Peter brought up was the attitude of humility. There's something in the heart of man that craves to be exalted. This one thing, perhaps more than others, has been the seedbed of difficulty within the human race. It is an attitude and spirit from Satan.

However, God told us if we walk in humility under His mighty hand, there will come a time when He will exalt us and we shall shine as the brightness of the sun (Acts 26:13).

But our exaltation will not come about by our telling the world how great we are. It will come only as we walk in humility and meekness. Jesus taught His disciples just before We left them that they were to be servants and ministers to others; they were to humble themselves before Him.

Then Peter said, *“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”* It's not proper for a child of God to worry. We should not be burdened down with the circumstances and difficulties of life. Yes, these things come (II Tim. 3:12), but we have the blessed assurance that Jesus cares for us and we can cast our burdens upon Him. His shoulders are broad. He has the strength, the knowledge, the wisdom, and the power to take care of everything. Jesus spoke these comforting words to His disciples: *“But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted”* (Matt. 23:11,12).

“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

Praise the Lord!



You are invited to the annual
Faith Mission
Fundraising
Soup & Pie Supper
Saturday, April 17th
From 5:00 to 7:30 pm at
Winkler Mennonite Church
(31 Willowdale Cres. - Winkler, MB)
Freewill Offering
All Proceeds going toward the ministry of Faith Mission



Our Monday Sewing Days

We are still working hard at getting lots of material cleaned up by sewing panties. Like I have written about in past Newsletters, we cut panties and smaller T-Shirts from the leftover material from T Shirts that have very ugly, undesirable pictures on them. This is a lot of work but thankfully the Lord has provided us with ladies that come help us faithfully every other Monday! We have had quite a few "new" friends show up to help and we are so very Thankful for that! Most of the time, we have only one lady serging all the panties. She gets as many as 30 pairs of panties serged in one day. Then there are often two ladies sewing on the elastic and they each get anywhere from twenty to twenty-five pairs done; sometimes even more. Then we have some ladies cutting the T-Shirts and panties. This is very different than cutting from a big piece of new material. They have to find the right size to fit the piece of fabric that they have. We make all sizes of panties; from children's size one to a ladies' size large. The T-Shirts usually end up being smaller sizes that we can cut from adult sizes.

There are always some ladies working on recycled bedding; sitting and ripping apart old comforters and pillows. We have been swamped with this kind of stuff this last winter like never before. The fiberfill or wool inside the blankets and pillows is still very good but most of them are very dirty so first they have to be washed. After the ladies have ripped the comforters and pillows apart, someone takes the fiberfill or wool home to card it. This is then turned into many 'new' pillows or the big bundles of soft, nicely carded wool and fiberfill is brought back to Faith Mission and someone else takes it home to make blankets. Some of these ladies are 80 plus years old but are still working hard serving the Lord in different ways.

We would really appreciate it if you bring us your old blankets and pillows that need to be redone if you could wash them, or even open them up and have the wool or fiberfill carded before you bring it to us. If everybody would do their own we would not have as much work with them. We are often overloaded with this sort of work.

On these Mondays, we call our "Sewing Days," there will usually be someone cutting up worn out jeans. This is another area where we find that things just keep piling up. We seem to never get to the bottom of the pile, and then there is another big pile of jeans that need cutting up, to be sewn into blankets. There are some ladies that have been sewing jean blankets for us and that is worth so much. Thank-you very much! I would just like to say to those of you that would like to and even those of you that are already sewing jean blankets, don't ever buy jeans anywhere for these kinds of blankets. We have more than you'll need to keep you busy. Of course we would want you to bring the blankets that you sew out of the jean-patches from Faith Mission back to Faith Mission. This would not mean that you could use these jeans for your personal use. We recently shipped several boxes of jean-patches to the ladies at the Drug and Alcohol Rehab Center at Kharkiv, Ukraine.

We also have a lady that always works with the fleece. Fleece sweaters that are worn out and have holes or have those ugly pictures on them will be cut up and the good material is cut into squares. Once there are enough blocks she lays out the blocks and labels them for each blanket and then sews the blanket tops together. Then another lady takes these tops home and sews the backing onto them; she also sews many other blankets for Faith Mission.

Then there are several ladies that end up working at emptying and sorting through all the items that get thrown into the boxes under the sorting tables; Rags, Recycle and Mending, Jeans, and Laundry. There is always so much work!

Another area we never run out of is the clothes that have to be washed. You would think people would wash all their clothes before they expect someone else to wear it, right! WRONG! We have a couple of ladies that faithfully do the laundry for Faith Mission and we are so very thankful for that! A ladies serving group supplies us with laundry detergent. Praise the Lord! Often the stains that are in the clothes don't even come out when they are washed! Laundry is another thing that is usually done on our sewing Mondays as well because it seems like this is an area that always seems to fall behind even though the ladies sometimes take bags full of clothing home to wash as well.

We would welcome even more ladies and girls to come out on our "Sewing Days" every other Monday. There would be plenty of work for many more of you. Our next "Sewing Day" will be April 19th from 9:00 to 5:00. The day has been thrown off somewhat because of Easter Monday holiday.



In the 4/2009 Mission Newsletter we featured a brief story about Jewgenij



Sewerin, a Russian lumberjack who was attacked by a bear and was critically injured. It was through this that Jewgenij came to believe in Jesus Christ. Ten years ago he underwent several complicated sculptural surgeries in Switzerland. Generous donations made in 2009 have made it possible for Jewgenij to make a “new face” mask which he finally got in February, 2010. A very heartfelt “Thank you!” from Jewgenij, his wife, Missionswerk FriedensBote and Faith Mission.

Camping in the Carpathians!



(Here are a few excerpts from some of the many letters of thanks we received from children of unbelieving families) (Taken from German

Missions Nachrichten March-April 2010)

“My parents are alcoholics. When I was eight years old, some Christians took me to camp. Since then Jesus has been my best friend. I also made many wonderful friends there. We enjoyed singing and playing together and learned many Bible verses. After a quarrel we were taught to apologize and to pray with each other. I have learned to respect my parents just the way they are.

In the meantime, my mom accepted Jesus Christ into her heart and now we pray together for my dad. During the last years I have been working at camp as a group leader with the smallest children. The Lord is so good to us!” Maria Wasiljewa / Jakutsk

“At camp I can eat plenty of tasty things. I simply like everything at camp. I would always like to stay here.” Wanja / Western Ukraine



“The Christian camp is my only good recollection from childhood. I was 14 years old when I first

came to camp. Now I am a camp group leader myself. For me, camp time is no rest, but a very important service I enjoy. During this brief time at camp we try to introduce as many children to Jesus as we can.” Jewgenij Rufow / Jakutsk

Today Jewgenij is 22 years old. He was raised in foster homes because his mother is an alcoholic and his father suffers from severe schizophrenia. Had he not met the Christians at camp, his life would quite likely have turned out to be as depressed and hopeless as that of his parents.

(Recent Letter from Ukraine)

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Dear Mission Friends!

We have distributed about half of your shoebox gifts. Mostly we give them to orphans or half-orphans in orphanages and homes they live in. We visited an orphanage with 70 children and told them about the importance of reading the Bible, choosing the right way in life. We also told them about the children we met in your schools while visiting Canada several years ago. We told them that the children of Canada are giving their hand of friendship. Even the tiniest gift is a big thing and great joy for a child here in the Carpathians. They were very surprised that somebody from a faraway country is thinking of them, children they don't know personally.



We also visited a family with five children. Their dad died almost a year ago. You can see me and them in this picture. At the time we came, their mother wasn't home. She left them by themselves, even though the oldest girl is just twelve and the youngest is one year old. This family lives in just one room.

After the visit we took the children and went to help their mother. She had gone out to purchase a bed in the local town. We took her to her home and had a good visit. She promised to come to the church next Sunday.

We also visited a family with 15 children. We brought a bale of clothing for them and two blankets from Canada. (We got 18 bales of clothing and 5 blankets out of your container). I also promised to bring some more blankets for a family with 5 children we got to know just yesterday.

In one of the videos you can see a boy with his hair uncut. I met him a week ago. He is a total orphan – no mom, no dad. He was discovered by a local policeman who found him in an outdoor staircase of one of the houses where he lived and stayed for a night. He brought him to a child care center where the boy can live for three months. After that period he doesn't know what he is going to do. Sure, we gave him clothing and shoes. I've spent a lot of time with him this week. I told him about God and His love to him. I did what I could, but I don't know what will happen next. The boy understands the importance of the Bible, asked me many questions. He is 18 now and he spent all his life in

different orphanages.

After I give out the remaining gifts I will send you more pictures.

May God bless you and your families!

Peter N.

In our previous Mission Newsletter we featured the story of 9-year-old Kolja, who wished for two Bibles and one New Testament for his birthday gifts. His father, although not living with his family, mentioned to Kolja that he should rather wish for a bicycle. In his rage, he ended up not getting his son any gift. Thanks to the support of our mission friends Kolja has now received his bicycle.



..... Seeing we are thinking about Bicycles!.....

As we have reported in the past, we have a local couple who have faithfully repaired our bikes for many years. Replacing parts is getting quite costly. If you would like to help us with our bike repairs, please mark your donations for "bike parts." Replacing the tires, cables, chains, bearings or whatever it takes totals from \$1500 to \$2000 per year. This might fix 300 - 500 bikes! Not bad!

Maybe you would like to fix some bikes in your garage this summer??? Please contact us!



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.

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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.

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