

Mission Newsletter



FAITH MISSION

September - October 2010

Number 88

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. (Psa. 23:5, 6)

You and I live in a world opposed to God. Even in Christian North America, society by and large doesn't understand Jesus Christ. In essence, they don't understand us either. We're surrounded by enemies - spiritual, demonic enemies. Satan wants us destroyed - he steals, kills, and destroys (John 10:10).

But in the midst of this wicked world, the psalmist David says that God will prepare a table before us in the presence of our enemies. He will be our protector and take care of us.

God will also anoint our heads with oil. Oil represents healing - an anointing that flows down upon us and gives joy. In James 5:14, the Bible exhorts us to pray for the sick, anointing them with oil. This oil, this anointing of God, breaks the yokes of the devil's bondage (Isa. 61). The child of God has been set free from sin and death through the anointed gospel of Jesus Christ (Gal. 5:1).

David then said that the Lord causes his cup to run over. God gives us so much that we have no room to contain it. Have you ever felt the joy of the Lord filling your heart until it overflowed? That's what the psalmist was talking about. The Bible says, "In thy presence is fulness of joy" (Psa. 16:11). We need to let our joy flow out and touch others for the Lord.

Goodness and mercy, claimed David, will follow us continuously everywhere we go, all the days of our lives. The goodness of the Lord never runs out; His mercies are new every morning (Lam. 3:23). And with the problems and difficulties we often face in this life, we need God's daily mercies!

David looked forward to that day when he would be with the Lord for eternity. We all look forward to that moment when sin will be finished, sorrow and heartache will be over, death will be swallowed up, and there will be no more enemies. We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

Evangelizing in the Villages

The following two stories are translated and printed with permission from the Sept/Oct 2010 German Missions Nachrichten

Evangelist Alexander Dribnochod lives in the Kharkov area. He writes to us: We visit more than 250 villages in Kharkov area alone, weekly telling these people the glad Message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Others have been visiting another 300 villages in and around the surrounding area in Ukraine.

Here are some examples of our work:

Even the police do missionary work ...

The services in the villages are almost always held in private homes. We have renovated old, empty, small dwelling houses into small churches in three different places. Your support was very important to us. In one village the orthodox priest opened up his church for us to have our services in. This is an exceptional case; as a rule the Orthodox Church would have nothing to do with our missionary activities.

In the small town of Tores a local police officer has



Alexander and Vera Dribnochod sing during an evangelistic service in one of the villages. Alexander provides accompaniment on his piano accordion.

provided the Christians with his former office building. Only one office in the building is still officially being used by the police officer of the district.

One day this policeman gathered all alcoholics, drug addicts, homeless and criminals of his district. He warned them once more about thefts and other criminal actions. At the end of his talk he said to them: "What would be best for you is to visit the Christians in this building and for you to change your lives. Otherwise I will take care of it that you will be put in prison for your criminal offenses."

Better than beer

It was a warm, sunny day! The Christians of one of the newly assembled congregations had gathered in a tent. The congregation was studying the words from John 7:37:

"... If any man thirst, let him come to me, and drink."

On one very warm day, some young people came to the tent and asked whether they could buy beer or other drinks there. They got something much better than that what they had asked for.

"For the first time, I was among people who did not get angry."

Through your financial help we were able to have a four to five day summer camp for these new converts. Where we taught them how we should live as a Christian.

One of the ladies said afterwards: "this was the first time I was among people that are Believers and I observed how they begin and end their day. They work together without using the usual dirty language. I make up my mind that I want to try to be just like them.

"Dear mission friends, our evangelistic work in the villages began 13 years ago and has developed fast with the help of all of us working together. Thanks for your good cooperation and financial support. However, the "the field of the Lord" is very big and still requires much more work. Unfortunately, the economic crisis has also complicated our mission work very much. However, doors are still open for the Gospel.

We thank all our mission friends for their effective prayers and for the continual support to us so we can continue by the spreading of the word of God in the Ukraine. Please pray for us. *Alexander D.*



God has really blessed us with the service of this old VW van. It has driven thousands of kilometers taking the evangelistic teams through the Ukrainian villages.

What Sacrifice?

The Introduction

After the explosion of the nuclear reactor in Chernobyl (1986), bus driver, Vladimir Reschetnik had to evacuate the people from the city. The entire area was contaminated with the deadly radioactive materials. At that time he and his wife, Tatiana, were not yet Christians. Several hundred of the bus drivers who were engaged in this rescue operation as well, have already passed away, Some already died shortly after it happened.

Soon after the disaster, Vladimir also became seriously ill and moved to Moldava with his family. It was there that the couple came to the saving knowledge of faith in Jesus Christ.

After his conversion Vladimir felt the growing internal call of God to move back to the contaminated area. His state of health was not that important to him any more, because he knew there were many people dying without experiencing peace with God.

The bloody civil war in Moldavia forced the Reschetnik family to escape the country. God had protected them, from sure death, many times. They took this as clear confirmation of God's guiding hand.

The Unselfishness of Love

In 1992 the Reschetniks came back to Dymier, a city only 50 km away from Chernobyl. The deadly radioactive contamination was not as destructive there as it is in the fenced in area, the 30 kilometer zone. The desolate and sparsely populated area surrounding Chernobyl became a mission field for Vladimir and Tatiana.

For 18 years, Vladimir and Tatiana, with several other Christian brothers and sisters, spread the Word of God weekly in more than 30 villages of that region. They, as well as their children, suffer as a result of the radioactive contamination, just as many other people in the area do. Vladimir and Tatiana have given the concern about their safety over to God. For the unbelievers, this is the best witness of the genuine love of God.

Two Time Bombs

On the 9th of June, 2010 Tatiana suffered the first stroke, which paralyzed her right side. In an extremely critical state she was brought to the intensive care unit. A special clinic in Kiev later discovered a blood clot in the blood vessel near the brain which seriously impeded the blood flow to the brain. According to medical statistics this condition is a direct result of exposure to radioactive



The empty buildings in the desolate ghost towns of the Chernobyl, Ukraine region .

contaminatio
n. After a time of
rest Tatiana
suffered her
second stroke at
the end of
August. Once
again, the
unconscious
Tatiana was
taken to the
neurological
ward of the
hospital. Her
situation is very difficult to treat because she is allergic to almost all medication.



Vladimir and Tatiana Reschetnik with their children and three grandchildren. (Today Tatiana is paralyzed.)

Tatiana has regained some movement to her paralyzed limbs. She is also learning to talk again. Her doctor does not want her to laugh, cry or become emotionally excited. The doctors expect a minimum rehabilitation two year period.



The believers from Kovel and Kharkov support the Christians in Chernobyl in their mission service.

Tatiana's illness is a bitter blow for many villagers of Chernobyl area. They really miss her visits, her smile and encouragement, the absence of her encouraging words and simply the warmth and radiance which she emitted.

For Vladimir, the evangelistic work has become much more difficult too. Tatiana was a very big help in his many responsibilities.

There is probably only one answer to the question; why did the Reschetniks not move away from the deadly zone which is a ticking time bomb for their own health? They simply know that for many unsaved people in the

area, another time bomb is ticking; one that has much more serious, longer-term consequences. In fact, it will eternity determine their eternal home. The Reschetniks and their assistants would like to save as many souls as they possibly can.



Vladimir & Tatiana, "better days" very happy to meet us at the conference in Bilya Zerkva, Ukraine Nov. 2008. (Jake Elias)

Christmas Gift-Box Reminder!!

Yes, it's a great time to pick up good deals on Back-to-School Sales and start packing Gift Boxes! Take full advantage of these great deals!

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.

(You may think they won't respond anyhow but we have had letters that came from those children that received their gift box).

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 gift box.**
6. Please have the Gift Boxes at Faith Mission in Winkler by October 26th. We hope to load container Oct.28th.

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

Faith Mission Bicycle Ministry must go on.....

We, at Faith Mission would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Mr & Mrs David S Wiebe for the many years that they have volunteered their time and energy at Faith Mission. Due to health reasons, they are no longer able to volunteer in this area. The Wiebes have also spent countless hours shopping for parts and repairing bicycles for our mission, preparing them for shipping overseas.

**Thank you from all of us at Faith Mission, Missionswerk FriedensBote in Germany and all the people riding on "your" bicycles on the streets through the villages of Ukraine, Georgia, Estonia, and Moldova!
We will all miss your service.**

If you or someone you know might be interested in volunteering in this part of our ministry, please do not hesitate to give us a call. Parts such as tires, bearings, etc., will be supplied by Faith Mission. We really need someone to service the bicycles before we begin shipping them in spring.

If you would like to hear a detailed report about the ongoing Faith Mission work in Ukraine, please contact us for an oral or visual presentation in your church.

Please consider Faith Mission in your year-end giving. Tax Deductible receipts will be issued in January 2011.
*Have a Blessed Thanksgiving
 From all of us at Faith Mission*

Faith Mission Bale Banks



If you would like to use these "Bale Banks" for your children, Sunday School class, or even for yourself, please let us know. We will gladly send you a supply.



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.

Banking Information - Access Credit Union
 Box 1060, Winkler, MB R6W 4B1
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