

Mission Newsletter



January - February 2012

Number 96

“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the, true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:23, 24)

When Jesus spoke of spiritual worship, He was drawing a contrast to the old Mosaic Law, which emphasized ritual and custom. The redeeming work of Jesus signaled the beginning of a new covenant and the end of the legalism which the Law of Moses imposed upon the people.

Jesus said that the time had come for worship to be offered from the heart. This worship of the Father “in spirit and in truth” had been prophesied long before. Jeremiah 31:33 says: “But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

Jesus said, “God is a Spirit.” The only way one can truly worship Him and enjoy real fellowship with Him is to worship from the heart, with one's spirit. God, as a spiritual being, desires this type of worship from His children - one that is not born out of legalistic requirements but is offered from a heart filled with love and adoration.

Serving God, for some people, is a cold, heartless formality. This is not to mean that the loudness of your voice somehow denotes the quality of your experience, but the Bible does say, “Clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph” (Psa. 47:1). In other words, a warm and loving Christian heart will reveal itself in worship.

Paul, in writing to Timothy, said, “I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath or doubting” (I Tim. 2:8). David, a man after God's own heart, “danced before the Lord with all his might” (II Sam. 6:14). He also talks about worshiping God with musical instruments (Psa. 150).

Many try to worship God with their intellect, hoping to impress Him with their eloquent words. Others try to worship Him with their abilities and talent. Neither of these approaches will work. You must worship God “in spirit and in truth,” and that means from the heart. This is what God desires.

Praise the Lord! Finally... A House of Prayer in Polyanky



Another village has a Place of Worship...

A letter from Peter N.

Dec. 13, 2011

Warm Christian greetings.....

First of all I would like to greet you all with warmest Christmas wishes. Trusting that you all have a wonderful time with your families.

Friends, I have very good news! We finally bought a little house on the village of Polyanky. We have been praying for this for almost three years. We have been looking for all the different options. But, God was preparing this old house for us. This house has been for sale for all these three years but the price was too high. Finally the seller reduced the price more than 50%. The price was still higher than what we could afford. However, with the money you brought us in 2008 and friends from Germany giving us the remainder, we were able to purchase the property. We registered the house three weeks ago as the Church of Storozhynets. The local brothers agreed to do that because that is a very good option for us.

The price was high because of the flat, one-half hectare of land around the house. It's located in the center of the village, right by the main road; much like the church at Staische.

Another interesting fact is that our neighbors happen to be Jehovah's Witnesses. They have services with about 100 people. I believe, God wanted us to be here.

The house has only 2 rooms. We have started some renovations. The house has been vacant for a number of years. We are pushing to get it ready to use for children's meetings which we planned to have during our Christmas holidays.

We have been working in this village for about three years now and always had summer camps there. We averaged about 50 campers every year. This village and Dovgopole are close together. We are planning to begin regular church services there in January.

..... This place is a great gift for us. God showed us how He cares for us. We are very grateful to our friends from Canada and now we have one more House of Prayer for new people to meet in. Every soul that will be saved in this village is worth so much more than the investment.

May God bless you and your work. We pray for you every day. Please, pray for the people in Polyany.

See you in the Carpathians!

Peter N.

Another Letter from Ukraine.....

(*Remember, Ukrainian Christmas is celebrated Jan 7th)
Jan 21, 2012

Outside it is warm and it is 2012. With this New Year comes Christmas. The child in Bethlehem brought the people a blessing and peace on earth. Christmas is truly a holiday, happiness, light, warmth and the gift of love. However, the world has so many problems, unsaved people and evil things going on. Mankind needs us Christians to show them love, warmth and that we care about them. This year, we, together with the help of Faith Mission, were able to give the poor, needy, unsaved people, a small token of love by giving them some material help.

A small group of Christians went to a village called Volene. The village has an institution for sick children who have been abandoned by their parents. They range in age from 10-35 years. This place is 100 km from our church. We took along the Faith Mission Christmas boxes, and some other gifts. After praying for the Lord's blessings, we were on our way. When we came to the institution we saw a high fence all around the building. To us it looked like we had come to a jail. When we entered the facility, the mothers and grandmothers in our group, ranging in age from 45 - 60, were so shocked at what they saw; tears rolled down their cheeks. In this institution there were 60 crippled, forgotten children. The government claims that children with this illness won't live past 35 years old, so they "take care" of them till they pass away. The government gives a small sum of money

per child to the institution per year. This money will buy a pair of pants, 2 shirts, 1 sheet, 1 pillow, a pair of shoes and a little something else. Our mind cannot even begin to fathom this at all! Many beds have to be changed many times a day. Of these 60, 20 are bedridden, crippled, mentally handicapped and disabled. But everyone is treated equally as if they are all the same. Many of these children have never had a piece of candy in their hand. When they do get a wrapped candy they eat the candy together with the wrapper. The workers told us to unwrap the candy and then give it to them so they could eat it. This year the government cut the amount of money they gave to the institution in half. The personnel in the institution are very unhappy with this cut and don't know how this will work. More and more, they depend on donations that people will give. It is extremely hard to see people in this situation. Their eyes gleam with thankfulness as they stretch out their hands to receive these small gifts. The ladies sang a few songs, spent some precious time with these young people and just showed them they were loved.

The next day a group of youth took some of the Christmas Boxes and went to another children's home/school in the village of Zaboloty. Here they already knew us and they were anxiously waiting for us. The youth sang songs and recited some poems. The children as well as the teachers and employees from the home listened attentively. These children also have never gotten the love from their parents that they deserved. Some children were also handicapped and didn't understand even the simplest things in life. They appreciated the big gifts we brought them. Altogether they shouted out their "THANK YOU"! Their faces radiated their thankfulness. Their thank you came from their hearts.

One of the boys was hugging a stuffed cat. He came to us with tear-filled eyes. Maybe he remembered how he could have had a real live cat to hug and love at home. However, he could not remember his Mom or his Dad or that he had ever been loved by either of them because his parents were living deep in sin.

Here is the picture for you to paint in your mind, these children wait for people to give them gifts and show them love, so that they may have a little glimpse of a "normal" life. The teachers and the employees don't get nearly enough love and caring from others themselves that they know how they can give these special children a more normal life.



After seeing all this suffering it made me think of the reward that is waiting for those people that have voluntarily taken the time and given of their money to buy the things that are packed into these Christmas Boxes. It provided so much joy in the lives of these children and grownups that are in such dire need of love and help. The Words of Jesus came to my mind, "... thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matthew 25:21b

May the Lord's blessings be over you, who are doing this work for others. Those of you that allow yourselves to be used by our Heavenly Father.

Pastor of Vefaneya - Kharkiv Region

.....Uzbekistan



Prayers work!

(names abbreviated to protect their identity)

Last year, three uniformed policemen and seven officers in civilian clothes forced their entry into a home in the city of Fergana, Uzbekistan. The young Umur... family's Saturday morning visit with their guest, Brother R M was rudely interrupted.

The landlord, brother M., asked the uninvited guests for the reason of their action and asked them for identification. The policemen quickly responded by brutally twisting his hands behind his back and threatened him with other repressive measures.

Brother M, who suffers from hypertension, collapsed. The doctor was called, diagnosed him with hyper-tensive crisis, caused by a nervously conditioned collapse, and then drove away.

The policemen searched all the rooms in the small flat and confiscated a Bible and a new testament. "To justify" their action, they procured a complaint from the town district chairperson, that the married couple, and their guest, had exercised "missionary activity forbidden among the Muslims".

Brother M. had already been punished in 2010 for the possession of 20 different Christian books. He was charged with 10 month wages (about \$265 Canadian). At that time the books were confiscated and destroyed. Brother M, his wife Di and their guest Brother R M were threatened with harsh sentences. However, praise the Lord, the prayers and several appeals to the government were not in vain. The procedure was dropped.

... and God is not quiet

On the 3rd of January 20 men (including 15 policemen) entered the city of Dscharkurgan (Surchandarja region), barging into the home of Christian, Schokir R. The reason for their raid was apparently "to search for a stolen television set".

The police rudely twisted brother Schokir's hands

Please Pray for us.....

behind his back and dragged him from the apartment. Three police officers, Bachrom, Rusi, and Bobo escorted brother Schokir to the police station. They took turns insulting him with vulgar words, whipped his body, his head and his face. They strangled him, wrongfully accused him of an unsolved murder and tried to force him to betray his religious brothers and sisters.

Sister Ljudmila S was humiliated and insulted by the policemen. Two books in the Uzbek language were confiscated. These precious books were written by familiar authors Joni and John Bunyan.

Ljudmila asked her torturers: "Do you not fear God? He will not leave your actions unpunished."

A policeman answered, laughing: "What? Are you a prophetess?"

Four hours later the interrogation was interrupted when the police station received a call about a serious car accident. One of the passengers had died at the scene.

The persecution of the Christians in Dscharkurgan is on the increase. Authorities are constantly initiating new laws and penalties against them. Besides, Christians are also faced with disgrace and slander by their still non-believing siblings and relatives. This leads to many family relationships being negatively affected and often ruined.

Let us pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in Uzbekistan, so that God will give them courage and strength to remain true to Him.

(Translated & printed with permission from German Missions Nachrichten Jan\Feb 2012)

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." —Matthew 5:10-12

Update on the home-front.....

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for making 2011 another wonderful year for Faith Mission. In spite of the many challenges which came with being 'overloaded' with clothes for so long, we have finally been able to clean out the storage container and managed to fit all the bags into our inside bins. We have really been blessed with many extra groups that came in from the beginning of November till now. It has been a great help in many ways. We cleaned up a lot of clothes which resulted in us being able to ship more containers of aid to the people who desperately need it. THANK YOU for all your help! Words can not express how much it is appreciated!

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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.



February 3rd to 5th, 2012
Church of the Rock
1287 BUFFALO PL
Winnipeg, Manitoba

2012 Exhibitor List

2 Equal 2 Canada Inc. (F-02) Box 1395, Atholville, AB T1S 2S2 (888) 776-8730, www.2equal1.com	Faith Academy - Philippines (A-C4) PO Box 2016, 0706, Makati City, Manila, Philippines (011) 6321-440-8000 www.fai.academy.ph	GNP (F-A3) 840y 21 - 5155 Spectrum Way, Mississauga, ON L4W 5M1 (888) 457-8010, www.gnf.ca
Accelerated Christian Education Canada (CH-G4) Box 1300, Portage la Prairie, MB R1H 2H9, (800) 970-7226, www.acecanada.net	Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. (F-04), Box 34, Winkler, MB R6W 4A4, (204) 325-5446, www.faimission.ca	One Mission Society - Canada (F-03) 293 Wellington St. N. Suite 132, Toronto, ON L3R 0E7 (905) 704-7077, www.omscanada.org

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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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