

# Mission Newsletter



**FAITH  
MISSION**  
FriedensBote Inc

January - February 2014

Number 107

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*The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy,  
O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works  
of thine own hands. (Psa. 138:8)*

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Those who serve the Lord should know that God is performing a good work in their lives, molding and shaping them into the vessels He desires them to be. David said, *"The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me."* In other words, God will not take us partway and then leave us stranded. He will finish the work He has begun in our lives.

We often allow ourselves to be weighted down by things that really don't affect us. We even worry and fret over potential problems, even though God said, *"Be careful for nothing"* (Phil. 4:6). God knows what we need, and He orders all things for our welfare. Romans 8:28 is still true: *"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose."* If we will trust God to take care of us, we will be free from the anxiety that plagues the nonbeliever.

Jesus said, *"If God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?"* (Matt. 6:30)

Though Jesus used the word *"clothe,"* His was a more far-reaching truth: If God watches over the plant and animal kingdoms, He will surely provide for the needs of His beloved children.

David said, *"Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever."* Even though we may do our best to serve the Lord Jesus Christ faithfully, sometimes we make mistakes. But God does not forsake us because of our weaknesses. Rather, He forgives and then imparts strength that we may not fall back, or even remain stationary, but continue to move forward in the Spirit. God is merciful, and He helps us to run the race that is set before us (Heb. 12:1).

Knowing that the good which is accomplished in us is the result of God's work, David prayed, *"Forsake not the works of thine own hands."* The strength that we receive from God through the Holy Spirit enables us to grow in holiness. We have this comforting truth: Those whom God loves, He loves to completion. 🍁

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## Please Help! We need Clothing and Volunteers

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We need your help! Our bins have been very low for a number of months. In fact we have been working with a very limited supply of clothing for much of last year. We have only shipped a total of seven 40 foot containers in 2013. That is considerably less than we have shipped for many years. We are not sure what people are doing with their excess clothing! Is everybody wearing it till it is not worth bringing to our mission? I'm sure that is not the case. Whatever the case, please reconsider where your clothing is going and maybe encourage your friends to bring their excess to the Faith Mission warehouse too.

## Please Pray for the 2013 - 14 Christmas Gift Project.....



This photo shows a stack of Christmas Gift Boxes waiting to be loaded into the Overseas Container. We Loaded 300 Gift Boxes into the container which was loaded and shipped on October 24th and another 321 on November 21st.

Although the Gifts from last Christmas were only distributed in the middle of summer, they were still much appreciated when they were finally opened. We hope and pray that this

year's Christmas Gifts will still bring much joy and blessing to everyone who receives one whenever it might be.



A needy family posing with their Faith Mission Christmas Gift Box. Thank you for showing God's love in this way!

### Recent News from Ukraine:

Two Christmases!

Both children and adults were waiting for Christmas. It takes us back to the story, which is 2000 years old. The children remind us of our childhood; it brought us a lot of joy when we received Christmas gifts. God sent His greatest Gift to the earth for all the people who have lived or will live in future. The price of this Gift never goes down in price. It is Eternal as God is Eternal; this Gift is invaluable, not overcome through the centuries. Moreover,

He is proposed to all those who are alive. Jesus Christ took on a human body to communicate with us. All people were born to die but as Christians we were born to live.

Preparations for the holidays began quite awhile before the holidays started. We wanted to share the joy of Christmas with as many of the children and adults as possible. We wanted to tell them how much God loves all of us and how valuable we are.

God prepared gifts through our friends from the West (Germany) and Canada. Two local welfare organizations from Verkhovyna and Kosiv – about 30 people – personally invited people from many of the villages to our churches, Community halls and schools. So, we had meetings in Verkhovyna, Rivnya, Tuchapy, Polyanky. In some places, we had them right on the streets if the weather permitted.

This year we had guests from Kiev and FriedensBote in Germany. Alexander and Misha shared many words of comfort and hope for all those who were present at the services.

God also took care of weather. It felt more like springtime than like Christmas. If it had been cold, we would not have been able to meet with so many people. We had no snow, and God's blessings filled our hearts and the hearts of the local people from the Carpathian Mountains.

We did not have enough time for so many meetings during the Ukrainian Christmas week of January 7th, so we decided to have two Christmases this year. We celebrated Christmas from Dec 25th till Jan 8th. In total, we had 19 services and meetings. There were about 1200 children and 400 adults present at these meetings. We had never met with so many people in such a short period of time. The people were all very surprised that somebody from as far away as Canada is thinking of them and wants to bring joy to their homes and hearts. However, all thanks goes to our Great and Almighty God. It is by His Mercy and Grace that we are His children and are called into this ministry.

On the 25th, 26th, and 27th of December we had services with children from several very poor families - families where parents are alcoholics and many children are born with disabilities.

In the welfare social center of Kosiv, we brought some Christmas cheer to more than 200 children and about 130 adults. There was no space for an apple to fall, as we say here in Ukraine. The people were very attentive to everything that was shared. Just by looking into their face, we knew their life was difficult. They needed God in their life! After the service, the director of this center said that he had never seen so many people in that building.

We had two services there on Dec 25th. The first service was for children and their parents and the second one was for the disabled and old people. Then we shared about the 'From Heart To Heart' program with these 70 people and gave them the Christmas gifts from the mission.

On Dec 26 we had 160 children from many mountain villages in the Verkhovyna church. Some children were transported to our church with school buses. After the service, we had a Christmas lunch. These events surprised many people, including the authorities of the Verkhovyna region. Something they couldn't do was done by God's people – you and us.

The following day we had a service for seniors in our church. Again we had a Christmas lunch and distributed gifts from Faith Mission.

On the 28th we had meetings with the children of Zamagora



village and Golovy. We had services in the local community halls. Then on the 30th & 31st we had a winter camp with the children of Grynyava village. This is one of the most remote villages in the mountains. Thank God, even those children were able to hear why Jesus was born.

Jan 3-4. We had a camp in Verkhovyna church building. On the 5th again we had 140 children and some adults.

Also, on Jan 3, we had a first meeting with the people of village Bookovets. There were about 65 children and their parents. Our guests from FriedensBote preached there.

On Jan 4 our very small church in Polyanky was full of children. We were so glad to see the happy faces of those people and their children with the Christmas gifts. Some of them had to walk for over an hour just to get there. That same

evening, we had a meeting in the local crisis center. It was more like a family gathering as we were sitting and had a wonderful fellowship. We visited sick people in their rooms where they live. We were especially concerned about the woman that you can see in our picture with three children. One of them was just recently born.



She has the baby in her arms on the photo. Her husband threw her out of the house and her parents had died many years ago. So, we are looking for an apartment for her to live in.

On Jan 5, our Rivnya church was full of children. There were about 80 of them. After the service, we visited a home for the elderly. This meeting was really special. Instead of seeing happy faces, we see anger, bitterness and sadness. No hope for the future, broken hearts, complete emptiness, resentment for



their children that brought them to this retirement home. Maybe the picture will help you read what was in their eyes. "Dear Dads and Moms", are the words I used to open the

meeting. Those were words they had not heard for a long time, maybe couldn't remember hearing them before. "There is hope for you. You need not fear death but look forward to eternal life of glory. Just believe in God, in fact Jesus died for you. You need to ask for forgiveness and receive that blessed hope". I could see these words weren't easy for them to comprehend. They thought their lives were over and they gave up their dreams and future. I could see their sincere tears. We need to pray for these forgotten people, God hasn't forgotten them.

On Jan 6 about 60 children gathered right on the street by a school. It was a warm winter-spring day. There was a wonderful view of the mountains from the place where we were gathered. Our Christmas songs could be heard by many people who lived nearby.

Right before Christmas on Jan 6, a few orthodox families invited us into one of their homes where they gathered. We had a three hour discussion about Jesus Christ, eternity and what God expects from us.

On Jan 7 the church in Tuchapy was also full with 50 adults and many children. Some of the adults came without



their children for the first time. Then on the 8th we had a service in Krasnoillya in the village community hall.

Also we had services in Zelene, Krasnyk and Staische. We are so grateful to God for all our friends who helped us to have these services and meetings in the Carpathians. So, this year we had two Christmases to give us enough time to meet about 1600 people during all these days. We were able to give gifts to all the children, praise the Lord! We still hear Christmas carols...

Peter - The Carpathians, Ukraine 2013-1014

## News Release:

### From the Faith Mission Board meeting:

**A decision was made at the last FM Board meeting that we would like to recruit one or two new directors for the Board. If you reside in Southern Manitoba and feel that this is what the Lord inspires you to do, please contact us as soon as possible. We feel**

that there are many more opportunities that Faith Mission could be pursuing but we need more “manpower” to work on these projects.

Faith Mission is also stepping out in “faith” and preparing to build a new building this summer. Please pray for this project! We as the Faith Mission Board feel that we are better off to make payments on a building than to pay rent on someone else’s property. Right now it seems that we will be faced with the challenge of finding a contractor or contractors to put up the building as soon as the snow and frost are gone. Please pray that we will find a reputable contractor that will be able to build the facility this spring. We have put a deposit on a new lot not far from our Cargill Road location.

We know that this project will take much planning and prayer! We also trust that the Lord will guide and direct if we are “Faith-full”.

If you feel that you can contribute, ideas, financial donation toward the building, volunteering, please let us know.



## 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  
Account Number 19940-9



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