

Mission Newsletter



FAITH MISSION
FriedensBote Inc

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Number 118

“And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.” (Deut. 8:3)

To encourage the Children of Israel to keep all the commandments, Moses reminded them that while they were in the wilderness, their heavenly Father cared for them and supplied their every need. God allowed them to hunger, and then He fed them with manna. Surely the extremity of their want made the supply more valuable and God's goodness to them more remarkable.

Very often God brings His people to the point of dire extremities in an effort to prove His love to them in a tangible way. He knows our individual needs and physical and emotional makeup. And He knows how to get our attention! Perhaps he might allow great poverty in order to show us how fleeting the things of this world are. Or He may allow sickness to show forth His healing power. We may suffer great hurt at the hands of someone else, but He comforts us.

In a spiritual sense, can't we say that the manna of heavenly comforts is given to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness? *“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled”* (Matt. 5:6).

The Bible is the revelation of God's will for man, and when we receive it by faith, it becomes food for our souls.

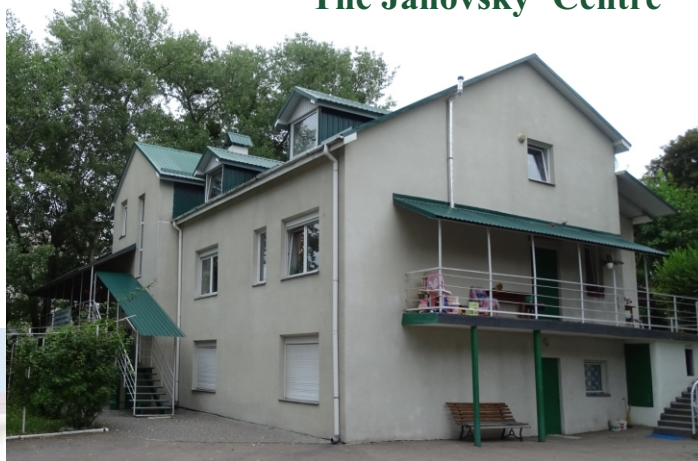
The manna was a type of Christ, the Bread of Life. Just as the bread we eat is the staff of life, Christ is the staff of our spiritual life: *“This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever”* (John 6:58).

Just as the manna was freely given to Israel, Christ is freely given to Christians who are the spiritual Israel today. And as there was manna enough for all the people, in Christ there is fullness of grace for all believers.

Israel lived on the manna until they came into Canaan, so we too will live on Christ, the eternal Word of God, until we come into the heavenly kingdom. *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”* (Matt. 4:4). ❖❖

In the past, we have shared several stories about Poliktin Janovsky in our Newsletter. Poliktin passed away unexpectedly in 2013, only a few months after we visited him in Ukraine. Here is a translated article that was written in the Nov/Dec 2015 German Missionswerk FriedensBote Nachrichten.

The Janovsky 'Centre'



“The Helping Hand”

A Place of Refuge in Khmelnytsky

How are they doing without Poliktin?

Brother Poliktin Janovsky died unexpectedly on July 2, 2013.... called away from his many important activities in ministry. He was head of the "Helping Hand", officially registered as "The Center for Spiritual Development of the Khmelnytsky Region". The Centre is well known in the area since the early 1990's. Thousands of people have been helped – both with material and spiritual assistance. In particularly difficult times, as many as 300 people came to pick up humanitarian aid.

“Polik” - as everyone called him - had a difficult childhood. His heart was particularly sensitive for the suffering of others, especially for children. Sometimes it

seemed like he knew the needs of all the people in the city of Khmel'nitsky, a city of about 250,000.

Thanks to Poliktin's servant attitude, many people came to the faith. After setting up of the Centre (with help from Missionswerk FriedensBote), he began a new "mission" for the neglected people in the region.

After the Lord called Poliktin home, in the summer of 2013, everyone was curious how the Centre could function without him.

Polik's vision is being fulfilled.

Poliktin's 'grand vision' began many years ago when he had a vision to help disabled people who got a very small disability pension from the government, and were basically the "forgotten". The members of the local church have agreed to continue the work Poliktin started.... the most effective way they can exercise their Christian faith and love. Some members of the church lovingly care for the physically handicapped adolescents and adults in one building, which was built from portable office containers. Massages are carried out in one room, and in another room, sports equipment is built where the disabled receive therapy.

Lena, who is quite petite, is mainly responsible for the massages. Lyudmila does the deeper treatments which require more strength. Most of the work is with patients who must be returned home after treatment. For this, they use a VW van, which FriedensBote provide a number of years ago.

Some physically disabled people live in high-rise buildings that have no lift. Before the Christians started this ministry, some of these handicapped people didn't get outside for several years. There was nobody who would bring them down the stairs and then up again.

The staff is pleased if their patients can assume any independent activities in their apartment after the treatments. This means that their work has paid off.

The staff knows that many of the family members of those affected also suffer from the physical and mental overload. While the disabled get their treatments, it is common for someone from the church to take time to discuss spiritual matters and needs with the accompanying person.

It seems like Tatiana, Poliktin's daughter, has inherited the special love for the needy from her father. After Poliktin's death, Tatiana's husband, Vasily, has taken over the management of the "Helping hand". Both have a dedication and zeal, similar to



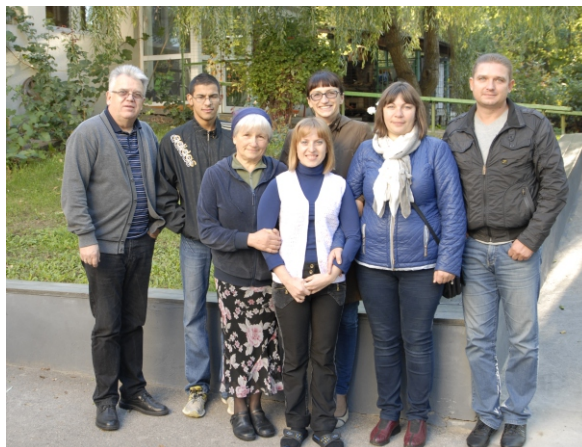
Celebrating Valentina's birthday. with some of her adopted family.

place here, drawing youth from the church as well as the streets. Although it can be quite a challenge, sometimes the Christians organize excursions with the disabled. Last summer, Vasily visited a swimming pool with a few of the handicapped clients. Accompanied by a helper, and with the aid of life jackets some swam for the first time in their life. Vasily shared that he will never forget the enthusiasm of those young helpless people....

Several of the disabled and their families have invited Jesus Christ into their lives. Lyudmila, the therapist already mentioned, converted, after she learned the practical love of Christians to her own disabled son. Today, she is employed as a therapist.

Alexei is another valuable employee. Since his conversion, although bound to a wheelchair, he faithfully helps others with special needs. He shows other disabled people what can be achieved with exercises. His role model is very important.

Vasily and Alexei built a small simple workshop for repairing wheelchairs. Very few of the disabled have a wheelchair. To complicate the wheelchair situation, parts from decommissioned wheelchairs brought in from Germany or from Canada often don't fit. Often, parts have to be 'made'. (Therefore, it's very important we only ship fully functional wheelchairs "over there".)



Jakob Janzen (Germany), Valentina, and the staff of the 'Helping Hand Centre'



A person with a disability being blessed with a Faith Mission Christmas Gift Box

Future plans

Vasily is right now working to make more effective use of the Centre. Currently, Bible Seminars are conducted in addition to the regular church services. A School of Leadership is being planned to train youth workers and others for missionary work. At the end of October, 26 young Christians spent a week in the Centre for an intensive study of the Bible. Vasily is planning four, week-long lessons like this with two groups at a time. The interest is overwhelming. Most of the time, those who are interested do not have a problem, freeing up a week of their time. Then the participants can continue their studies at home.

Vasily is looking to purchase several bunk beds for this project. Currently, he has a job and sees God's blessings in this and as a result, has been able to pay a significant part of the added costs out of his own pocket. Vasily is a very humble leader and will not quickly ask for help. We, as a mission, see the benefits of this ministry and want to continue our support.

What about widow, Valentina?

Time and again, we are asked: "How is Valentina Janovsky doing?". She lives with three adopted children in the building we referred to as the 'Centre'. After a time of mourning, she is now very active with the various responsibilities in the Centre.

It happens almost daily that some of her foster care children, now adults, come "home" to spend time with her. Sometimes they ask for an article of clothing. Or next time they just need some maternal advice. The oldest foster child, who is already married and has three children of her own, takes care of her "Mama". Every opportunity she has, she will bring her fresh eggs, milk or other foods from her village where things are much cheaper than in the city of Khmelnytsky.

During the summer camps, Valentina was the Head Cook. Obviously with great pleasure, she worked practically day and night to prepare food to fill the hungry mouths. She also cooks for the students who attend the Bible seminars in the 'Centre'.

Due to the recent armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine, very many refugees came to Khmelnytsky - most of them, with empty hands. The City Administrators knew there was help available at the "helping hand", so they sent people there for clothes, footwear, bedding, etc. Once again, Valentina distributed clothes - as they did in the 1990s.

Valentina still mourns her husband. However, now she will tell of the happy hours with him, with a smile on her face. She will gladly discuss the challenges of everyday life - and how she is looking forward to the day when she and her beloved Poliktin will be together again - a new life in eternity with our Saviour and Redeemer. ☸☸

Deadline for 2015 Donations is almost here.....\$\$

Note to all Faith Mission supporters - It's very hard to believe but the end of the year is fast approaching so if you would like to use your Faith Mission Charitable Receipt for your 2015 Income Tax return, please make sure that your donation is dated for 2015 and is postmarked no later than December 31, 2015. CRA will not allow us to receipt donations for 2015 if they are not dated for 2015. They must be postmarked in 2015.

Thank you for your support!



It seems like only weeks ago when we were not sure where we would put all the bags of clothes.... Well now we have another problem. We are running out of clothing! Yes, we have had so many groups coming in to sort and bale that we are pretty well cleaned out. It's not that we had too many groups.... we just need more clothes! The volunteers are commenting that our new facility is definitely more efficient so we're just getting more bales packed in a week.

A very special "THANK YOU" to all the youth leaders, Bible Study Group leaders, Sunday School Teachers, and others who have taken the time to arrange a baling evening at faith Mission. Also, a big thank you to all the volunteers who have taken time out of their busy schedule and come to sort and bale clothes. Without your help we couldn't get all these containers filled in such a short time. Praise the Lord! ☸☸

Faith Mission would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Glorious and Blessed Christmas.....

More Christmas Gift Boxes - Ready to Go!



Once again, the local response to our Christmas Gift Box project has been overwhelming - 800 Gift Boxes were loaded in the last 2 containers and we will have at least 400 more for the next container. **NO, IT'S NOT TOO LATE!** Faith Mission is still accepting Gift Boxes if you would like to pack one, or \$\$ donations if you want us to pack one! Thanks for helping us out with this very important part of Faith Mission's children's ministry in Ukraine. ☸☸

We would really like to share more about Faith Mission's activities here at home as well as what we do in the countries where we ship our containers with Humanitarian Aid. We have so many stories to share with your church group, youth group, Sunday school or any small group.

I would be very happy to come to your church, Community Centre or even your business meeting and do a brief report or possibly a short slide presentation and on our overseas mission projects. Once again, 2015 has been an unbelievable year for the Faith Mission / FriedensBote Team in Ukraine. The war and the refugee situation has opened up countless opportunities to share the gospel with soldiers, homeless families and those who fled the war-zone in Eastern Ukraine.

Whatever you do, please continue to pray for the many new Christians in Ukraine!



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.

Bags or boxes of clothing may be dropped off at the "DROP-OFF" door on the west side of the Faith Mission warehouse building. This drop-off room is opened 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
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