Mission Newsletter



July - August 2017 Number 128

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matt. 5:6)

Two things are really said here. The Lord promises a blessing and He promises that the individuals that participate in that which He is speaking of will be filled. That which He speaks of is the hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

There is a Scripture in the Psalms that uses the hart (meaning deer, spelled h-a-r-t) for an illustration. "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (Psa. 42:1).

There's something beautiful about desiring God. He saved me at eight years old, filled me with His precious Holy Spirit, and since that time there has been a hunger and a thirst in my soul after God, a crying out toward Him. There is nothing I think an individual could do that would be more beneficial to himself and others than to hunger and thirst after righteousness. "Every one that doeth righteousness is born of him" (1 John 2:29). As we become more right in our living, we come closer to God and He comes closer to us. We are born of Him, or come alive to Him.

He said that if we seek after Him, we will find Him. If we hunger and thirst, after God, if we really want reality within our hearts, if we want to find God, if we want to know God, then we will know Him. He didn't say that maybe the believers would be filled; He said, "They shall be filled."

When you are filled with His love and His righteousness, it will improve your life greatly in every way possible: physically, mentally, and spiritually. Every single area will be enhanced.

Living a righteous life brings peace to that life and the lives of everyone connected with, or touched by, that person. If we learn that lesson early in life and live that way from the beginning, then we will avoid so much pain and heartache.

If every generation lives in a righteous manner, then the succeeding generations will be blessed and be less likely to fall into sin. We not only bless ourselves, those close to us, those whom we have contact with, and our world as a whole, but we bless all future generations. A wise man is a righteous man. His fullness will be great.

FAITH MISSION TEAM 2 WEEK TOUR OF UKRAINE HINE 27 - HILY 12 2017



L-R Eduard E., John P., Pierre V., Jake E, Jake F., Alex J., posing in front of a city sign in the war ravaged Eastern Ukraine. Bullet holes marked with red paint. (July 3, 2017)

Earlier this year we as Faith Mission Board contacted our sister mission "Missionswerk FriedensBote" in Germany about taking a much overdue mission trip into Ukraine again. We decided to arrive in Ukraine at the end of June so that we could spend some time with the Children's Camps and Youth Camps. Our friends from Germany made the flight arrangements and together with the contact people in Ukraine, planned the itinerary.

Our international travel group consisted of three Canadians, two from Germany, one from France and our driver was from Ukraine. There was continual interpreting happening during the trip. John Peters and Jake Elias (Board members representing "Faith Mission" - Canada), Pierre Vaubaillon (Honorary Director of "Le Message de la Paix"- France), Alexander Janzen

(Newsletter editor and member of the Board of the "FriedensBote" in Germany) and Eduard Ewert, semi-retired, former editor of the German mission newsletter. The sixth person was Jake Fehr, (Charity Mission) who is responsible for the shipment of relief supplies in the community near Arborg, MB (Canada). Our driver, Vadim, is from Chernovtzi, Ukraine.

Immediately after landing in the airport of Kiev, we felt the Ukrainian summer heat. During the whole trip, daytime temperatures were between 30° and 38°. We were very thankful that we were blessed with a van with Air Conditioning for the entire trip. Shortly before the trip, "our" mission (referring to Missionswerk FriedensBote and Faith Mission) purchased a van for "our" missionary Peter Nastasichuk, in the Carpathian Mountains, We travelled about 4,000 km in Ukraine and the air conditioned van served us well.

Diary of the 15 Day Journey (Part 1)

Here is a brief report of our trip with comments and prayers from the visits. June 28-29

The first two days we spent in Uzin region. We heard about how the former, very important military city changed to a wonderful Christian community in the early 1990's. The spiritual revival began soon after the political changes in the country started.

At that time, the Commander of the military airport, where the largest nuclear bomb makers were stationed, wanted to put on an Easter service for the soldiers and officers. However, there was no church in the city of Uzin at that time. So, the Commander ordered a captain, who he knew possessed a Bible, read aloud the passion story of Jesus Christ to the whole military unit. The military Orchestra was asked to search for Christian music, rehearse and then play it at the celebration.

The Commander's request soon became known to Christians in the neighbouring town of Belaya Tserkov. Soon a church was planted in the community. The first members were some former officers and their families. The military airport was soon shut down because when communism fell, Uzin lost its strategic importance.

In recent years, the community has experienced some serious spiritual struggles. However, today it is a bright light for the entire region. Our mission has supported the building of the Uzin Church and provides the community with much needed relief supplies. We heard many positive comments about how the clothing, bikes and wheelchairs have helped people in the community.

Sucholessy Children's Camp

With help from FriedensBote, Faith Mission and the Uzin church, the permanent site of children's camp near the village of Sucholessy has been thriving and expanding. A number of years ago, eight office containers were sent from Germany. They served as the first building blocks. Later, a spacious attic was built above these containers. Here in the wide open nature setting, the children have opportunities to play, to walk, share and sing. The secluded clearing in the forest is an ideal place for these young people to come and forget about their broken homes and family issues and learn about the love of Jesus.

This year Vladimir, a Bible school teacher from the Eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk, was head of the camp. He was forced

to leave his home because of the terrible war. Vladimir's assistant was Katya, a God-fearing, creative, and well educated young architect. As a young teenager, Katya herself had found Jesus Christ at this very same camp.

The theme banner at this year's camp bore the name "Laboratory". In a child-friendly and exciting way, the group leader with her helpers were on a "research" mission. Almost half of the campers came from non-believing families, to be introduced to the meaning of life with Jesus.

On our second evening at the camp, we witnessed how many children and teens made a decidion for Jesus. The precious words of Jesus: "Let the children come...", were very meaningful that night! This is what it's all about. That is why we support the children's camp projects. The children



The Team of Camp workers who volunteer their time to share the gospel with the children at Sucholessy Camp near Uzin.

asked us, as special guests, to come forward and they expressed their gratitude with words of thanks and a small gift they had made in a craft session. It was very humbling for us.

A huge bonfire was lit to close off the last evening of camp. Young and old sat around the fire to sing and share. The end of camp is always mixed with some sadness. Children feel like they need to go from "Paradise" back to their everyday life.... for many, it is very difficult. So let us pray that they don't lose the "Love of Jesus". Pray that the

newly converted children and teenagers can pass it on to their nonbelieving siblings and relatives. This is not easy for them.

Victor shared some of the current concerns of the Sucholessy camp: #1) - resources for completion of the dining room and kitchen as well as



Victor seen chatting with a group of campers during our supper visit. The building is not finished but the dining room is already being used.

the top floor of the same building. #2) - Setting up the heating is another priority, because, currently the camp can only be used in the summer months. Making it a year-round

facility would mean it would be used a lot more. Thank God, last year 1,263 people spent time at this camp. (This number includes a group of severely handicapped adults). Can you help out with the Sucholessy Camp Building? If you can, please send us your designated donation.

Help to keep the cold out this winter!

Viktor Marchuk rode with us to Malaya Antonovka village (approx. 10 km from Uzin). He shared about how this small church was the result of their many years of evangelical work.

In addition to the small church building on the yard, we saw a shed with two tiny rooms. Some time ago, a widow,



The tiny shed that is "home" for Tatiana and her family. The concrete footing is in place to add the entrance. Hopefully this will happen before winter.

Tatiana Sorokina, with their four children, was temporarily placed in the makeshift home. Tatiana's husband was a heavy alcoholic and harshly mistreated them. During Tatiana's last pregnancy he almost killed her with multiple stab wounds. The little boy, born a short time

later, suffers from a severe form of Autism. On her husband's death-bed, Tatiana was able to forgive her husband.

We noticed a pile of rocks near the shed. It turned out that Tatiana had collected these stones with her bare hands from within a 10 kilometre radius of their home. She is planning to use these



with her bare hands from Tatianna, her daughter and autistic within a 10 kilometre son, giving us a smile of love in spite of all the struggles in their life.

rocks to build a small entrance onto the shed which will hopefully make it somewhat easier to keep the heat inside during the cold winter months. Because the small shed was not built as living quarters, the thin walls are constructed with a single layer of bricks. Now, we noted the urgent need to glue a layer of Styrofoam insulation to the walls. The material and the work would cost about \$1,300 - \$1,500 Cdn\$. Can you imagine the joy this widow would experience if your family would make this your mission project for this fall? If you can help, please designate your donation for the Tatiana Sorokina Fund. Pray for the family!

(Letter from Pastor Victor Marchuk - August 3, 2017) I greet you, Brothers in Christ!

Thank you so much for your very welcome visit, and the support we felt from you in the work we are doing to bring honour & glory to the Lord! Unfortunately our time together was too short and you got to see very little. We were overjoyed and blessed that you came by to visit us. We hope that you will

have good memories of the gatherings we had in Uzin and Belaya Tserkov.

We are so thankful that through your financial support, we have been able to have a wonderful time of ministering at the Sucholessy children's and youth camps - for the children of Uzin and the surrounding villages.

From July 10th - July 16th we had a youth camp, children's camp and a church service for their parents; in the village of Putilovitschi. After that we had the same thing from July 17th - July 23rd in the city of Luginy, in the Shitomir region.

From 10th - July 21st, 5 young Christians from Uzin and 3 from Belaya Tserkov made a mission trip to Latvia. Here they could have a Christian Children's Camp and also had some evangelical meetings on the playgrounds next to the tall apartment blocks. We were able to fulfill the duty that the local church had asked us to do in the city of Jēkabpils, Latvia.

From August 20th - August 27th, we are planning to have Children's Camp on the church yard in Uzin. We hope that new children will come to our Sunday School and their parents will come to our church.

Later in fall, I will write more about how we have used the money you sent us for the Children's Camps.

I have received 500 Euro for the mission work in Ilovasik and gave it to Sergeji Skiba. At this time Sergeji is still living in Ilovasisk with his wife and 2 sons. After his return he will have pictures and information, that he will send, about his mission there. Pray for his service and that he will come home safely. (Ilovaisk is a southeast Ukrainian city where the war raged particularly violently).

Katja Lichatschova is gathering information and she will prepare a detailed report on all the summer projects.

During your visit in June 2017, we spoke at length about the drainage and water issues at the Uzin church. I haven't written about this sooner because we were still hoping to find an easier way to solve this problem. Unfortunately we didn't find a way. Now I will write the need in the order it is needed.



1.)The church is hooked up to the city water supply. The cast-iron main waterline has been destroyed by rust. Because of the ruptured pipes, our basement was flooded. We carried the water outside with pails. This main water line needs to be replaced right away. The main water line is on the opposite side of the street. This meant that they would have to drill a hole under the street to be able to connect the new line to the old one. The estimated cost for engineering and permits for this job

would be about \$1500.00 Canadian dollars, which was more than the actual job would cost. Actual job is estimated at \$1100.00 Canadian dollars. We were not allowed to perform this job ourselves because the city waterworks was responsible for it.

2.) The church is built on quicksand. During the construction of the church the installation of the water lines was not done properly. Now water is seeping in between the foundation and the basement walls, which creates a lot of pressure on the basement walls and it's destroying them. The basement has harmful mould growing on the walls. This is not only a visible problem but it is also a health issue. Breathing in the air where mould is growing is very unhealthy.

That's why we need to remove all the concrete around the church building, dig down along the basement walls and install new drain-tile. We also need to seal the perimeter of the basement to keep the inside dry. After all is done, a new concrete walk-way would need to be poured around the church. Inside the basement, the wall will need to be gutted, the mould cleaned up and disinfected with chemicals, and then reconstruction can begin.

According to our calculations and estimates for the project, the total cost could be about 200,000 Hryvnia (UAH). (\$10,000 Cdn.). We feel that our church can pay for about 32,000 UAH (\$1,600 Cdn.) at this time. We are looking at raising some more funds but right now it is very difficult.

Wishing you God's richest Blessings.....

From the Uzin Church, and the Marchuk Family in Belaya Tserkov, Ukraine, Victor

If God is touching your heart about this project, and you can possibly help out, please send in your donation, and designate it for the "Uzin Church Project" as listed on the Faith Mission mailing card



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 and is emptied on a regular basis. However, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange your 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.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc.

Mailing Address: 425 Roblin Blvd East Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0H2



I would like to receive the Bi-monthly
Faith Mission Newsletter regularly.
☐ Please add my name to your mailing list.
☐ Please change my address as indicated below.
Name
Address
TownProv.
Postal Code
Telephone

Board of Directors

 Jake Elias (204) 325-5446
 Peter Penner (204) 325-8606

 Henry Penner (204) 331-3309
 Abe Unrau (204) 685-2320

 Andy Elias (204) 325-6446
 John Peters (204) 325-1383

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





Tel: 204 325 4787 Tel: 204 822 5486 Tel: 204 324 8653 Fax: 204 325 8040 www.bdo.ca

Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc. Statement of Operations (Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31	2016	201
Revenue		
Receipted donations	\$ 257,615 \$	245,867
Collections	5,356	6,805
Interest and miscellaneous	869	309
	263,840	252,981
Operation costs		
Freight	80,372	94,054
Overseas missions	11,433	21,661
Shipping containers	19,300	23,100
Packaging, supplies and materials	5,456	11,488
Direct wages	5,440	6,218
Foreign exchange (gains) losses	13,663	10,580
	135,664	167,101
Administrative expenses		
Advertising	2,463	2,147
Bank charges	417	738
Donor newsletters	4,579	5,023
Fundraising expenses	1,000	-
Goods and services tax	972	6,084
Insurance	1,984	2,625
Interest on demand loan	8,777	8,332
Memberships	-	1,459
Office expenses	2,514	2,368
Postage and shipping	5.722	4,699
Professional fees	3,543	3,234
Property taxes	11,640	8,075
Rental	980	3,379
Repairs and maintenance	2.499	708
Supplies	649	2,288
Utilities	7,083	8,733
Vehicle and travel expenses	304	1,006
	55,126	60,898
Excess of revenue over expenditures before other items	73,050	24,982
Other items		
Gifts in kind	(5,504)	(5,728
Gain (loss) on disposal of assets	(3,245)	
	(8,749)	(5,728
Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year	\$ 64,301 \$	19,254

Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc. Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)

December 31		2016		2015
Assets				
Current Cash and bank Accounts receivable Inventory Prepaid expenses	\$	79,678 7,608 8,259 8,800	\$	42,930 9,175 4,680
		104,345		56,785
Tangible capital assets (Note 2) Incorporation costs	_	528,668 515		520,366 515
	\$	633,528	\$	577,666
Liabilities and Net Assets Current Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred contributions (Note 3)	\$	2,397 16,372	\$	10,048 13,525
Demand loan (Note 5)		267,208		282,390
	_	285,977		305,963
Net assets Invested in tangible capital assets Unrestricted		261,461 86,090		237,976 33,727
		347,551		271,703
	s	2/12/12/12/12/12/12/12	0800	

For the year ended December 31		2016	2015
Cash flows from operating activities Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year	\$	64,301 \$	19,254
Adjustments for: (Gain) loss on disposal of capital assets		3,245	-
		67,546	19,254
Changes in non-cash working capital: Accounts receivable Inventory Prepaid expenses Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred contributions	_	1,567 (3,579) (8,800) (7,650) 2,847	(1,299) 651 1,459 8,019 (3,589)
	<u></u>	51,931	24,495
Cash flows from investing activities Purchase of tangible capital assets Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	<u></u>	(500) 500	(209,866)
Cash flows from financing activities Repayment of demand loans Proceeds from demand loans		(15,183)	(241,299) 337,505
		(15,183)	96,206
Net increase (decrease) in cash and bank		36,748	(89,165)
Cash and bank, beginning of the year	1. <u></u>	42,930	132,095
Cash and bank, end of the year	\$	79,678 \$	42,930

Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc. Statement of Changes in Net Assets (Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31	Ca	Invested in Tangible pital Assets	U	nrestricted	2016	2015
Net assets, beginning of year	\$	237,976	\$	33,727	271,703	\$ 252,449
Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year				64,301	64,301	19,254
Investment in tangible capital assets		12,047		(500)	11,547	-
Disposal of tangible capital assets		(3,745)		3,745	-	-
Transfer for principal payments on demand loan		15,183		(15,183)	1-	
Net assets, end of year	\$	261,461	\$	86,090	347,551	\$ 271,703

Faith Mission (Friedensbote) Inc. Notes to Financial Statements (Unaudited)

<u>December 31, 2016</u>

2. Tangible Capital Assets

	2016			2015	
Land	\$	80,288	\$	80,288	
Buildings		423,607		412,060	
Vehicle		-		3,745	
Baler		910		910	
Equipment		8,740		8,240	
Computer and office equipment		12,983		12,983	
Utility storage trailer	<u>~</u>	2,140		2,140	
	\$	528 668	¢	520, 366	

3. Deferred Contributions

Deferred contributions represent designated donations received during the year that have not been forwarded to the specific project at year end. The following designated donations represent the balance of deferred contributions:

		2015		
Christmasbox FriedensBote (Germany)	\$	3,260 522	\$	563 372
Peter Nastasiychuk		2,340		12,590
Carpathian Camps	-	10,250		
	\$	16,372	\$	13,525

4. Line of Credit

The organization has an authorized line of credit in the amount of \$5,000 from the Access Credit Union bearing interest at the Access Credit Union's base rate (2.7% at December 31, 2016). As of December 31, 2016, this line of credit was not being utilized by the organization.

"Give a Gift of Hope"

Pack a Faith Mission Gift Box for an Orphan or Needy Child in Ukraine This Year Packing Guidelines:

- 1. Come pick up your supply of "Gift Boxes" at Faith Mission at 425 Roblin Blvd. East, or call 204-325-4086 to arrange pick up.
- 2. Fill the Boxes; see detailed list below.
- 3. Add note or card with a picture of yourself and your address. you never know, maybe you will get a "Thank You" letter. You might think they won't respond but we have had children writing letters back.
- 4. Bring the filled boxes back to Faith Mission at 425 Roblin Blvd East
- 5. Above all, PRAY that God will touch the Life of every child that receives a Gift Box.

We would like all items to be "NEW" or as good as "NEW"

- NO Pictures of Skeletons on any of the Clothes or Toys
- NO Ugly Pictures on anything
- NO Used Items
- NO War toys, Spiderman, Batman, Barbie, Superman, etc.
- NO Playing Cards
- NO Jewelry
- NO Shampoo, Liquid Soap or Lotion
- NO Make-up
- NO Coloring books (Faith Mission has a supply of Ukrainian coloring books to add to the boxes)

Age Groups: (Boys or Girls) 2 – 4 years 5 – 8 years 9 – 12 years 13 – 16 years

Faith Mission Gift-Box List

T-Shirt - Boy or Girl; No tank tops or muscle shirts unless undershirts Underwear - Boys or Girls

Socks - Boy or Girls

Scarf

Mittens

Toque

Toothbrush

Toothpaste

Wash Cloth

Soap

Comb

Pencil Eraser

Pencil Sharpener

Scissor

Ruler

Glue Stick

Paper

Pencil Crayons or Crayons

Coloring books (You don't need to put in a colouring book because we will add a Ukrainian coloring book to each box)

"New" Toys - Ball, Skipping Rope, Small Vehicle or doll, etc.







We have 2 new additions for the Christmas Gift Boxes which should make the gifts even more valuable for those children who receive them in Ukraine. We are getting a local printer to print a supply of Ukrainian "God's Creation" coloring books. Missionswerk in Germany gave us the file and full permission to print these. This is not only a nice little coloring book, it is also the story of how God created everything in 6 days. We have also printed up a supply of Make-Your-Own Christmas Cards which can be colored and finished by the person preparing the gift box or it can be sent to Ukraine for them to finish.

Hello, from the Gift Box Volunteers at Faith Mission! We are very thankful for all the donations that we have received for our Gift Box ministry. We have a great start to the Christmas Gift Box Project already! Many of the small items we put in the gift-boxes we take for granted but for many people in Ukraine it is almost like a luxury item. They do not have easy access to pencils, paper, pens, erasers, crayons, tooth brushes, tooth-paste, soap, etc. Many don't have these things and most likely don't have money to go and buy them.

If you think of packing a gift box, it seems like a simple little task. There is actually quite a bit of time and effort that can be put into it if you want it to be special for the person who receives it. We have tried to make it easier to pack a Gift Box by, first of all, designing and having gift boxes made especially for Faith Mission and compiling a detailed list of items to put into the boxes. You can choose the age group that you want to pack your gift for. The ages and the detailed list (guidelines) are all included on this page. When the boxes arrive at the Faith Mission Warehouse in Winkler, we have volunteers checking them to make sure the items are suitable for the age marked on the box and to make sure that they are uniformly filled.

Maybe you are not interested in packing your own Christmas Gift Boxes. Or, maybe you live too far from Winkler to bring them here. In such cases we also offer to pack them for you in our special Gift Box Room right here in our warehouse. Many of our supporters send us a financial donation designated for the Christmas Gift Boxes. We then use it to purchase the supplies we need. Some also bring us supplies which we can use to pack boxes here.

The gift box will not only be helpful to provide some essentials for a child's every-day needs, it is usually complemented with an Evangelistic Christmas message and some literature that will often introduce them to the Birth, Life and Love of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Many children receive Christ into their hearts and go home with a lot more than just the gift box!

When you prepare a gift box, we ask that you please pray for your Special Christmas Gift Box.... that the person that opens the gift will feel the Love of Jesus that you put into it.

Many of our Gift Packers have taken advantage of Back-to-School sales during July and August and have been able to save a significant amount of money, buying the supplies.

Thank-you so much for your participation!