

# Mission Newsletter



November - December 2020

Number 148

*“But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.” (Mal. 4:2)*

As we approach another Christmas season, let us look beyond the tinsel and glitter, the gift exchanges and the parties, the pomp and pageantry of the religious world, and even the fun and togetherness of family. Instead, let us look back to the Baby in Bethlehem's manger, and even beyond to the prophecies of great men of old who so wonderfully foretold the salvation message. (It looks like the 2020 Christmas will be much different than what we are used to. I believe this will be an ideal opportunity to take the time and reflect on Jesus Christ and His great love for us.)

Malachi penned the prophetic words, *"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts"* (Mal. 3:1).

The messenger was John the Baptist who would prepare the way of the Lord: *"The Lord, whom ye seek"* was the Messiah, and His "temple" was called *"My Father's house"* (John 2:16).

*"The messenger of the covenant"* was Christ, who was predicted to make a new covenant between God and man.

He came in the fullness of time: *"But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son"* (Gal. 4:4).

Zacharias prophesied of John the Baptist and, especially, Jesus when he said, *"Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, To give light to them that sit In darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace"* (Luke 1:78, 79).

Simeon held Jesus in his arms and prophesied, *"For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel"* (Luke 2:30-32).

Malachi now looks forward to the Second Advent of Christ, the Sun of righteousness, who will bring healing to every person on earth. None will be sick when He reigns.

At Christmastime, as we meditate on these glorious promises that have brought comfort to God's people down through the ages, our hearts are filled anew with an abiding love for God - and we joyfully sing, *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men"* (Luke 2:14). \*\*\*

**“Glory to God in the Highest,  
and on earth peace, good will  
toward men....” (Luke 2:14)**



Another 1650 Gift Boxes ready to ship.



Our new "Grocery Gift Box" Flour, Sugar and Gleaner's Soup Mix



Unloading Gift Boxes from Taber, Alberta

Earlier this year we had set our Gift Box goal at 2,500 boxes for this Christmas. We were already dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic at that time but we thought that it would be over by the time we started to ship out our Gift Boxes. With all the restrictions that are imposed throughout the country, it's only by God's grace and mercy that we have been able to meet that goal and even exceed it.

We are also very happy to share with you that we have been asked to also ship some food products into Ukraine this

winter. Thanks to your support, we were able to purchase a pallet of sugar and flour. Prairie Gleaners from Alberta also was able to provide us with 2 pallets of Dry Soup Mix.

Please pray that this container, #7 for 2020, will make a smooth trip into the Carpathian Region of Southeast Ukraine. The estimated date of arrival is January 27th, 2021.

If you would like to be part of the “Faith Mission Food or Gift Box” projects, please designate your donation by checking the “ Food” or “ Gift Box” on the return portion of the Mailing Card.

## Faith Mission Container Number Container # 5 for 2020

Loaded Aug.27, 2020 Arrived Oct.7, 2020

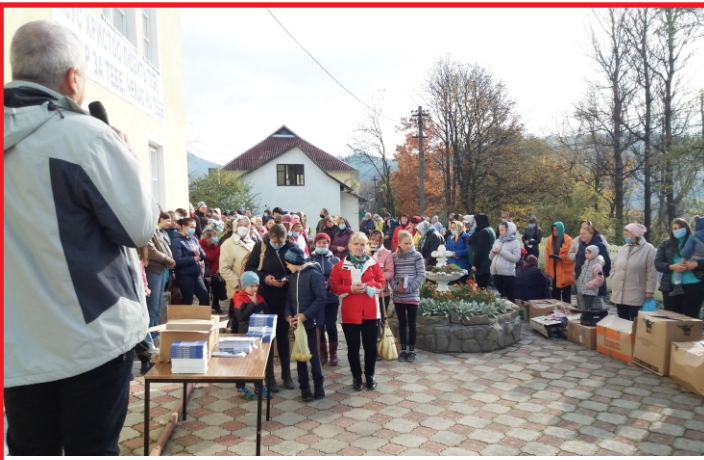


The photo on the left was taken after this container was loaded and ready to close the door. The photo below is where it's unloaded in Ukraine. No, this is not one of those photo pairs where you find the differences... As you can see, the load has not been reloaded or disturbed...the bales are exactly as they were loaded. That is always good to see!



The pictures below were also taken when this container was unloaded in the Carpathian region of Ukraine. The storage facility for these bales is on the church property in the village of Tuchapy. The bales of clothing, blankets, bikes, and footwear as well as the Christmas Gift Boxes are always shared with other mountain villages. As you can see, there are many different ways to get the aid to these remote villages. The bottom picture has the Faith Mission bales all neatly lined up, ready for distribution.





Meeting in the front yard of our Verchovina church

*Greetings, dear friends from Faith Mission*

*Fall is going away and so do the opportunities to meet with people outdoors. God gave us another sunny day last Thursday. About 150 adults and children gathered in front of the church. Once again Faith Mission was a part of this special service. We gave out clothing at the end of the meeting. Although the clothing is very important, the main thing is that people had one more opportunity to hear the Word of God. Many brochures and 2021 calendars were distributed. It was very unfortunate that we ran out of "Jesus In Our Destiny" and the "Bible for Children." The literature ministry is one of the best ways to reach people who want to find out more about our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*"Christmas time is coming." We will likely not have possibilities to meet children in schools, community halls, etc. as we did in prior years. However, we are already discussing this matter with the welfare organizations. We will probably be having smaller meetings in some school classrooms. Some welfare workers will visit families personally and they will take pictures for us. If it's not too cold, we will probably have some short meetings outside. We will do everything possible to bring glory to Christ as we share the news of His birthday during this Christmas time.*

*I praise God for life and health He is giving me everyday so I continue working for Him. (Peter was in the ICU with Covid-19 for several weeks earlier this summer)*

*I thank God for you. I pray He gives you spiritual and physical strength that is so much needed nowadays.*

*Best wishes and greeting to your family and churches.*

*Peter, the Carpathians, Ukraine November 3, 2020*

## **Passing the Torch - Nathan Elias**

Every year on the second Monday in October, Canada recognizes a holiday to celebrate Thanksgiving, and on the last Thursday of November, Americans do the same. As Christians, do we show our thankfulness/gratitude only on these specific days? I feel that too many of us take life for granted most days, much less the things that make that life worth living. We should

be more grateful for the little things in life every day. I want to take this opportunity to show gratitude to a man that has directly influenced who I am today, my Dad, Jake Elias.

In September of 2018, I was asked to join the Faith Mission board. I had mixed feelings about taking on this position as I live a few hours from Winkler where most of the work takes place, I also had not had a whole lot to do with the mission since moving out of the area in 2007. I did, however, still have a passion for the people of Ukraine. That passion was reignited by a trip back, in May 2018, where I reconnected with quite a few of the Ukrainian friends I had met when I spent six months there in 2004. This passion to help these people and the desire to serve God in this way made the decision to join the Faith Mission board an easy one.

In the two years that I have been part of Faith Mission in this capacity, there have been a number of times where my Dad has been ill. A few times even hospitalized. It was during these times that the question arose; "Who would write the newsletter or line up the containers if Jake isn't up to it?" After multiple meetings and discussions, prayers, and yes, even some sleepless nights, I agreed to help dad with these jobs so there is more than one that has the know-how to get it done. Not quite one newsletter into this, I

am more aware than ever how much my Dad has devoted to this mission for the last 26+ years. I feel extremely blessed that I have been able to serve with him in many different ways in that time. I am not taking this job away from him, only somewhat assisting and mostly learning.



As I mentioned above, I have made 2 trips to Ukraine. The first was a six month trip (my Dad accompanied me for the first 2 weeks) in 2004, and then a second trip in 2018 when I was once again able to travel, not only with my Dad but also together with my son Robert. We shared the gospel, school supplies, as well as clothes from Faith Mission with approximately 1500 children and many of their parents in the 2 weeks we were there. I hope I can share the same vision for hope and love to my children as my Dad has for his.

Going forward my name will hopefully be attached to various pieces in the newsletter. I ask that you bear with me and pray for me as I venture into this territory. My only goal is to glorify God to the best of my abilities as I have been taught by, you guessed it, my Dad. \*\*\*



Twenty-twenty has been a year of many challenges. Some of these challenges have impacted many in very painful ways and in some cases with very devastating outcomes. On the other hand, some have had very positive results. Many families have spent more time

together at home and done upgrades and/or repairs on their home or yard. We at Faith Mission have also taken advantage of the shut-down and expanded our laundry room. The laundry room has been cramped right from when we moved into the “new” shop in 2015. The ladies have had lots of time to plan how they wanted the new laundry room to be arranged. It has been wonderful that the contractors have been available to do this small job right now on short notice. We hope to have it all completed before the end of the year.

**From all of us at  
Faith Mission...  
“Have a Blessed  
Christmas”**



## Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc.

**Mailing Address: 425 Roblin Blvd East**

**Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0H2**

Phone (204) 325-4086

Email: [info@faithmission.ca](mailto:info@faithmission.ca)

[www.faimission.ca](http://www.faimission.ca)

Office and Warehouse located at

**425 Roblin Blvd East**



*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. 146

Name.....

Address.....

Town.....

Prov..... Postal Code.....

Telephone.....

- Please send my Newsletter in PDF to my email:

Email.....



## Office Hours



**Tuesday (Office only) 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.

## Board of Directors

Jake Elias (204) 325-5446 Henry Penner (204) 331-3309

Abe Unrau (204) 685-2320 Andy Elias (204) 325-6446

John Peters (204) 325-1383 Philip Elias (204) 750-8187

Nathan Elias (204) 212-1041

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 10010019940-9

# Warm Home...Warm Heart Firewood & Coal for the needy....

Taisia was well educated and a civil engineer, but her sinful life ruined everything. Finally, she allowed a friend to invite her to an evangelistic service.

Through the Word of God she understood that she was a slave, because when she heard: “ ....*Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin, is the servant of sin.*” (John 8:34). But she also heard how to escape this slavery - not through her own strength, but through Jesus Christ. "*Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*" (1 Peter 1: 18-19). Taisia was converted and started a new life.

It was not so easy at first because, through her sinful life, she had lost her apartment in the city. Little by little she built a simple house in the village. Everyone wondered why one room was bigger than all the others and asked them about it. Taisia replied, “God gave me everything in order to set me free. This house is His. My greatest wish is that a church will be established in this village!"

Since then this house has become the starting point for evangelism. The youth from the church in Kharkov often come to visit Sister Taisia. They go through the village together and talk to the people about God and sing Christian songs to them. Sometimes she calls me and says, “It was so cold again that the water in the well froze. Can you bring me water?” We're happy to go to her house and bring water to the sister. During the winter, there have been a number of times when she has had nothing to heat her house with. Then we make wood for her and other needy people. For the neighbours this charity is the best testimony of the Christian faith. For the congregation, it is a good way to help others.

Leonid T./Ukraine

Dear missionary friends, our fellow believers meet these people everywhere - in Ukraine, Russia, Yakutia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus, Tajikistan, and even in Estonia. Similar situations everywhere - lonely people whose pension is barely enough to buy food. Many of these people only have one concern: “How do we survive the winter?”

Sometimes, this need leads people to ask God for help. He often sends His children to bring help at the last minute. A load of wood or the equivalent amount of hard coal costs approximately 100-150 €, (\$155-235 Canadian Dollars). This will usually be enough for a family to heat their home for the entire winter.

Dear friends, let's bring warmth to these people by supporting this project that Faith Mission is doing together with Missionswerk FriedensBote in Germany. This project not only warms the home, but also melts the ice in the heart and prepares the ground for planting a seed of God's Word.

**If you would like to be part of the “Warm Home...Warm Heart” this winter, please designate your donation by checking the  Firewood” box on the return portion of the Mailing Card.**



Taisia is one of many who wonder, “How do we survive the winter?” In many Ukrainian churches, especially in the east, Christians help those in need by buying wood for them and processing it into firewood.

- \$2000     \$1000
- \$500     \$300
- \$200     \$100
- \$50     \$25

Other Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"God loves a cheerful giver....."*

Please fold along dotted line and return  
This mailing card with your donation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque # \_\_\_\_\_

Please use my donation for:  Wherever Most Needed

- Shipping Costs     Children's Camps
- Bicycles     Widow's Camp     Food
- Gift Boxes     Firewood     Orphanage
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



Please fold along dotted line and return  
This mailing card with your donation

Please make all Cheques payable to  
Faith Mission

Tax deductible receipts will be issued at  
the beginning of the following year

(2020-#06)



**Please Note: In order for your donation to be receipted for 2020, Year – End donations must be received by our office, or your envelopes post-marked by Canada Post, no later than December 31, 2020**

## Faith Mission - Automatic Donation Plan

Worry free monthly payments - Your monthly payments to Faith Mission (FriedensBote), Inc. can now be made efficiently and economically by using this preauthorized chequing system we call the ADP. - Save Time - no monthly cheques to write. Save money - no postage or cheque expenses - You will receive an official tax-receipt for your total annual contribution at the beginning of the following year. By using the ADP we will be able to apply your gifts more quickly and more efficiently. For your convenience, this service will continue until you notify us otherwise.

Simply complete this form and return it to Faith Mission (FriedensBote), Inc. Your first automatic transfer will occur about four weeks after we receive your information.

I hereby authorize automatic withdrawals from my account on the  1st or the  16th day of each month.

Total monthly donation amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_, commencing on \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**\*\*Please enclose a blank cheque marked 'VOID'**