

Mission Newsletter



May-June 2023

Number 163

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit” shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. (Gal. 6:7-8)

The Lord told us very plainly, as Paul wrote these words, that we were not to be deceived. Don't think that it will be otherwise. He said God will not be mocked. If you sow seeds that are bad, you reap seeds that are bad. In other words, you cannot live for the devil, make a mockery of God's Word, go your own way, walk down the road that leads to death, and think that good can come from it. It's impossible. You cannot mock your marriage vows and think that good will come of it. Destruction will come of it because that's the law. That's the way that it is. Don't feel that you can lie, cheat, steal, and do things that you know are wrong. God said, don't be deceived, because that which you sow, you will reap either now, in the future, or in eternity.

He said that if we sow to the flesh — which simply means that we live apart from God and have no concern for God — then our spiritual man withers up and we feed the physical man. Everything that we do is toward gratifying the flesh. We live in a world that gratifies the flesh and ignores the Spirit. If we sow to the flesh, we will of the flesh reap corruption. If we sow to the Spirit — that which is of God — such as seeking His face, loving Him, studying His Word, witnessing for Him, working in the church, and doing all that we can for Him — then we shall, of the Spirit, reap life everlasting.

We see how important it is to sow to the Spirit but how do we know where to sow? We can't do everything or be everywhere that a need is present.

Daily we must go to God in prayer and seek His face, what He would have us do. We must ask Him to guide our feet, to speak through our mouth and use every part of our life to accomplish His work. We must ask Him to bring people and situations to us that will minister to our needs, and we must ask Him to minister through us to someone else. 🙏🙏

A recent letter from Kherson, Ukraine:..... Greetings, dear brothers and sisters, friends of Faith Mission! We thank the Lord for your spiritual and material support of our ministry in Kherson. With God's blessing, with His help and protection, we have lived to see the feast of the Trinity. Surprisingly, so far our Sunday services are attended by an average of about 500 people. Every week we distribute an average of about 3 tons of food, as well as building materials, hygiene products, medicines, flashlights and other types of assistance that the residents of Kherson need. All this would not be possible without your participation in prayers and material assistance. In our difficult circumstances, we see how the words of Christ are being fulfilled with our own eyes: “So let your light shine before people, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven.” Indeed, we see how people's attitude towards the Church of Christ is changing, how people realize that Christ is really alive and stretches out His loving hands to them.



Churches filled to capacity has become a normal site in Ukraine as the thirsty souls of so many are searching for answers

Vladimir Yangurazov is a brother in our church. Vladimir is Crimean Tatar by nationality, almost 60 years old, who turned to God 5 years ago, and stayed with us in the ministry throughout the occupation. He was engaged in volunteering and took people from the occupied territories to the territory controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. He also brought food for people in Kherson. Vladimir continues to do volunteer work and now delivers aid to hard-to-reach places in the Kherson region. He has a very good habit, which he passed on to all of us members of the church and which we instilled in people who attend our services: every time he enters the House of Prayer or meets people on the street, he repeats the same greeting "Glory to Jesus Christ", to which people respond "Forever Glory", naturally in Ukrainian. It is simply amazing to hear how a full hall of people, as well as people standing in the courtyard of a prayer house, in response to the words "Glory to Jesus Christ" unanimously answer "Forever Glory"! This is despite the fact that all of them until quite recently did not know the Lord Jesus at all. As a pastor, I often get into comical situations with this greeting. In the morning, greeting people who come to the service or for some kind of help, I say the usual "good morning". In response these people, who, I would have assumed to be non-believers, answer me with, "Glory to Jesus Christ", which surprises me. On the one hand, I feel confusion and shame, on the other hand, I am overcome with joy realizing that for these people, the name of Jesus Christ has become very significant and my heart is refilled again and again with hope that these people will sooner or later accept Christ as their Savior.



Brother Vladimir Yangurazov (with New Testaments in his hands) brought potatoes to people

The ministry of the Church is impossible without leaders who understand the Lord, hear His voice and are ready to do what He calls them to. One such blessing for our church is Anna Pavlyuk-Chekmareva. She turned to God in her youth, although she grew up in a family of unbelievers. She got married and two boys were born in their family. Later, Anna's family adopted her nephew. In 2014, when Russia began occupying Crimea and part of the Donbass, her husband was



drafted into the armed forces of Ukraine, where he served until 2019, when he was transferred to the reserve. In January of 2022, three weeks before the Russian invasion, Anya's husband died unexpectedly from heart problems. It's hard for me to even imagine this situation - the unexpected loss of one's husband, the outbreak of war and

the Russian occupation. Such circumstances can break anyone, especially a widow with three young children. It may be so, but not in the case of Anya - she stayed in Kherson and continued to serve. Friends from different parts of Ukraine began to put pressure on sister Anya, trying to convince her to evacuate. There were times when a car was already sent for her, and then they called and said "get ready, the car is already on the way." She answered all these calls with the same phrase: "The Lord did not tell me to leave, and therefore I remain in Kherson." Her perseverance and firmness to follow the instructions of the Lord was a very difficult decision - during the occupation, she could be persecuted by the occupying authorities as the widow of an ATO participant. After the liberation of Kherson, shelling began and there was a danger of physical death. Faith and hope in the Lord is what gives Anya the strength to continue her ministry. Now, thanks to her faithfulness in the ministry, about 30 children attend Sunday school in our church (which is unusual in itself, since there are few children at all in Kherson), as well as 5-6 mothers. Surprisingly, it is a fact that after the service, many mothers go to the Sunday school premises, where, together with sister Anya, they play with children, communicate, receiving the necessary encouragement for the next week. Thanks to people like Anya, the ministry of the Church of God in Kherson (and ours in particular) continues. At the same time, there is one detail that needs to be mentioned - Anya's house, which is located in the village of Antonovka, came under heavy mortar fire in December 2022. Windows were broken, the roof was damaged, communications were destroyed. The Lord miraculously preserved them during the Russian attack. She and her children had been asleep in the room that suffered the most from the shelling. However, at 4 o'clock in the morning, for some reason, she woke up, awoke the children, and they moved into a room on the opposite side of the

house, and shelling began almost immediately after that. If they had stayed in the room where they had been before, they would most likely all have died. Anya herself, her children and all of us understand that this was salvation from the Lord and we thank Him for mercy and protection after this night we moved her and her family to another district of Kherson, where they now live. Anya's firm determination to continue the ministry has an impact on Christians in other



regions of Ukraine and even on those who have traveled beyond its borders. For example, a Christian woman from the city of Nikolaev, who personally knows Anya, after seeing a video of our church service in which the children of our Sunday School glorified the Lord, wrote that she was returning to Nikolaev in order to continue serving in her Church. "If you find the strength to stay and serve in Kherson, then all the more we should not be afraid to be in Nikolaev, because there is no such shelling like yours," she wrote in her message. Pray, dear brothers and sisters, for Sister Anya's family, for protection and blessings in the ministry. --Family of Anna Pavlyuk-Chekmareva

Not far from Kherson, 1 kilometer from the outskirts of Antonovka, there is a small village called Antonovka Railway Station. This village is located in a very dangerous place - 200

meters from the Dnieper and is very often fired upon by Russian invaders. Despite this, about 20 families (60 people) continue to live in it. Almost since the liberation of Kherson, there has been no electricity, water or gas in the village.



That is why our church tries to constantly support and bring supplies to these people. A few days ago we were in the village again - we brought food and lights. People sincerely thank God and the people through whom He sends help for them. One of the most difficult things in modern Kherson is to watch how people suffer from Russian shelling. When you hear a volley of Russian guns from the left bank of the Dnieper, you immediately begin to pray for God's mercy and protection, while realizing that every shell, every rocket that flew past your house may hit your neighbors, relatives or friends. It's a very heavy feeling.

I will give one example. On the evening of May 15, one of our sisters, who lives on the outskirts of the Antonovka country road (a suburb of Kherson), called and said that several bombs had exploded near their home - one in the yard near the house and two more in the garden next to the house. Miraculously, she and her husband managed to hide in the basement (they are both almost 80 years old). It was very scary to listen to a woman, confused and depressed from horror and grief, who told me that their house was destroyed, everything in the yard was shredded and that they did not know how to live on now. At such moments, you feel terrible anger from the realization of your own powerlessness and inability to protect people who need help. In such situations, there is only one remedy - prayer and trust in God. It is especially difficult when trouble comes late in the evening or at night, because of a strictly enforced curfew you cannot go to people to personally comfort and support them. The next morning after the shelling, my son and I went to the victims, expecting to see terrible destruction. Thank God that in the evening our sister could not correctly assess the degree of destruction of the house. Although the windows, doors, car and utility lines were all damaged (gas and water pipes were broken), the house itself survived. Together we repaired the broken windows and repaired the holes in the pipes, thus making the house habitable again. However, it is unbearably painful to see the grief of the people and to understand what horror they experienced during the shelling. They feel "guilty" that they live on Ukrainian soil and consider themselves Ukrainian citizens. Dear brothers and sisters, please pray that the Lord will physically protect the inhabitants of Kherson and other cities of Ukraine, which are in the zone of constant Russian shelling.

-- Oleg Derkachenko - Kherson

School backpacks are a constant need for the children in Ukraine. Faith Mission is supporting a FriedensBote program that sees many children receive backpacks/schoolbags filled with basic school supplies, just before the school year starts. We are looking for monetary donations in order for these backpacks to be purchased in Ukraine/Moldova and distributed to the children in need of them for the school year.

Please mark donations for this #schoolbags





New windows being installed at Elim, the church in Sangerei Moldova to help make it easier to keep the children warm during winter services. Elim is a church dedicated to reaching out to the children of Sangerei and surrounding villages living in extremely poor conditions.

Sucholesy camp has hosted many children's, youth, widow's, and even senior's camps through the years. As you can tell from the picture below they were in desperate need of a new play structure. Along with some new slides and non-rotted wood this will be such a blessing for the children for many years. Thanks to our generous supporters Faith Mission was able to assist with making this happen.



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.

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.

Mailing and Physical Address: 520 Circle K Drive



Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0K4

Phone (204) 325-4086

Email: info@faithmission.ca

www.faithmission.ca



Tuesday (Office only) 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Clothing sorting & baling:

Thursday 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. & 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Drop-Off locations

Bags or boxes of clothing and bicycles may be dropped off at the "DROP-OFF" door on the east side of the Faith Mission building in Winkler.

Faith Mission also has drop-off containers at

821 - 1st St North in GRASSY LAKE, AB.

325 Queen Street in WEYBURN, SK.

These drop-off locations are opened 24 hours a day and emptied on a regular basis. However, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange your delivery.

-Winkler, MB Jake Elias 204-362-7575

+Grassy Lake, AB Dave Teichroeb 403-308-6523

*Weyburn, SK Henry Goertzen 306-450-8871

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

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) 647-7466 David Teichroeb (403) 308-6523

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.

-Faith Mission can also be found on social media platforms for more regular updates

-Instagram @faithmission_winkler

-Facebook @faithmissioninc

-WhatsApp @ Friends of FM/FB

scan the QR code >>



Dear friends and supporters of Faith Mission.....

We are grateful to God that on these days when we remember the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. God gave us the opportunity to meet with many people in different villages, people of different age categories, immigrants, refugees, fellow villagers, many children, and disabled people. The most important thing is that they all heard about how Jesus Christ gave His life for our sins and about the glorious Resurrection of Christ from the dead. Many tracts, children's Bibles and New Testaments were distributed. This holiday answers questions in life for all people and gives hope to all who have accepted the Lord as their Savior and our resurrection for eternal life with Christ. At almost all meetings it was shared that the most important thing is not that people receive a package



of products, but that they have Salvation through Christ. God offers the gift of Eternal Life. The services were held together with friends from the church in Hodiliv. Many of the local pensioners and immigrants attended for the first time, and then, many fellow villagers



came to Steische from the surrounding villages. On the second day, we had a service with all those that are displaced by the war, now living in the district. True, this is only a small part, because there are so many people that cannot be in their own homes at this time. There were three services in the Verkhovyna church... for the local residents and children from the boarding school.

Next in Snyatyn, we had services in 2 boarding schools and at the home for the elderly in Krasno Ilya. Pastor, Vanya from the church at Rivnya conducted the meeting. In total, 10 services were held, 390 food packages and 110 gifts were distributed in the boarding schools and

homes for the elderly and children. About one and a half tons of clothes were also distributed. Flour from Canada was placed in the food packages along with some locally purchased groceries. We are grateful to you, our fellow Christians for the ministry through which we have the opportunity to witness to people about Christ, grateful to everyone who donates funds for this, to the Churches of your locality and other countries. Blessed are you on these festive days

Peter N. Chernivtsy - Carpathians.

Every year Faith Mission supports multiple children's and youth camps across Ukraine and Moldova. We as the board were reminded on our last visit to Ukraine of the lasting impact that these camps have on so many children. In the Carpathian region of Ukraine there are now several leaders in the churches that came to the saving knowledge of Christ through these camps.

Hearing the testimonies of some of these just increases the desire to continue supporting this very important work that the churches are doing. For the 2023 summer we have committed to supporting the camps at Steische, South-Western Ukraine; Sucholesy, Central Ukraine; Sangerei, North-Central Moldova; and Chisinau, Central Moldova. It is our hope that these camps will be able to proclaim God's love to all those who attend. The struggle this year, even more than other years, is finding men who are able to run the camps in Ukraine. So many of the young men have left the country because the threat of being drafted is so high and in order to avoid this they

have decided to leave the country to spend the duration of the war elsewhere. This leaves mostly the elderly and women with the children behind to continue this work. Please pray that the Lord will provide the strength to those that remain to fulfill the necessary tasks and that they can find people willing to fill the needed roles. Please also pray for each of the souls that will be coming to these camps that they may be receptive to God's calling and that many young lives can be turned to God. We know and have heard of many communities where the city officials have recognized that these children camps and different children services that many of these churches initiate have such a profound impact on children that they(city officials and police) notice a drastic drop in crime rates in most of these areas. 📺 📺



\$2000 \$1000

\$500 \$300

\$200 \$100

\$50 \$25

Other Amt \$ _____

God loves a cheerful giver....."

Date: _____

Cheque # _____

Please use my donation for:

Other _____

Shipping Costs

Gift Boxes

Ukraine - People in Need

Heating

Earthquake

Wherever Most Needed

Food

Bicycles

Schoolbags

(2023-#03)

When donating via e-Transfer, please make sure to provide us with your mailing address as well the specific area you want the donation used in the memo portion of the e-transfer so that we are able to issue a Tax-Deductible receipt at the end of the year.

Please 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

Email: donations@faithmission.ca



For Office Use: Entered Deposit Mailing List XFer to FB



Newsletter Sign-up

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.

Please send my Newsletter in PDF to my email: _____

Please check the correct box indicating you are

signing up for the newsletter

signing up for ADP

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 _____ day of each month.

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

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Code _____

Signature : _____ Date: _____

6

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

