

Mission Newsletter



FAITH MISSION

July-August 2024

Number 170

Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any food?" They answered Him, "No!" John 21:5

I am amazed at the simplicity of Christ's relationship with the disciples. These rather grown men, who at this age had to not only be fed themselves, but also feed others, He simply called them "children". Thereby showing that He is willing to take full responsibility for their needs.

It is important to note that the question concerned the most urgent need - food. How often do we ask naive questions like: How are you doing? How's the weather? Is everything all right with you? But, are we interested in the real situation, the real picture of the whole situation, what is the most urgent need right now: "Do you have any food?"

878 days of the war. It seems like an eternity. You have to come to terms with the fact that relatives and friends, friends from the church, brothers are unlikely to return "to their circle". You get used to the fact that many people are tired of the constant needs and requests of those in the active fighting areas. There are fewer and fewer of those who would ask the difficult questions.

And with this decline of interest of so many in supporting the needy, the image of Christ shines even more valuable – Caring, Loving, Interested in the situation. What a charm it is today to see the image of the Saviour in the face of brothers and sisters.

Heartfelt gratitude to those who have not ceased to be interested and supportive...

This is an excerpt of a letter from pastor Leonid in Kharkiv, he goes on for 13 pages talking about recent workings in and around Kharkiv, I call you to pray as they continue to deal in the effects of the war. If you would like to read the entire letter it will be attached to this newsletter on our website www.faithmission.ca

The first children's camp in 2024 in the Carpathians. The village of Grinyava.

This is one of the most remote villages from Verkhovyna, about 20 km away is the Romanian border. The first time we visited this village, if I am not mistaken, was at the beginning of 1998. We met people in the club. And then there were a lot of trips and meetings with people, in the same year a group of friends from Germany came, with Viktor Rogalsky, we had a service in the villages in the district, in Grinyava there was a meeting on the street near the village council, it was May. Victor was then the director of the mission; I think there are photos somewhere in the mission. True, the road there is not very good, especially the last 20 km. Now it seems to me that this is the most broken road in all my trips. But very hospitable people live there, who are there for the sake of the church. In this village, there are several members of the Church who serve in Verkhovyna. This year, thanks be to God, we held our first camp here, which was held in a local school. On Sunday evening, a group of teachers and leaders from Chernivtsi and surrounding region arrived, settling in the House of Prayer in the village of Rivnya. These friends are very eager and prepared for children's service, it would not be easy without them. This is the third year they have been helping us and they have agreed to help us with three camps in the Carpathians. In winter they assist us with the services and distribution of gifts, services to start the school year. It is important to note that they have two large Mercedes Sprinters, which help with transportation.



The theme of the children's camps in the Carpathian region was focused on the story of Esther. As you can tell from this picture, the help that they have received at the camps for group leaders etc are mostly young ladies, very few men available for this work.



Continued on page 2>>>>>>>>>

Making the stories of the Bible come alive for the children can make it so much easier to remember a particular story. These children have seen the story of Queen Esther in a new way, and are now wondering "Am I here, for such a time as this?"



On Monday morning, and every morning for the rest of the week, at 7:30, we went to Grinyava, where our brother Dima, who lives there, met us and the school principal. Not every community is as hospitable as in this school. On this day, all the teachers meet with the director, it is clear that there is a friendly team. We treated them all to coffee and tea, with sandwiches, there were conversations. It was not just a children's camp; it was the evangelization of the village. We had a ministering group of 4 brethren. Every day parents

Our friends from Canada recently said that they had sent 40 containers to our region. This is incredible, I am once again convinced of what a Great God we serve, He cares about material things, and offers forgiveness and Eternal Life to all who listen to His word. Friends, it is impossible to imagine the ministry without the



Many of the pictures that we are receiving of the children's camps this year are scenes like this. At first glance it looks quite normal...but you will notice that they are in a hallway instead of a classroom, near a window where they can get sunlight, as the electricity is off. They have to deal with situations like this all across Ukraine due to the ongoing war.



At each of the camps the children all receive a children's Bible for them to take home and read to further learn about the Love of God. In many of these Orthodox homes the thought of God is not strange but for most of them it is a strange concept to have a relationship with Him. They are used to God being someone looking down on people; as a king on his peasants, not as a father looking lovingly at his children. For them to be able to have their own Bible to read and study at home is so important if they are to have a lasting relationship with God as their Saviour and cultivate what they have been introduced to at these camps.

participation of you, the friends of the mission in Germany, USA and Canada. Many villagers came, I did not count how many. Two sermons were offered, conversations, and singing. On the day of camp, forecasters broadcast rain all week, we were concerned thinking about how we would distribute the clothes. But
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and other villagers came, there were sweets, tea and coffee for them. The brothers talked a lot, there was a large library nearby, a lot of literature, and many books were distributed.

On Thursday was the feast of the Ascension. We asked the villagers for a meeting and as the community center has begun repairs, the school principal allowed us to go to the gym. Of course, the incentive that would attract people was the clothes, so we advertised that at the end there would be a distribution of clothes. Many people say, well, why the clothes? Because without them it would be difficult for us to gather people. So that is the service that you, friends of the mission do, you gather, sort and bale the clothes, it brings blessings from God to the people, and they can hear about Our Lord Jesus Christ. Many thanks to everyone who participates in this ministry, and to Sasha, who transports everything, I don't even know how many flights he has made to the Carpathians.

Far removed from the Eastern frontlines, the peace and tranquility of God's creation makes the Carpathian mountains a perfect setting for so many children's camps throughout the summer months. Many churches from different parts of Ukraine bring their children and youth here for camps.



2023 Faith Mission FriedensBote Financial Report

FAITH MISSION (FRIEDENSBOTE) INC.
 Unaudited Statement of Operations
 For the year ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUE		
Received donations	\$ 787,017	\$ 858,112
Collections - unreceipted donations	92,212	106,647
Interest and miscellaneous	2,878	801
Rental income	200	90
	882,307	965,650
OPERATION COSTS		
Freight and duty	206,830	212,094
Supplies	31,620	20,357
Direct wages	18,576	-
Overseas missions	198,274	454,820
Fundraising expenses	8,534	-
	463,834	687,271
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	4,931	9,736
Donor newsletters	17,552	14,555
Gifts in kind	9,023	4,246
Insurance	7,896	2,190
Interest and bank charges	642	1,424
Office, stationery and postage	11,793	6,549
Postage and shipping	8,151	9,032
Professional fees	14,766	16,282
Property taxes	5,522	4,934
Rent and leases	1,950	4,310
Repairs and maintenance	18,685	7,863
Supplies	9,404	3,568
Travel	7,945	18,254
Utilities	9,842	10,051
	128,102	112,994
INCOME BEFORE OTHER ITEMS	290,371	165,385
Gain on disposal of capital assets	417,493	-
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 707,864	\$ 165,385

FAITH MISSION (FRIEDENSBOTE) INC.
 Unaudited Statement of Changes in Net Assets
 For the year ended December 31, 2023

	General Fund	Invested in Capital Assets	2023	2022
NET ASSETS - Beginning	\$ 62,612	\$ 915,796	\$ 978,408	\$ 813,023
Excess of revenue over expenses	290,371	417,493	707,864	165,385
Investment in capital assets	(19,852)	19,852	-	-
NET ASSETS - Ending	\$ 333,131	\$ 1,353,141	\$ 1,686,272	\$ 978,408

The above financial report is a summary of our donations and costs for 2023. In 1995, our first full year of operations was the first year we received over \$100k in donations, as we all know what inflation has done in the last few years it is not hard to believe that we need a lot more than that to do the same amount of work in 2024. According to the CRA inflation calculator that \$100k from 1995 is now worth over \$184k. Keeping in mind that not only are we dealing with inflation but also our additional other costs. For example in 2023 we spent \$40k towards the firewood project, \$54k to pastor support, \$45k to children's camps, and \$80k to food products purchased, as well as all of these expenses FM also shipped 13 containers in 2023 for the total cost of \$206k. As of the writing of this newsletter we have shipped 10 containers in 2024, with another 8 quite possible before the end of the year.

In the first 6 months of 2024 our donations are down to less than half of what we had received through June last year. With the amount

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 304,041	\$ 218,746
Accounts receivable	3,960	3,960
Government remittances refundable	24,113	14,118
Inventory	20,281	21,574
Prepaid expenses	7,175	6,540
	359,570	264,938
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 4)	1,353,141	1,554,370
	\$ 1,712,711	\$ 1,819,308
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 25,242	\$ 202,326
Loan payable	-	638,574
Government remittances payable	1,197	-
	26,439	840,900
NET ASSETS		
General fund	333,131	62,612
Invested in capital assets	1,353,141	915,796
	1,686,272	978,408
	\$ 1,712,711	\$ 1,819,308

FAITH MISSION (FRIEDENSBOTE) INC.
 Unaudited Statement of Cash Flow
 For the year ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 707,864	\$ 165,385
Non-cash items affecting operations:		
Gain on sale of capital assets	(417,493)	-
Net change in non-cash working capital balances	(185,224)	383,305
	105,147	548,690
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Reduction of loans payable	(638,574)	-
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of capital assets	(310,278)	(658,306)
Proceeds from disposal of capital assets	929,000	-
	618,722	(657,791)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	85,295	(109,101)
CASH - Beginning	218,746	327,847
CASH - Ending	\$ 304,041	\$ 218,746
CAPITAL ASSETS		
	2023	2022
Buildings	\$ 1,072,687	\$ 1,401,987
Land	205,000	80,286
Equipment	60,009	56,650
Computer hardware	15,445	15,445
	\$ 1,353,141	\$ 1,554,370

of support we have already sent to Ukraine to support camps, pastors, and other projects we are having a hard time seeing how we will be able to send all the containers of material and aid that we currently have on hand and will be receiving through the coming months. **We are asking for your help to make this, our 30th year, our best one yet.**

We have received more clothing and other material donations this year than ever before and we are in need of funds to get them into the hands of the needy in Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and Kyrgyzstan.

May God continue to bless all of you for your support and prayers as we all try to make life at least a bit easier for the people in the war-torn region of Ukraine.

Matthew 6:33 KJV "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Our Alberta building project has come far enough that on July 20, 2024 we were able to ship Faith Mission's 300th container out of Grassy Lake. The picture to the right was taken the day before the container was loaded. The addition hasn't been completed yet so we were quite pressed for space in the building. We were able to get enough bales made that we could load the container with 229 bales, 6 skids of Prairie Gleaners soup mix, 5 skids of flour from P&H Milling in Lethbridge, 15 bicycles, and 46 boxes of diapers and wet wipes that we raised funds for in the week leading up to loading. Thank you to everyone that has contributed to this project and has supported Faith Mission, not only for this container but it is only because of the thousands of supporters that we have that we have been able to send any containers. It is very hard to believe that we have sent 300 containers overseas. If we think back over the years of the many people that have volunteered their countless hours of faithful service, the several million



dollars of donations that have paid to ship these clothes etc, we feel so blessed by God to be able to be a part of what He is doing through all of you. God has richly blessed us in North America and it is so important for us to remember that these possessions aren't ours to keep but God's and that we are asked to share with others.

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.faimission.ca

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

Clothing sorting & baling:

Winkler - Thursday 1:00 to 4:30 pm & 7:00 to 9:00 pm
 Grassy Lake

Drop-Off locations

Clothing and bicycles may be dropped off in the "DROP-OFF" rooms of the Faith Mission buildings in Winkler:

Cargill Rd. @ Circle K Dr.

Grassy Lake: @ 605 - 1st St North.

Faith Mission also has a drop-off container at 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 Nathan Elias 204-647-7466

+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	Abe Unrau	(204) 685-2320
Andy Elias	(204) 325-6446	John Peters	(204) 325-1383
David Teichroeb	(403) 308-6523	Albert Kornelsen	(204) 332-2109
Willy Thiessen	(204) 332-2035	Edward Penner	(204) 392-4229

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. is a nonprofit, registered charitable organization based in Winkler, Manitoba.

Faith Mission was incorporated on May 16, 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 >>

<<Brand new website faithmission.ca



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.

****For ADP - Please enclose a blank cheque marked 'VOID'**

I hereby authorize automatic withdrawals from my account on the (1st) or (16th) day of each month.
(please circle your choice)

Total monthly donation amount \$ _____, commencing on _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Code _____

Signature : _____ Date: _____

Email: donations@faithmission.ca - (Provide mailing address for Receipts)



Thank you very much for your help!!! This is truly a great blessing for us!!! Thank God for you!! Viktor Marchuk

When we were visiting the Sukholessy camp in March we were asked if we would be able to assist them in replacing the chairs and tables that they had been using for the last number of years. As part of our next shipment to that region we were able to include folding chairs and tables that we purchased from Costco. If you would like to donate funds towards this or future projects like this please mark your donation "Children's Camp". With donations like this they are able to continue to host children's camps year after year. These chairs arrived at the camp just prior to the camps getting into full swing and will be a huge blessing to all the campers. This shipment of 150 chairs and 22 tables cost us just over \$9000 CAD and they will be able to use them for a long time. This camp hosts 6-12 children's camps per year as well as widow camps, senior camps, and many other meetings and camps for other groups.



\$2000 \$1000 Date: _____ Cheque # _____
 \$500 \$300 Please use my donation for: Wherever Most Needed
 \$200 \$100 Shipping Costs Children's Camps
 \$50 \$25 Ukraine - People in Need Heating / Firewood
Other Amt \$ _____ Literature / Bibles Alberta Building Project
(2024-#03) *God loves a cheerful giver.....* Food Bicycles Other _____

When donating via e-Transfer, please make sure to provide us with your mailing address as well as the specific need you want the donation used for 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 Cheque made payable to Faith Mission



Email: donations@faithmission.ca

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the last day. I loaded up my van and brought 60 boxes, as much as it holds. We laid clothes out in the courtyard of the school, as you can see in the video, there was one box of clothes left at the end, that was all that the people did not take. I promised people that if God wills, we will come again later in the summer and send them to school with backpacks loaded with school supplies, which we had previously discussed with the school principal.

The theme of the camps was based on the book of Esther. The children learned verses from the Bible, sang a lot, and did needlework with Bible verses. Of course, the children were attracted by inflatables as well as regular trampolines, cotton candy and popcorn, friends who came to help with the camp have everything for serving the children, this is very important. On the last day in the morning there was a downpour, I thought there would only be a few children, but it was the other way around. From the neighboring village of Holoshino, which is about 20 km from Grinyava, we had agreed to bring about 30 children. The road is not easy to pass by an ordinary bus because of the bad road, but we travelled this road in a GAZ 66 car, converted to transport children, we hauled these 30 children from a boarding school. The children live at the school from Monday and go home to their troubled homes on Friday for the weekends.

On average, there were 14 people involved in a day including teachers and an evangelism group, and an average of 75 children, although there are about 200 children in the school, the director said. We could not pay for the bus, it was very expensive, and only the first camp. At the end of the camp, children's Bibles were given to them, which the friends from Chernivtsi had brought. And so, the first camp ended. It was only a warm-up. On Monday(June 24), God willing, we'll continue. We are waiting for the teachers as it is not completely clear how many will come. From Monday we have simultaneous services in

the school in the village of Bukovets, the village of Iltsi Club, and Polyanky on the territory of the House of Prayer, where tomorrow we plan to put up a tent.

There were three days at Staishche, where the final preparations are taking place, there are still many purchases, and on Sunday, after the morning service, with several brothers from the Godylov Church, we go to the Carpathians. Our dear friends, pray, because it will not be easy, all our hope is in God, and His mercy, I still want to use the opportunities that we have so that children and their parents hear about our Great and Eternal God. Not only does time go on in our nation, but we believe and know that God reigns, and everything is in His power. We are in His protective hand, His children, saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. He promised to be with us all the days until the end of the age. And if God is with us, it doesn't matter who is against us.

Blessings to all the friends of the mission and to all who support your and our ministry.

Although the camps mentioned in this letter have already been held there are many others that are currently going on, please join us as we pray, every day, for all the camps in various regions of Ukraine that are running currently and throughout the summer.

Pray specifically... for the co-ordinators as they lead out and plan for the camps... / for the leaders that travel from different areas, coming to each camp... / for the parents that are allowing their children to come to camp, that they can understand their duties as parents and they can begin a right relationship with Christ as well... / -for each of the children that will be present, regardless of their background or history, that this can be the beginning of their Salvation story.