

# Mission Newsletter

September - October 2025



**FAITH MISSION**  
FriedensBote Inc

Number 177

**“Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God,” Acts 15:19**

At one point in Jesus’ time on earth, parents were bringing their children to Him to be touched and blessed by Him (Mark 10:13-16). The disciples shooed them away, thinking they were helping and that the children were distracting Jesus from more important things. At this, Jesus got upset—well, more than upset. He was angry with His disciples for getting in the way of people coming to Him, even (perhaps especially) children. The people of God are called to remove barriers so that others can come to Him, not get in the way.

In Acts 15, we read of some tension in the early Church over what it meant to be a part of the people of God and what was required. It’s easy to understand the struggle. The requests of the Jewish Christians to place restrictions and requirements on the Gentiles coming to Christ were probably not malicious. They wanted to do things right. They had a history of being God’s people, and so far, nothing really made them change their minds on what that entailed. So, they pushed for Gentiles

to become Jews in order to follow Jesus. This first, then that. Men, we like our categories. Vagueness is not our friend. If we follow the instructions, we really follow the instructions. But when it comes to bringing people to God, instructions can be a barrier, and those kinds of barriers to God can be dangerous. Fortunately, James understood that God was doing a new thing. The words of Peter still ringing in his brain, reorganizing all the categories of what it meant to be God’s people— James addressed the issue of Gentiles becoming Jewish to follow Jesus. He removed as many barriers as he could. He dismissed the unnecessary and invited the Gentiles to be one with God’s people. Folks, are we James or Judaizers? Do we put barriers of tradition and preference up between God and others? Or do we tear them down to make way for others to find the love of God?

<https://www.impactus.org/daily-devotional/get-out-of-the-way/>

## Summer of the Lord's Blessings 2025

Dear brothers and all the friends of Faith Mission, peace be upon you! Another summer given to us by God is coming to an end. It is not just that there are so many experiences, difficulties, and hopes, but most importantly, the Lord was and is, and we believe that He always will be with us. As the war continues and so many people are dying, unfortunately so many are also dying spiritually. We thank God that He has given us relative peace in our region, although from time to time they do fly into our regions. Again and again in our cities the dead are buried. Just today I was at the funeral of a young man, a pastor's son, a casualty of the war. The worst thing is when these people enter eternity without the hope that we Christians have. And how you want to speak

out, even shout, that there is hope, there is a way out, even now in this terrible time that is affecting not only Ukraine but the entire world. Our calling is to tell people, adults and children, that all hope is not lost. There is a Bible that answers all the difficult questions that arise in life and indicates how to solve them. It tells us how to live in this end time and how to avoid even more terrible disasters that are coming to the whole world. The answer is our Savior, Jesus Christ, who comes through His chosen ones and gives hope no matter what. One thing is expected of us, to believe and follow Him and point out to others that there is hope, that God in Heaven controls everything that happens





*Good food is important for survival, part of our support for children's camps provides them the ability to feed all of the children three meals a day for each camp. ◀◀◀◀*

*Just as our bodies need food to sustain life our souls also need to be fed. It is exciting to see the hunger for the Word among children and their parents when it comes time to distribute Christian literature, Bible story books, New Testaments, Christian living books, all eagerly picked out and taken home. Please pray for these children as they study these books in the coming weeks and months. ▶▶▶▶*



in the world. God's mercy and long-suffering is great, He does not want anyone to perish, but for all people to be saved, grace is enough for all who come to Him. Soon God will put an end to the earthly history of mankind, grace will end, and God will bring justice to everyone. For the prophet Isaiah said: "O you who remain in the Lord! Do not be silent." My brothers, this is what we are trying to do currently. Although we do not always fulfill this calling as we should, we want to do what we can. This is what gives us joy and happiness in this ministry, although there are many difficulties. Although life passes so quickly, we cannot afford to stop. Although my strength is far from what it was in the past, I want to serve God increasingly through evangelization to adults and children, which we try to do all year round. For me, it does not matter that each season; winter, spring, summer, and autumn time is constantly spent with adults and children in many different villages, I want to use any opportunity for evangelism. Summer is especially so, as there are children's camps. So many prayers in winter and spring, where to get educators, how to organize meals, how to negotiate with the administrations of different places, and of course, one of the important issues is the financing of these services. The costs are very high and without your help it would be impossible. We, on behalf of all the children, their parents, on behalf of the administrations of villages and schools, on behalf of all the wonderful educators who came from different cities of Ukraine, are so grateful to God for you the churches of the West which support our ministry. You have never refused us, although we know that everything is not easy for you, but there is a God in heaven who takes care of His own.

This year's camps began on June 9 in the village of Hrynyava and ended on August 6 in the village of Velykyi Kuchurov. Looking back, I can't help but say Praise the Lord over and over again! Thank God for his wonderful mercy to us. Hrynyava, Zelene, Bukovets, Krasnyk, Iltsi, Staishche, Verkhovyna boarding school, Verkhovyna school, Khodak, Rivnia, Tuchapy, Polyanky, Yablunytsia, Godyliv, Godyliv school, Velyky Kuchurov, a total of 16 camps, about 1900 children, about 200 educators. This is a miracle of God. The biggest worries were where to get the teachers. But we have a God who moved hearts and those who ask Him, receive. God spoke to the hearts of our wonderful Christian youth, and of course there were seniors and middle-aged people among them. From Kharkiv, Kiev and the region,

Odessa, Cherche, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, Chernivtsi as well as the Carpathian region, and friends from the churches of Tuchapy, Rivnya, and Staishche participated in these services. Friends, Thank God He kept us safe, both children and adults, there was no food poisoning, although the kitchens were different in different places, there were no complaints from children that someone was sick or had a stomachache. This is probably the biggest worry for children, perhaps there was an instance somewhere, but there are no cases that were reported. God protected the children from serious injuries, although there was the occasional skinned knees and elbows, and some small bruises, this comes as no surprise with this amount of children exerting this amount of energy. Many of us in our older years still have scars from back when we were younger and carried on like this as well, it is a part of growing up. The most important thing is that how many children studied obedience to God in the camps, and from the testimonies of the children it is evident that these camps are not in vain.

We have had a good tradition for many years of holding meetings with parents for one day in camps, in all the locations where it is possible. They see what their children are taught, how they are fed, how they are treated, and of course there is always a word to parents about their responsibility for their children before God. At such meetings, we always distribute clothes at the end, which encourages the people to come. We are thankful to God, friends, for this service of yours. More than one truckload was distributed in places where it was possible. Humanitarian aid is not secondary, but in most places, it is critical. There are some villages where parents with small children came in the morning and did not leave until the end of the camp, there were conversations with them, for which the brothers were responsible. Friends, another miracle we witnessed was that during all the services there was not a single day of rain, it only ever rained in the evening, when the children had already gone home. Although it rained every day for the one week between the camps, and it was very heavy, there was no camp on those days. In past years we have experienced many times when it rained and the camps still took place, we are so thankful to God for this.

The summer camps ended on August 6, and on August 11, services began before the school year, with the presentation of backpacks. These services were attended by about 1000 children. I don't remember how this idea came about, how many years ago we





*Much of the children's camps activities/sessions happen outside, we are so grateful for the wonderful weather that they had this year through-out all the camps they were blessed with sunshine. This shelter at Steische was built to withstand rain and wind storms but also provides shade from the sun.*

in many villages, where we distributed notebooks and toothbrushes. Brother Jake and Nathan, from Canada, were then at these meetings. I asked you then if you could buy some backpacks, thank God you did not refuse and for many years now we have been continuing these services. Today we handed over 80 backpacks that will be transported to East Ukraine, orphans who were left without parents. In the backpacks we put children's Bible story books, the New Testament, "Jesus Our Destiny", many tracts, cereal that Sasha brought, sweets that friends from Canada sent in the spring, notebooks and school supplies. Tomorrow we will visit the closing of the camp in one of the churches of Chernivtsi, a camp for widows and orphans whose husbands died in the war. I prepared for them 50 backpacks that Sasha brought from Friedensbote back in wintertime, I had kept them back for this time. Tomorrow I will buy some sweets for the children and bananas and go to the closing of this camp. This Church helps us a lot in ministering with children in summer and winter. They asked us to come with something to give to the children, offer backpacks and some Canadian gifts that are still preserved, they are very thankful. Friends, there is so much joy in the children who receive backpacks and the surprise of parents and teachers, you should see it. We thank God for all the diverse projects that we have thanks to your support. We held one-day meetings to distribute backpacks, in the church in Godylov, two Saturdays in a row, where there were

about 300 children and many parents. On Sunday, there were also about 50 children in Godylov, and we treated them to lunch. We were also in the Dovgopolye school, the Iltsy club, the Verkhovyna school as well as the church. Friends from Tuchapy held a meeting in the village of Zelene, at the village hall. At another meeting in our village backpacks were handed over to children from Kherson who were here, about 20 children. Friends, more than 1000 children have already been to these meetings and received backpacks. I still have about 40 backpacks left, because there will still be individual requests from different people and there should always be a supply. In total, 1200 backpacks were bought.

Of course, my friends, I want to look for an opportunity and a method of how to attract children to meetings for the beginning of the school year, on Saturdays but it is very difficult. We have already made announcements in Godylov at all the meetings there that starting Saturday, September 6, at 11.00 all are invited for an exciting meeting we plan for every Saturday, but how many will come? Pray for this too. I want to have contact with children and parents. Perhaps you have some ideas, we would be grateful for your suggestions. Christmas is coming very soon, and from the beginning of December we are planning, if God wills, more gift box services. In the meantime, there will be meetings in many places with humanitarian aid, which I will also report on. Blessings to you,



*So many of the pictures we received this year of camps in different locations across Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, etc. showed rooms filled to capacity for the different camps. Many camps saw record numbers of children attending. Many villages hosting camps for the first time far exceeded expectations for the number of students.*







I have often told the story of how Faith Mission started back in the early 90's in response to a request for clothing in Ukraine. In the 30+ years since that meager beginning we have shipped nearly 5 million kilograms of aid to Ukraine and surrounding countries. In the last few years Faith Mission has put a lot of emphasis and focus on other projects like gift boxes and children's camps. Although we have branched out from the shipments of only clothing that we sent in the first years, and the needs of the clothing, although different than they used to be, it has not gone away. The clothing has remained the foundation for our shipments of humanitarian aid and most of our need for volunteers focuses on sorting and baling the clothes before they get shipped out. Our volunteers spend around 25,000 hours at our two Faith Mission warehouses with many additional hours of working from home. As you can imagine, those hours were not all put in by one or a few people. These hours are spent at Faith Mission by no less than 1000 people who come and work in so many different capacities throughout a year. A lot of the volunteers we see on a regular basis, are people that have been volunteering regularly for many years already. As the years have passed by, it seems many of our volunteers have gotten older and yet it seems that there are not many younger volunteers stepping in to fill the holes left by the retiring ones. We currently have a few specific areas we are looking for more people to do certain jobs that require a little bit of experience or training. One of these areas where we are looking for some ladies to do some additional work is sorting through the bags of clothes that have been sorted out that were not fit for sending as they were. We would also gladly have some more ladies interested in sewing denim blankets as we have many boxes of tops ready to sew as well as even more boxes of denim patches that need serging into blanket tops.

If you prefer coming to help in the evenings with your family we are also in need of some

more families that would like to come in on Thursday evenings on a regular basis and help get bales made during that time. Also as is mentioned in every newsletter we are always happy to schedule in your small groups, youth groups, Bible study groups or even just a family or a group of friends for an evening or Saturday. If you would like more details on any of this please contact our office at 204-325-4086 or [info@faithmission.ca](mailto:info@faithmission.ca).

**Volunteers Welcome!**  
If your Youth Group, Bible Study group, or family 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**

**Office phone (204) 325-4086**

**Nathan (204)647-7466 [nathan@faithmission.ca](mailto:nathan@faithmission.ca)**

**Email: [info@faithmission.ca](mailto:info@faithmission.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 - by appointment**

### **Drop-Off locations**

Clothing and bicycles may be dropped off in the "DROP-OFF" rooms of the Faith Mission buildings in:  
**Winkler @ 520 Circle K Dr.**

**Grassy Lake @ 605 - 1st St North.**

we also have drop-off rooms at the following locations  
**165067 Hwy 3 Taber, AB (Beside Rocky Mountain Equip)**  
**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 Isaak Unger 306-891-6202

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!**

## Board of Directors

Jake Elias	(204) 325-5446	David Teichroeb	(403) 308-6523
Albert Kornelsen	(204) 332-2109	Edward Penner	(204) 392-4229
John Nickel	(431) 356-0879	Henry Friesen	(204) 362-4681
John Martens	(204) 384-1068	Carlos Funk	(431) 775-2225

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. is a nonprofit, registered charitable organization based in Winkler, 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 bi-monthly and mailed at no cost to those people who have supported us in the past or to those who request information about Faith Mission.

**-For regular updates including videos we can't share in the newsletter please follow Faith Mission on WhatsApp @ Friends of FM/FB >>>>**  
**<<<<website [faithmission.ca](http://faithmission.ca)**



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.



## 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 (1<sup>st</sup>) or (16<sup>th</sup>) 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](mailto:donations@faithmission.ca) - (Provide mailing address for Receipts)**



My desire for the newsletters for this year was to have a section in each edition sharing about the different pastors that we support. My intention with this was to build a bit more of a connection between you as supporters and the pastors with their families. Although I have not been able to do that I will at least make a brief introduction to a few of them, some of these we have often mentioned by name in different newsletters but have rarely had pictures along with those names so that you know who we are talking about. Top-right is Peter and Vera, they are a young couple based in Balti, Moldova. When we last visited there in January 2023 he had a part time job as a barber and then he was a part time pastor on the side. Since then we have started supporting him more as a full-time pastor and because of that he is now the pastor of 2 churches in different villages. Bottom-right; is Jaroslav and Zanna, Jaroslav has been a recipient of our pastor support for many years already as the director of a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center. Jaroslav has very poor eyesight that keep him from being able to obtain a driving license. This limits his options for work and why they are especially thankful that in the last few years they were able to, with our support as a mission, move the rehab center to another village and where they were able to purchase a home for them and their 5 children, just two houses down the street. This makes things so much easier for them as he can now walk to work. Bottom-left; Taras and Galja, lived in Donetsk until the war began there in 2014, they were forced to move into a village 80 kms further into Ukraine and lived there until the front-line came at them in 2022 when they were again forced to leave their home and move to Uzyn where they now live with their 2 daughters as well as Galja's mother. Taras serves as the deacon in the Uzyn church and Faith Mission assists them on a monthly basis with financial support so that he



can remain focused on the work of the church. Being in central Ukraine this church have seen thousands of refugees throughout the last three-and-a-half years as these people flee from the war torn areas in the east and move further west as they are able. The Uzyn church in particular as helped many of these refugees with clothing and food. Many different people have also used this church as a shelter for a night or several as needed.





☐ \$2000
☐ \$1000

☐ \$500
☐ \$300

☐ \$200
☐ \$100

☐ \$50
☐ \$25

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

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

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Please use my donation for:
 ☐ Wherever Most Needed
 ☐ Shipping Costs
 ☐ Children's Camps
 ☐ Pastor Support
 ☐ Heating / Firewood
 ☐ Literature / Bibles
 ☐ Christmas Gift Boxes
 ☐ Food
 ☐ Bicycles
 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

(2025-#03) God loves a cheerful giver....."

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](mailto:donations@faithmission.ca)

For Office Use: Entered ☐ Deposit ☐ Mailing List ☐ XFer to FB ☐



As a result of my trip to Georgia in July and in order to keep our supporters informed we are planning to do a tour of presentations across Western Canada as well as a trip down into the USA. We have had the opportunity to introduce many people to Faith Mission and the work we do through presentation tours like this over the years and our aim this time is to go all the way into Mexico and do presentations there as well. We are still in the planning stages as of the writing of this but we have made some connections and have a few dates filled up. So far the following presentations are planned and we are open to a few more especially in Texas and Mexico where there are open dates.

Sep 26 – Winkler MB (Bethel Bergthaler Church Supper 5-7pm)  
 Sep 28 – Steinbach MB (Sommerfeld Mennonite Church 7:00pm)  
 Oct 4 – Grassy Lake AB (Community Hall-Supper/Bake Sale/Auction)  
 Oct 5 – Chaplin SK (Community Hall 2:00 pm)  
 Oct 19 – Winkler MB (Zion Mennonite Church 7:00 pm)  
 Oct 24 – Preeceville SK ( Community Hall 7:00pm)  
 Oct 25 – Osler SK (Community Hall 7:00 pm)  
 Oct 26 – Foam Lake SK (Northern Lights Fellowship 2:00pm)  
 Nov 5 – Grassy Lake (Community Hall 7:30 pm)  
 Nov 6 – Vauxhall AB (Reinland Mennonite 7:30pm)  
 Nov 7 – Willingdon AB (Hillside Church 7:30pm)  
 Nov 11 – La Crete (Heritage Center supper/presentation/auction)  
 Nov 20 – Boley, Oklahoma (Boley Mennonite Church)  
 Nov 21 – Paris/Tigertown, Texas  
 Nov 22 – El Oasis, Mexico - Not Confirmed  
 Nov 23 – Jaqueyes, Mexico  
 Nov 24 – El Valle, Mexico - Not Confirmed  
 Nov 26 – Campo 27 - Friedensfeld, Mexico (Gimnasio)  
 Nov 27 – Campo 105, Mexico (Gimnasio del Campo 105 )  
 Nov 29 – Seminole, Texas - Not Confirmed  
 Nov 30 – Hugoton, Kansas (4-H Building)

If you have friends/family in these areas please help us out by letting them know, we find one of the best advertising methods is word-of-mouth. If you would like a poster to advertise any of these evenings please check our website or contact our office.

I would like to take this opportunity to request your prayers as we prepare to go to all these different places. Pray for God's protection to cover us as we travel. But also that each of the conversations that we have with everyone we meet along the way may encourage people to follow Christ. Pray that we can not only promote Faith Mission but even more-so that we can glorify God what He's doing and draw many people closer to Him.

I have often been asked when I schedule a presentation, "what is the purpose of doing presentations?" The two main reasons for most of our presentations are:

1. Awareness, we want to make people aware of what God is doing through Faith Mission.
2. Funding, Faith Mission is after all, an organization run by donated funds and we have noticed some years when we didn't get out and presented current happenings to our supporters our donations did take a hit, so definitely one of the reasons for doing tours like this is to be able to continue doing the work we are called to do.

Container #314 met by Alex J and I during our time in Georgia. We had the opportunity to assist with unloading this container and we also saw many of the needs that we can address with future shipments

