

Family Living Ministries International

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Third Quarter 2019



Dr. Marite Tisa

Letter From Latvia

Dear Brothers and Sisters of FLMI Family,

Our love and sincere greetings to you as we work together for our Lord in the way He allows and directs us.

We had a wonderful experience in summer when FLMI – USA Team, Steve and Rob, came to Latvia and we could work together. In the very day they arrived here there was a men's meeting organized by Andrejs in Tisi yard. It was the first gathering of about 20 men after a long time when Don used to lead men's meetings in Talsi. Steve was sharing on topic „We reap what we sow”, Rob was giving his testimony and they had a good Q&A time and fellowship. Missionary Daniel was making real American hamburgers and it all together made a very good worthwhile evening, encouraging men to stand up and be leaders in their families and society.

One of the favorite FLMI events already for several summers is the Camp for FLMI medically supported sick children in Usma, organized and led by Zigrida. First, we want to thank you for your prayers for her health. Praise to the Lord,



Zigrida was in the Camp just 2 weeks after the surgery because of the 3rd stage cancer. She was feeling already so good she could lead the Camp and is feeling good even today. It is so wonderful that we have God who listens to our prayers and answers them according to His promise.



During the Camp, FLMI members took charge of the sick children, allowing parents to enjoy fully seminars and activities provided by pastors Ugis and Vilnis. Children and their helpers attended a row of interesting and thoughtfully planned activities - sessions with a psychologist, music therapist, handcraft workshops by Gita, music lessons by Zita and Harijs, and cookie workshops by Daniel. Everyone had an opportunity to take part in seminar by a physician and dance lessons by a professional dance teacher. In the evening we gathered around the fire and listened to Steve and Rob when they told us how God has led them through tough times in their lives. It was very touching and taught us to lean more on God and trust Him. Steve was doing worshipping together with Rodrigo's mother and others.



Families stayed overnight in the big old school and regardless steep and high stairs, there was always someone to help get up children in wheel-

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chairs. FLMI provided simple and good meals for all about hundred participants. For some families it was a big help. During the Camp Steve and Rob was spending time also building relationship with each family – children and parents, and even some grandparents, getting to know each situation and progress in treatment, also doubts and hardships. The Camp was finishing with a service in the beautiful little Usma wooden church. God touched our hearts when we listened to Steve, Daniel and local pastors. Long after the official end of the Camp, participants did



not want to say good bye sitting in the dining room and eating Zaiga's names day cake (Latvians celebrate names days as well as birthdays). Artis who is not able to speak because of his sickness, even started to cry understanding that we need to depart. We hope to continue with these camps in Usma.

Next four days we spent doing home visits. We went to grocery store to get basic food items and were delivering care packages of food to people in needs; most of them are participants of Talsi Soup Kitchen lead by Zaiga and have very little resources – an older widow who has lost her only child, pastor's widow with severe arthritis, a widow with a daughter with special needs, women with severe epilepsy and other dear people in hard situations. We spent time listening to their life stories and sharing Christ. We were praying for their needs and encouraging them to trust the Lord and grow in Him. Tabita was the main interpreter since most of the people did not speak English.

On Thursday evening prayer meeting Steve was preaching, doing music and Rob was sharing a testimony. We found out that for listeners the fa-



vorite song sang by Steve was "I believe there are angels among us". Next evening Steve, Rob and Andrejs were driving to the sea side village Mersrags to hold a men's meeting there with a topic "False and True Friends". That is very important to realize that there are these two groups of friends especially when people strive getting out of addictions. It might be harder for men to create relationship, but everyone needs some trustful friend helping to grow in the Lord.

Steve was doing a seminar on "Christ's Light in us has a strength" at Talsi Baptist church, but on Sunday he was preaching in the morning service there as well as doing music. Both Steve and Rob took part in the prayer group "Prayers for Children" lead by Marite. Women's group requested a seminar on "How to forgive yourself" which left very deep impact on everyone, reflecting on how good can you drive if looking all the time in rearview mirror.

We visited our FLMI medically supported Liga and Klavs and spent some time with them and their moms. We need to continue to pray for their health, as we should do for all these sick children and their families.



We spent two days at Ciruli village with Gita and Janis in the camp sharing testimonies and music with the children and just loving them. Rob has a gift of communicating with children and he made a lot of friends. Steve was also counseling with some adults

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who start to come to this little, but very active church which tries to reach out in the village.

One day we devoted to home visits in Kandava. God arranged for us to meet some people with severe hardships in their lives and Steve was able to do counseling, also at a retirement home. We met participants of the Soup Kitchen as Zigrida had arranged a lunch for everyone at the same time with music, testimonies, Word and prayers getting to know each other better.



By God's blessing it was a very worthwhile trip, with very long working days and special closeness of God and love from people to whom we were able to minister.

May God bless each one of you richly!

With love and thankfulness,
Marite and FLMI-Latvia Team



Steve and Cindy Jameson Notes From Home

Greetings:

We, the FLMI board and everyone on our FLMI-Latvia Leadership team and our Field Representatives want each of you to know that you are in our prayers and we are very blessed to be working with you in service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As for the 2019 missions' team, Steve & Rob to Latvia was Spirit lead with prayers before, during and after, I can see that our prayers were answered in many ways as you have read from Marite's article.

Prayer works in at least two ways: First, prayer changes us. When we pray, we turn our thoughts toward God – we can see his power, his majesty, his faithfulness and his accomplishments, then our perspective changes. So then as we pray God joins our heart to his, he gives us grace to help in times of need, he changes our thoughts and our attitudes. Second, prayer changes the world around us, not because our prayers change God, but because God has ordained that he will work through our prayers. We could accomplish nothing unless the Holy Spirit is working in the hearts of those we serve.

While serving on the Latvian mission field in July 2019 FLMI was truly blessed by our Lord Jesus. It was the first time for Rob to serve in Latvia for our Lord, which through his testimony, his love for God's children and relationship, many hearts were touched on both sides. We spent a lot of one on one with our children & families that FLMI medically support. It was a great time growing our relationships with them. Each one of them thanked God for the support along with asking us to Thank all supporters for their sacrifice's but also the love and prayers God has put on your heart for His children and the lost.

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As you have read in Marite's article above the team arriving in Latvia hit the ground running in service for our Lord and Savior. It was such a blessing to spend time with each one and to share our lives, and testimonies. Which at times in our lives, we think what do I have to share that the Lord can use to make a difference in someone else's life? We see God working in other people's lives, like Zigrida being healed from her cancer surgery 2 weeks before the Usma camp, which God strengthened her to lead the camp. Seeing FLMI team growing and serving, while being led by our Lord, mentoring to people of all ages for His glory, was a great blessing to see.

When sharing what Christ has done in our lives, we truly do not know the hearts we touch. During while I shared at a camp in Ciruli on the second day, a young lady shared how she has thought of suicide multiple time but did not act on it, along with cutting herself due to being bullied for years. We spent time talking and in prayer which she is now putting her trust & value is in Christ, which touched my heart. I have found that people will not share with others about troubles they are going through till they know that you care. Through this sharing is when they know you care by when you open your heart to them, and this gives you the opportunity to explain how you lean on Christ and explain how they have the same opportunity.

Prior to any activity we are constantly lifting all things up in prayer, because through God's strength and grace is how we accomplish all things in our lives. The Lord revealed to me during the trip to Latvia that when people asked for prayer, they said for my health, God made me realize that we seem to ask for prayers, but when we ask it's like just an umbrella prayer, but His word says "we have not be

cause we ask not" & "to pray as if we have already received it". We need to be more direct and to the point with our prayers, God knows what we need or want, we just need to be more direct in our communication to Him.

FLMI board and Reps want you to know that you are in our prayers & thank you for your prayers and support for Medically supported children, soup kitchens & the sharing of Christ to the lost and His children. We are asking you if you feel lead by our Lord to share this ministry with others.

So, with my above thoughts in mind, consider the excerpt below from "Oswald Chambers: My Utmost for His Highest Sept 22nd devotional" "Our Lord never enforces obedience; He does not take means to make me do what He wants. At certain times I wish God would master me and make me do the things, but He will not; in other moods I wish He would leave me alone, but He does not. "Ye call me Master and Lord" ---but is He?"

His Glory and Honor,
Steve and Cindy Jameson
II Timothy 1:7



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