



## Dear Brothers and Sisters of FLMI Family,

I come to you with sunny summer greetings from Latvia. We are still enjoying sunshine and are very thankful to the Lord for what He allowed us to experience in this summer. I want to cite God's Word from Philippians 1:3: *I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

We are so happy that Steve was able to come to Latvia in August. We had a very busy schedule, but it was worth it although we often got so tired that were not able even to speak when driving back home. A big part of our time was spent in Kandava visiting families who are Kandava Soup Kitchen participants and also families who have children with special needs. There is a family



with several children and the oldest has mental retardation together with attention deficit syndrome and hyperactivity, there is no father in the family, but grandmother has cancer; family has a very little income since mother cares for the sick child and the Soup Kitchen with a bowl of soup and bread is a meaningful support for them. Our main topic of conversations in all families always was - do you know where you will go after

this life ends? Mostly people did not know it and we explained to them the gospel about Jesus Christ coming to the Earth to die for each one of us and so by accepting Him as our Lord and Savior we become God's children and live together with Him eternally being saved from eternal punishment. In one family there was a single mother and two of her children – a daughter and a



son with special needs. Mother and daughter both said that they want to accept Christ in their lives and we led them through the sinner's prayer. Since we talked with many children, we used also an Evangel-cube which has pictures depicting how man's sinfulness separates him from God,

how Jesus died for the man, was buried and resurrected and how Jesus sacrifice at the cross connects the man with God. In each place, Steve also taught how to pray to God boldly being a member of His royal family and asking things in Jesus almighty Name and in strength of His blood shed for us. He left a bookmark as a reminder that there is no one who is stronger than Jesus Blood. A mother who had recently lost her son because of his suicide learned it by heart and next time seeing Steve quoted it. Jesus Blood is indeed our Strength, our Hope, our Joy and Everything.





We visited families in Talsi as well, mostly Soup Kitchen participants and families with children with special needs. Each time visiting families, we bought some food for them to help with everyday surviving. There is a man, 80 years old, he just had fought with cancer (his wife lost her battle with cancer), has worked hard all his life, is a sportsman and still lives in a little, cold, dark place which is smoky because of wooden stove which does not work properly, without water and toilet inside his place. It is a huge blessing being able to help people who have so little and come alongside to strengthen them. He is a champion in checkers, so sharing message about Jesus as his Savior was going in a manner of thought patter of a checker player. You need to be ready to adjust different people and communicate on their thought pattern when sharing gospel.



There was a men's evening with some food, a lot of testimonies and worship music. There were men from different churches, some even not belonging to any church yet, some fighting addictions for a longer time. Steve was the main speaker encouraging men fight spiritual warfare and pray with authority given us from our Heavenly Father as His children. In ladies' group meeting Steve did music and shared about his trials in life and how he was able to overcome them by God's power. We had also some fun time doing silent show and it was so good to see our older sisters sitting and observing it and laughing till tears. Some of them are not able to come to church anymore, but were brought to this meeting. Mostly, the persons who serve with transportation is our FLMI members Eunika and Andrejs.

Steve was a speaker in Event for Couples "From Crash and Bankruptcy to the Haven of Peace During 40 Years of Marriage" in our capital city Riga, organized by Marta, FLMI. It took almost 4 hours as we followed Steve's experience in life starting from his childhood and rattle snake hunting (something you can really catch people's attention since we do not have a lot of snakes and only one is poisonous, let alone that someone would think about hunting them), following



him in military service where he met his wife Cindy, how they went through many trials in life and got through them although it was not easy, nor fast.

Many of us had tears and were crying when this echoed with things

in our lives. We all need strong faith and hope and hearing someone who was able to overcome hardships in God's strength is encouraging. Steve continued in the same church, Golgotha Baptist



church, on Sunday with a sermon on Who We are in Christ. As always, the most requested song is “Angels Among us”; this time he had accompaniment of a professional piano player, too.

Steve was speaking on Latvian Christian Radio in a program, led by Kaspars and Tabita, FLMI; he had also several individual consultations about personal and family problems. We visited old



people homes and Steve was singing and telling about God’s love to people and the Only Way to get to Heaven. There were many people who wanted personal prayers after the event and we were happy to spend a long time with each one of them. In one of the old people homes we celebrated a birthday for a 101-year-old lady. There was also an activity day with children in Ciruli with Gita, FLMI. One Sunday Steve was preaching in a church that some years ago belonged to Leprosarium, but now there is a center for people with special needs. I want to thank you for your prayers because we need protection when going to serve God. I was feeling fine until I entered this church - I got such a pain from neck down to chest that it was hard even to breathe and use my left arm, later my little granddaughter who also attended this service got bitten by a wasp. The pain went away after prayers and anointing after few days and I felt as never having this strong pain.

We had a wonderful retreat in Usma for children with special need and their families. This was the biggest amount of people we have had in Usma – 90 persons. The first thing we did was FLMI Latvia Team meeting when we examined our ministry aspects, what each of us does, how well and how we can grow. We determined and analyzed seven ministry directions: work with families, children and youth, men and women groups; soup kitchen ministry; counseling; financial support; intercessory prayers; art; hospitality. Then we welcomed all the participants, of whom some were there for the first time. Each special child had an angel - FLMI member who took special care for this certain family. Retreat started in Usma church (it was so full as never before) with each family sharing what they expect from this retreat. Mostly it was love, understanding, care, answers from God, rest from everyday



life. We remembered Ervins, a boy with special needs, who always was with us in Usma, but just recently gone Home with the Lord. It followed by a performance of a Christian artist who evangelizes through her paintings – a very deep way to touch people’s hearts. After a very tasty meal, Steve, along with another missionary - Daniel Bush started a talk with participants on what is the goal of your life. At the end we had



ten people who gave their hearts to the Lord for what not only we, but also angels in Heaven were rejoicing. Many people wanted to be prayed for and anointed with oil as Bible tells us to do.



Next day started with musical morning exercises which led into practical workshops – both

for development of coordination and fine motor skills and understanding the need of solid foundation in a life of a Christian. Very positive influence made sports activities for every participant. We had a professional sports coach who knew how to make common activities for people in wheelchairs, fast running teenagers and mothers. There is a family where there are three children with special needs as well as parents are with special needs and during sports activities every family member really put their best effort to do everything possible to win. Only after sports they asked if they could go to sit at a lunch table, in the beginning with me at their side, but later – on their own. Sports in a team really increased their self-esteem and feeling accepted. We had also a photo orientation activity, a wonderful ride in a lake with rafts and a sincere closure of the retreat when participants shared what they will take with them



from Usma retreat.

I want to thank everyone who supports FLMI work in Latvia both financially and with prayers. It is worth it to be a collaboration partner with the Lord!



With love, Marite

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:15

We just want to say thank you for all your prayers and support for this ministry. This trip was definitely full of blessings and challenges as indicated in this article.

In Christ & God's Glory and Honor

Steven & Cindy Jameson