

Family Living Ministries International

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Second Quarter 2020



Dr. Marite Tisa

Letter From Latvia

Dear Brothers and Sisters of FLMI Family,

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise Him. Ps. 28:7.

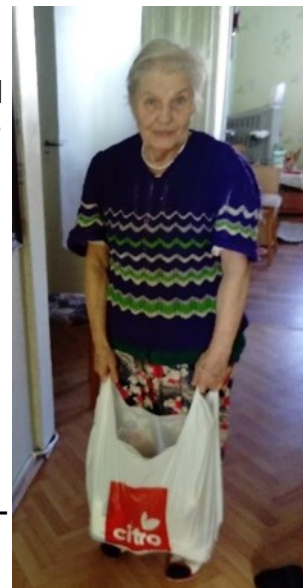
Greetings to you from Latvia, from your family here! In this time we feel even closer to you because all of us in the world go through the same calamity, feel restrictions and insecurity, perhaps even some fear. How good that the Lord is our strength and protection and we can count on that even today and exercise our trust in Him.

Pandemic effects also work of FLMI in Latvia. The Soup Kitchen in Talsi is not allowed to gather as before – around a table sharing God's Word and soup, but we found a way to help people by distributing food packages at home. It is very important for someone who is left with two dollars in pocket to live three more weeks. Sometimes it includes also to buy some essential medicines.

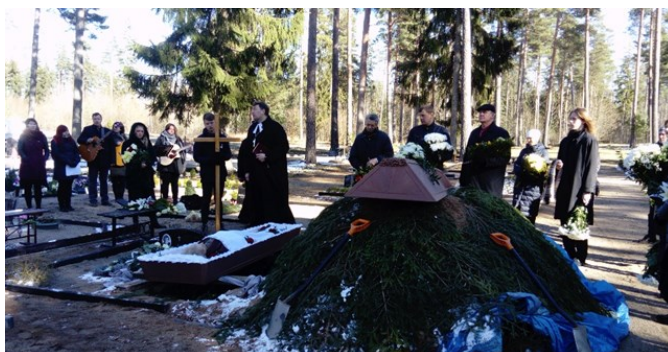
Soup Kitchen in Kandava continues to distribute soup for all the attendants, but for those who are too weak to come themselves to the location of the Soup Kitchen, soup is brought at their homes during home visitations when they also share and pray together.

We feel a big loss because of Zigrida's going Home to be with the Lord. She was very

brave and enduring during the last battle which lasted over 3 months and was very tough and painful. Now after she has fought the good fight of faith she may receive a crown that has been saved by our Lord for those who have faithfully endured their trials. Iveta is the person who continues Zigrida's work with the soup kitchen and has the heart for those in poverty and rejection.



We said farewell to Zigrida on a sunny March day in a time period when we still could attend cemetery and pastors Ugis and Vilnis read Scriptures, looked back on Zigrida's ministry and life which was full of hardships from the early childhood when she had to grow up without parents, later lost her beloved daughter, but she always stayed trustful to the Lord and put her faith only on Him. She had a very big heart and compassion for everyone in need. We can learn from Zigrida to get involved in work for all 100%, she always took every responsibility very seriously and with enthusiasm. We can continue her biggest prayer for her husband to come to the Lord Jesus as his personal Savior.



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Gita and her family is continuing work in Ciruli village and church. After the Sunday services she provides a meal and so everyone can share their testimonies and hardships, ask questions and pray for the needs. Usually it is a big pot of a tasty soup, tea and some cookies. If there is a need for personal consultations, there is always time for them, too.

They have started a seminar cycle for children together with their parents “A Trip Towards the Greatest Gift” about the values of Christian faith.

Gita was also a speaker on Sunday School Conference sharing her rich experience on work with children and organizing children camps, especially in summers. As always, she referred



to teaching she herself had received through FLMI seminars led by Don Clary and how it had helped her, especially about knowing people’s personality types and communicating with them.



During the time when we were not allowed to meet in churches, they used WhatsApp opportunities to communicate and get to know the needs within the church’s body. This time is a challenge for some families, there is a bigger need of support and so they have brought food to many families and also prayed for their health issues.



Social sites are used even to share Scriptures, personal testimonies and thoughts; also to work with children and invite them to make

some handcrafts or little experiments which teach about some Bible truths. Children enjoyed these experiments and those who could not do it themselves, looked at the result shown in pictures with explanation. For instance, we know that we live in a sinful world and God offers His protection, but we can receive it only when we ourselves make a decision to trust Him.

They work also with teenagers and youth, collaborate with neighbor churches and their youth. Recently there was a seminar on boys and girls’ relationships “True love waits”. Gita hopes that after pandemic they will be allowed to continue their work



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in Kolka boarding school and Upesgriva grade school.

Gita and Janis have health issues themselves, too, but they have decided that this will not hesitate them to minister to God. They even understand that if they have spiritual and physical attacks by enemy, they are on the right path. They welcome everyone as a very special person with deep respect, listen to everyone with love, but if needed, they teach also everyone with strong words. God brings broken people and families to this little place and people recognize how their lives are affected by previous traumas and they pray together for God's healing. Gita and Janis even have a dream about this place as a Community Center, not only a building where they come together a few times in a week, but where they live together.

This is a village where there is unemployment, there is not even running water. There is a mother with mental problems who has five little children, they can help with clothing. There is an older man who lives with income under 100 \$ a month, they can help with food. Gita organizes an action to gather food items and later to



distribute them for needed. They make home visitations to the family where the son has done suicide, to women and children whom the husband has abandoned, to families who suffer from unemployment. They also work with young mothers, help children do homework, lead a support group for alcoholics with Bible study, sharing and food, they have handcraft workshops for women and a teenager and youth group. They can observe great things if lives are trusted to God - they change, talents and skills are developed and God widens boarders.

We are thankful for the support for FLMI activities!

With love,
Marite



Steve and Cindy Jameson

Notes From Home

Dear FLMI Family,

Let us consider the challenges of facing trials with Courage & Perseverance and how we can be strengthened by Gods word.

Many Christians have the mistaken idea that once they make a commitment to Jesus, life will be smooth sailing from that day forward. This is certainly not the case. While it is true that walking with Christ will help us avoid many of the problems, we used to face but we are still going to experience what the Bible call "Trials." Trials may come in the form of a crisis, a sudden illness, the loss of a loved one, or some drastic change in our life. (can each one of us say we are going through one of these) You may go through a difficult time when you don't feel God's presence, when church may not be as exciting as it once was

for you, or your prayers seem to go no higher than the ceiling.

This may cause you to wonder if you have angered God or if he has left you. But God does not allow us to experience trials because he wants to see us suffer. Rather, he allows these difficulties into our lives to help us grow spiritually—to learn to live by faith, not by feelings.

1. Trials Sharpen Our Faith: 1 Peter 1: 3-7) Hardships develop our character and purify our faith
2. Trials Help Us Comfort Others: 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7) Experiencing suffering deepens our compassion for others who suffer.
3. Trials are Survivable: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18) We must keep our eternal perspective through the tough times.
4. Trials Test Our Foundation: Luke 6: 47-49) When we ground our lives in Christ, we can weather any storm.
5. Jesus Is with Us in Life's Storms: Mark 4:35-41) We are never outside of God's watchful eye and his abiding presence.
6. God Gives Hope to Our Troubled Hearts: John 14: 1-7) We can have peace of mind in the middle of our greatest trials.

As we look up these scriptures, we see the role trials play in our lives & we also notice God's promise to be with us during these times of trouble.

Perseverance: There will be times in your Christian walk when you will feel emotionally "down." You may think that God has forgotten about you. Or you might become discouraged as you see others who have professed faith in Jesus Christ lose interest in spiritual things and fall away. You may begin to wonder whether you are next on the Devils "hit list." But God will not allow you to be hit with more than you can handle spiritually. In fact, it is during times of trouble that you will actually be strengthened, not weakened. As you read the bible you will come across words like ENDURANCE and PERSEVERANCE. These words are

often used when the Bible compares the Christian life to a race. The race referred to is a marathon, not a fifty-yard dash. Because the Christian life is a long-distance run, you need to pace yourself, to persevere, and most of all, to finish the race. The following passages describe how and why you need to persevere through the inevitable struggles of life.

1. Perseverance Produces Results: Luke 8:15. As you steadily grow in your understanding of God's Word and apply it to your life, you will win others to the Lord.
2. Life's Trials Will Make You Stronger: James 1: 2-4. You Should not view difficulties as obstacles to your faith, but as opportunities for spiritual growth.
3. Christ Endured Great Pain for Us: Hebrews 12: 1-3. Jesus modeled the ultimate in endurance so that we would be encouraged to keep our faith strong in the race of life.
4. God Honors Those Who Persevere: 2 Timothy 4:7-8. A wholehearted commitment to God will enable you to "finish well" with your faith intact.

As we move forward in life and endure the challenges let us encourage and support one another through prayer as in Hebrews 10:25 "We are not to give up meeting together and encouraging one another" Thank you for your support of our Lords ministry. Blessings in Christ.

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

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