

December 2015 UK, Winter Welfare Appeal, Speaker Needed

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Jude and there is an MP3 file about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/jude.mp3>

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html> and on iTunes at <https://itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/christadelphian-bible-talks/id987163468>

With all the work going on with the migrants, please don't forget our ongoing work with the large ecclesia and community we assist in **Riga**, Latvia. We do need your ongoing donations and prayers towards that great work. Brother Maxim from Ukraine is working tirelessly there at the *Bible Center*. We continue feeding between 50 and 80 people [sometimes more] / day, 5 days out of 7. Most of them are now baptized. Maxim is just wonderful in teaching, counselling, comforting and doing so much practically for them. With temperatures down to minus 5 and with strong winds and sleet, it's so hard for our older brothers and sisters to spend the days outside- they must leave the night shelters by 8 a.m. and return only at 8 p.m. They carry everything they own with them... many have nothing more than a plastic carrier bag. And the tragedy is that in the Communist years, many of them had jobs and a far better standard of living. You can see them waiting outside the Bible Center for brother Maxim to come and open up- note their plastic carrier bags:



Once inside the warm hall, they head firstly to the toilets and then to the coffee. You can see by how some are dressed that the temperatures and wind factor are very low indeed. Then there is the Bible study and then the main meal, with the food preparation done by Western brethren and sisters who come over to volunteer, with local sister Anna continuing to coordinate all the tricky hygiene and standards registration issues.



We've put together a brief video of our work this season at the *Riga Bible Center*, including towards the end a very compelling interview with Br Jim & Sis Ann Barton from Canada, who have chosen to spend their time feeding the poor in Riga this Winter rather than quite legitimately enjoying their retirement. Their few words, and examples which speak far louder than their words, are a challenge to us all at whatever stage we're at in life. It's at <https://youtu.be/dxpntPvmOo4>

Duncan & Cindy are in Riga for the Winter, and in this connection Cindy writes:

"This winter is predicted to be especially cold, and to give extra warmth and show our support for the brothers and sisters in Riga we're putting together 'winter warmer' packs. These will be given out at New Year's Eve alongside a hot meal and will include a warm hat, gloves, a scarf, a bar of chocolate, a toothbrush and Bible Basics as well as some other goodies. We are hoping to give out about 100 packs. You can buy a winter warmer pack for 10 Euros, and we will email you a card to print off which you can then give to someone special as a gift. To do this, please send a

10 Euro (7 GBP, 16 AUD) donation to carelinks and an email to info@carelinks.net with 'Winter warmer' in the subject line. Thank you so much! Please do give generously".

Funds can be sent by the usual methods or by *PayPal* to tiybible@yahoo.com .

Here's the pack, and already we have bought supplies of scarves and hats at a very discounted rate- here's Evija with them, ready to be packed:



UKRAINE

Brother Tony Isaacs is unable to come to Ukraine to speak at our *Winter Bible School* at the end of January, God willing, due to visa issues. Can anyone come at this relatively short notice? You would be met at the airport and despite the conflict in the East, we don't consider there are any security issues in Kiev, where you would be.

CARELINKS U.K.

Brother Andy Taylor along with some other local brethren was able to baptize another three Iranian contacts in Liverpool this week- brothers SAEED, MOHSEN and SHAHIN; although one is from Middlesbrough and another from Leeds, they came all the way to Liverpool to be with the other Iranian brethren there.



A local brother emailed afterwards: "*The baptisms were really quite special - they just seem to get better. All so humble and nice to me. We shared the good news of the gospel and it worked out well. And we broke bread after. We stood in a circle holding hands which I thought was quite touching*".

Readers will have noticed many baptisms of Iranian folks in the UK and elsewhere recently. Please do welcome them at your ecclesias and let us know if you would be willing to fellowship and support those in your area.

To assist you in reaching out to them and Farsi speaking contacts, we've improved our Farsi page at www.carelinks.net/fa so it's more user friendly for English only speakers. You can see there every section of *Bible Basics*, parallel in English and Farsi, and also the new converts are reading *Bible Basics* onto MP3 files and are about half way through the book. These are also displayed there. Many of our refugee contacts and brethren have nothing more than a cell phone to their name, but they can read the PDFs and listen to the MP3s in this way.

PRAYER POINTS:

- For those newly baptized
- For the Ukraine Bible School
- For the Winter welfare program in Eastern Europe
- For our cold brothers and sisters in Riga, this holiday season with their memories of a better

former life

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks