

## February 2012 Carelinks Conferences [UK and Australia], China, Winter Welfare

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include 1 Corinthians 10 and there's an MP3 about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/1cor10.mp3>

### CHINA

Brother Donald reports: "I baptized bro Wang in a pool, please check the photos enclosed. China now is on the stage of Social transformation. Many people feel lost, confused, full of fear and anxiety. They try to seek religious way. Bro Wang was one of them, who was influenced by the surrounding environment, his relatives and friends. Which one to choose? Buddhist or Christian. He hesitated for a very long time and corresponded with us, I used with him the articles from your booklet called JESUS FOR BUDDHISTS. Gradually he got the basic understanding of Jesus, real understanding of the faith, no superstition, no trinity. Eventually he decided to follow Jesus by baptism. I reminded him that the ceremony of baptism is not the graduation of spiritual life, on the contrary it is just the beginning. Please pray for us, may God strengthen him on the way towards the kingdom of God. Jesus comes soon!"

Brother Donald is hoping to attend the *Carelinks Missionary Training Program* in **Riga** for the last 2 weeks of July, and we remind you of the opportunity to attend this unique event.

### WINTER WELFARE

We have continued assisting the needy brothers and sisters we mentioned in last week's message, and earlier this week some of them went to live for the rest of the Winter in the housing program which Carelinks operate. This is our last fallback in assisting very serious cases of need. Please continue to pray for and support the Winter welfare program. The unemployed are given minimal support; you must do social work, mainly clearing snow at this time of the year, for four weeks unpaid, and then they must do it with purposefully awkward shifts, early morning and then back again in the evenings, under the careful eye of an unsympathetic overseer, and they are given the equivalent of \$3 / day. The idea is to make getting a job more attractive than claiming unemployment benefit. You can see a typical work group below- the sisters on the far right are regular attenders at the ecclesia



And of course Winter in Eastern Europe is hard enough for the elderly and mothers / grandmothers with young children:



And again, a huge thank you for enabling so much support to be given to our brothers and sisters so far.

We are planning a *Bible weekend in Riga, Latvia 27-29 April*, God willing; do come and enjoy the experience. Steve & Sue Gretton are coming from the UK and would be happy to take others with them who'd like to get involved with the work.

And *July 15-27, God willing, we have the 2 week Missionary Training Program in Riga*. If you'd like to come and help with some building work or billing / preaching / feeding schemes at the same time, do get in touch.

## CARELINKS CONFERENCES

The range and scope of our work continues to grow with God's blessings. Very clearly He is behind the work we are doing of sharing the Gospel and caring for those in need worldwide. There really is the opportunity to get involved in the Lord's work in many ways, both on the ground and in situ where you are.

Carelinks UK enjoyed their best ever conference attendance this Saturday with nearly 100 in attendance. Special thanks to Rob & Debbie Clements for catering for us and leading the worship session. There were a number of presentations; you can hear the MP3 files by clicking on the links:

The Case for Grace (Duncan Heaster) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/dh.mp3>

Grace in Hosea's life (Dave Bushell) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/db.mp3>

A visit to the Ukraine Bible School (John Locke) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/jl.mp3>

A fisherman remembers... (Paul Hosking) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/ph.mp3>

Grace in Riga (Vanessa Boler) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/vb.mp3>

Grace in the face of Jesus (Steve Gretton) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/sg.mp3>

How the grace of God impacted my life (Irma Sabele, from Riga ecclesia, Latvia) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/is.mp3>

Grace on the Road (Andy Taylor) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/at.mp3>

Inspiration from Jamaica (Alan Eyre) <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/ae.mp3>

Brother Charles Abel premiered a 35 minute movie he has produced about the work of the **Riga Bible Centre**. Copies of this moving presentation will soon be available on DVD; we'd like to distribute them far and wide in order to motivate more support for the amazing work going on in **Riga** and the **Baltic States**. Please contact us for a copy. In due course we will place the presentation online, at lower quality. It features a moving few minutes of our late sister Nina laughing and joking with sister Jeannie Barton just before sister Nina fell asleep in Christ.

It was especially encouraging to see a healthy contingent of teenagers and young people with us, and also to have some veterans with us such as brother Alan Eyre. Especially moving was the presence of brother John Brooks. John made several epic journeys in Carelinks work, driving from England to Lithuania overland and also once keeping awake on an epic 48 hour stint of driving and pastoral work around the troubled areas of Kosovo and Serbia. Struggling with the after effects of a stroke, dear brother John made another epic missionary journey, this time from his home to the Carelinks conference. What an encouragement it was for those of us who worked with him in the field to see him again:



Sister Irma's presentation included a heartfelt appreciation of the many resources donated by Carelinks supporters to the work of the Gospel in **Latvia**. Her whole talk is especially worth hearing: <http://www.carelinks.net/audio/is.mp3>

## CARELINKS AUSTRALIA

We are holding an information afternoon and high tea for all interested in the Lord's work being done by Carelinks. It will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2012 God willing, from 3:00pm until

6:00pm, at 17 Emerson Place, Menai NSW 2234. There will be presentations from **Cindy Heaster** and **Jeannie Barton** amongst others; call **Steve & Robin Jones** (02) 95436810 for more details or email them at *robinthered@hotmail.com*