

Malawi, Germany, Iranian Refugees, Winter Welfare February 2011

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include 1 Corinthians 1 and 2, and there's an MP3 on these chapters at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/1cor1and2.mp3>

GERMANY

Some time ago we reported the baptism in the Riga refugee camp of brother S. He was given asylum in Latvia but was unable to find work so he went to work in Germany. Whilst there he met an Iranian asylum seeker, M , and spent a lot of time chatting on the phone, praying together on Skype, and discussing the Bible together. Brother S is returning to Latvia soon and so we made a brief visit to our brother and assisted him in baptizing brother M. We commend our brother for holding on to the Truth in difficult circumstances and for spreading the Gospel as he has done amongst the Iranian community.

It seems the hand of providence is heavily at work with Iranian asylum seekers. In Riga Latvia, our Iranian brother B heard a while ago that there was an Iranian arrived in the refugee camp- this is the camp which is run on a prison basis with no free access and a hard regime. B got this man a Bible, Bible Basics and other literature and communicated with him about the Gospel. It was a pleasure recently to baptize brother A , using the same large drum in which many of our refugee brethren were baptized in the guards' shower block. We are making regular follow up visits to our brother, taking him food and clothing. It's been -30 C at night and they are given very poor food in the camp. Here's some pictures of the baptism, our brother with his new Bible with us in the visiting room, and on a later visit, Brother B walking through the frozen prison yard taking some Iranian style food for our new brother:



It's really awful that asylum seekers are treated as criminals in this way.

MALAWI

Brother Esau, baptized in Norway, has really made a super job of establishing an ecclesia in Malawi, there have been some baptisms performed by local brethren, including of Esau's former pastor. They are now running a group of 23 people who are studying *Bible Basics*. You can see them in the photos with their books and also *NEV* New Testaments. Brother Esau also holds a lunchtime Bible study, reading through the New Testament and *Bible Basics* with co-workers, in order to teach them the Truth and prepare them for baptism:



RIGA BIBLE CENTER

The Gospel continues to spread in Latvia, and we were pleased to baptize ZANE recently, a physiotherapist whose mother is a sister in a small ecclesia up country. Our home groups continue, and we are running around Riga most days taking welfare to various needy folks. We

recently baptized VILNIS in Duncan & Cindy's bath tub: Photo: Baptizing Vilnis



We continue the feeding schemes and have good attendance at ecclesial meetings. Spare a prayer for brother Voldemar, he has a job in a saw mill but some years ago broke his foot and wasn't able to afford proper attention to get it set properly. Now he can hardly walk, and we assisted him to have an operation to fix it. He only gets paid when he works, and lives in a night shelter, as his wage is too low to rent a room of his own. He has a special concession to remain in the night shelter in the day time, but he can hardly walk at the moment. No provision is made for food and the nearest shop is a few minutes walk, whereas he can hardly take two steps at the moment, and the streets are so slippery with ice. So we are taking him food at the moment... but he is one of many we try to assist, and we only manage to do so because of your kind donations. Our brother is preparing a talk based on his inability to walk and we look forward to hearing it at the ecclesia soon.

CARELINKS UK CONFERENCE

At the end of February God willing, Carelinks UK will be holding their annual conference and retreat near Bath- more details at <http://www.carelinks.net/doc/events> . We have more than ever before registered this year and there's still time to register! It looks to be a great event.