

November 2016 Winter Welfare, France, Russia, Latvia

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Acts 18 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/acts1819.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>

Download the *NEV Bible* with commentary and *Bible Companion* bookmarks at <http://n-e-v.info/NEVBIBLE.pdf>

LATVIA

We continue providing a good hot meal 5 days / 7 each week at the *Riga Bible Centre*. We're grateful to all our visitors from the **UK**. Brother Norman Stock came over from Winton, UK for his first visit and here he is dishing up food with Andy, and then Mel teaching the group hymns:



We teach the group with one hour of Bible study before each meal, and distribute *Bible Basics* and other literature. As a result of this we're pleased to report that Andy and Mel and Maxim were able to baptize ALEKSANDR, a young man who previously worked in the UK before returning to Latvia:



Let us know if you can come over and help.

WINTER WELFARE

This Winter has begun quite hard in Eastern Europe, with temperatures even in the **Baltics** down to -10 C below freezing. This is a huge problem for our brethren and sisters living in night shelters. They must be out of them by 8 a.m. and only allowed back in at 8 PM; and can't leave anything there, they must carry their few belongings in bags as they trudge the streets keeping warm. They are only allowed in the night shelters around 300 days out of 365 / year, and so there is a big problem when their time is up and they can't stay in the shelters in Winter.

Most of them are elderly and it is no fun trudging the streets when they are slippery and snow covered. The snowfall this weekend alone was 20 centimetres in Riga; here's brother Maxim measuring it before he clears the area around the *Bible Centre* in Riga:



And for those throughout the Russian speaking world, there are heating bills to pay. Most live in apartments which are centrally heated and have no option but to pay the bills; the radiators in Soviet era blocks can't be regulated, the hot water is pumped into them from an underground network. If debts arise, the heating company take over the apartment, and the owner has to go

live in a night shelter if they have no family. Small family size and the destruction of family values during the Communist era means many have no relatives able or willing to assist them.

So we do assist with paying heating bills and providing firewood. Please do continue to donate towards this really so necessary assistance. A month's heating bill is often far more than any pension received, so there also arise problems with just buying food and getting health care; and it is mainly the elderly who are affected.

FRANCE

A group of us from various **UK** ecclesias joined up with our very zealous young brother Daniel Aldersley from **New Zealand** this weekend in France to try to assist the migrants in the wake of the clearance of the Calais jungle. We assisted in warehouses and sought to spiritually encourage some previously baptized in northern France. The enforced Police clearance of the migrants has good and bad sides to it, with some inevitably falling through holes in the system which the French Government is enforcing for migrants and refugees. Here we are about to break bread in the hotel:



PRAYER POINTS

- For the brotherhood in Russia
- For all our brethren who are cold this Winter or facing worrying bills
- For the great work ongoing in Latvia
- For those recently baptized

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks