

HERITAGE CENTER FOUNDATION

October 2009

Issue 6

...This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.
Isaiah 54:17

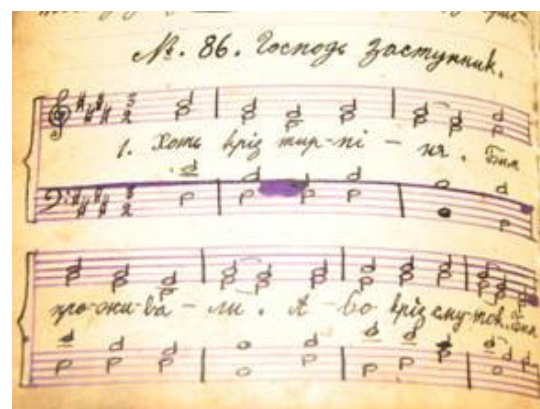
Handwritten Treasure



While visiting the Ukraine this summer, an American sister was given a special treasure — a handwritten *Zion's Harp*! During Communism, the church in the Ukraine did not have much access to Believers in other countries and also did not have the freedom or resources to publish copies of the *Zion's Harp*. A few brethren dedicated many years to creating copies of the entire *Zion's Harp* by hand. Supposedly there are only 15 – 20 handwritten copies in existence.

Throughout Eastern Europe, many brethren were very

helpful and generous in donating materials for the Heritage Center. We received a variety of items including original letters written in the 1840s to Imre Hencsey, the brother of the man credited with starting the church in Hungary; a Hungarian copy and a Romanian translation of *The Nazarenes* by Eotvos Karoly; and *Zion's Harps* in the following languages: Croatian, Czech, Serbian (1913 and 1994), Slovakian (1896, 1928, and 2006), and Ukrainian.



“Lighting a Candle”

At the core of our more recent heritage is the work and faith of Bro. Samuel Froehlich. Recently we have obtained copyright permission to reprint a short biography of Bro. Froehlich that appears in the front of the original *Meditations on the Epistles of John Volume I*. In order to make this condensed summary of Froehlich's work available, we will, Lord willing, be offering it this winter in a booklet entitled “Lighting a Candle.” In addition, the booklet contains a small selection of Froehlich's writings as well as a brief exposition of some of his most recurrent themes. The booklet offers a concise background of Froehlich's life and work while simultaneously furnishing the reader a window into the spiritual insights that helped ignite flames of faith on both sides of the Atlantic. If you would like a copy, please contact drstoller@juno.com or (309) 242-2257 or melttheheart.com.

Froehlich's Last Words

“I shall die, Lord my God. Mayest Thou keep Thy holy ones from temptation that is in the world, that they may not perish but abide in Thee, and give them eternal life. For the prince of this world is prepared with his whole power of darkness, and preachers of unrighteousness who seek to destroy Thy work, to mislead Thy elect. Thou knowest that I have not sought glory before men but only to further Thy glory and have declared Thy name before all, and have not been ashamed of Thee and have fought until this hour.”

“... I do not regret our going out; we would and should let nothing frighten us, and if all unite to honor God, then there is no enmity and no foreign spirit can work among us. My soul is saved and I am comforted in the Lord.”

Did you know. . .

Which congregation used to be called the “Mud-creekers”?

The early Lester, Iowa, church was near Mud Creek, and their location gained them this nickname among the community. The obituary of Bro. August Mogler, who died on October 20, 1916, states he was “leader of the sect known as ‘Mud Creek Saints’ on account of their religious peculiarities.” The article goes on to explain, “The name by which these people came to be known was not applied to them through disrespect, but on account of their intense religious zeal along certain lines, their peculiar form of worship and the small stream near the settlement.”

Taken from *A Chronicle of the Apostolic Christian Church of Lester, Iowa*
from January 1, 1980, to January 1, 2006.

Editors are working away at finalizing a simply-written **Heritage of Faith History of the Church** book. It will take the reader through church history from the time of Christ through the founding of the Apostolic Christian Church to the present. This book uses the text from the Heritage of Faith church history course, minus the student lesson plans and accessories. Release date is projected for early 2010.

Excerpts from *The History of the Church*:

Unit 1, The Early Church of the Apostles, Lesson 3, Persecution of Christians:

What happened to the true faith during this time of persecution? We understand that the number of Christians grew remarkably despite the great efforts made to stamp them out. People were drawn by the Holy Spirit to the love and saving power of Jesus Christ. Tertullian, an early church father, stated these famous lines, “The more ye mow us down, the more we grow; the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.”

The persecuted church was a witnessing church. Christians did not stay quiet under persecution. In fact, persecution caused the Gospel to be spread far and wide as people left unsafe areas and traveled long distances, searching for tolerance where they could live out their beliefs and worship their Lord Jesus without being harassed...

The calmness and peace that surrounded those condemned to death gave witness to the tremendous, enduring power given to them by Jesus Christ. We stand in awe and owe a great respect to the holy martyrs of the early church.

Unit 4, Froehlich and the Founding of the Apostolic Christian Church,
Lesson 3, Persecution of Froehlich and His Followers:

Both Samuel (Froehlich) and Susette (his wife) were in trouble with the civil authorities of Canton Aargau. Samuel was sentenced to be banished from Switzerland, and Susette was fined 500 florins...

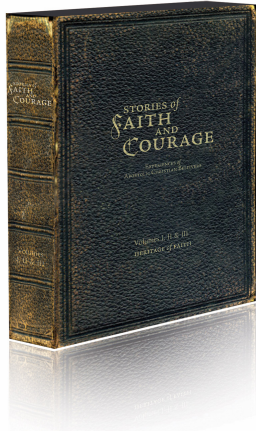
On the fateful day when the sentences were enforced, state officials came to the Froehlich household, and Samuel was given one hour to make preparations for his exile. Then he was seized by two strong prison guards and pushed out of the house. One on each side, they roughly guided him in the direction of Strasbourg, France.

“His wife and children were weeping beside him. The sounds of their sobbing were carried far by the wind. On hearing this, many neighbors and brethren went to the Froehlich’s to witness the actions of the authorities...”² *The Nazarenes* by Karoly Eotvos, page 141.

The electronic Version 1.09 of the **Heritage of Faith church history course** has been completed and is now available on CD for printing by the user. This junior high/high school level course includes text, lesson plans, time line/map activities, assessments, teaching helps, and additional resources. Hard copies of the ten units are projected to be printed for distribution by August of 2010. To order e-mail curricularesources@juno.com or call (309) 249-6281.

COMING SOON!

Audio book of *Stories of Faith and Courage*, Volumes 1, 2, and 3



Due to numerous requests from old and young alike for an audio version of *Stories of Faith and Courage*, the Heritage Foundation agreed to take responsibility for this project. In the past few months, the individuals who shouldered the task have been working very hard, and we are gratified to report that a set of CD's is in the final stage of completion.

Clearly narrated by Apostolic Christian brothers who are closely connected with the accounts, the stories come alive and engage the listener. They are read in sequence with occasional music clips for easy listening.

These CD's include all 85 stories in the three volumes and will be especially useful for individuals who prefer listening rather than reading. Each story will have its own track, so it can easily be found. The set will be available from Heritage Press at curricularesources@juno.com (phone 309-249-6281), or from melttheheart.com. Watch the *Silver Lining* for the release date (hopefully by December 2009) and for the price of the CD set.

Historic Sermon Project Update

The historic sermon project continues to move forward, and we are glad to announce the beginning of the second phase of the project. Many historic sermons have been converted to digital format, and we are ready to send several batches to volunteers for cleaning and formatting.

Thanks to all who have responded thus far; you should be receiving a flash drive with the necessary software and instructions shortly. The custom program designed by Heritage Center volunteers to name and catalog the sermons is nearly complete and should be available by the time this newsletter is published.

More volunteers would be greatly appreciated to help clean and format sermons. If you are interested in helping with this project, please e-mail fstoller@fairpoint.net. A computer with Windows operating system is all that is required.

Mailing List

If you know of someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact:

Darcy Stoller
(309) 242-2257
drstoller@juno.com

If you would be willing to receive the newsletter in color via **email**, please contact the above email address.

If you do not wish to receive future newsletters from the Heritage Center Foundation, you may remove your name by emailing or calling the phone number listed above.

A Selection from History

The following words were spoken by Bro. Art Gudeman from LaCrosse on **August 11, 1957**:

... That is why you and I must come to repent. It has cost Him His life. He was forsaken by His Father, and you and I are walking in that faith, the Apostolic Christian Church. Where did we get our name? It was named after the Acts of the Apostles. The apostles, the disciples of God, their faithfulness, their love -- we have read it of Peter and John; we can read it about Paul; we can read it about James. They have all gone on to their reward. ... many of them lost their life. James was killed, Peter was hung upside down on the cross, Paul was killed, John the Baptist was beheaded; and they are all a witness of this true and living God. Now, dear ones, are we going to let this thing be put to shame? What [are] Peter and James and John and Paul and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ going to say when He returns to this earth and we have let slip away what they have so dearly purchased?

The Heritage Center Foundation
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“Supplication”

Zion’s Harp #122, verses 3 and 6

Thy Spirit, Lord,
Renews our fainting souls;
Its help we do implore.
Our hearts oft seem
To sink in deep repose
Till it does zeal restore.
For through the Holy Spirit’s guidance
We’re wakened unto true obedience
In Thee, our Lord!

The praise be Thine,
Thou, Lord of righteousness;
Salvation comes from Thee!
In time of grace
Awaken us with zeal
That we may faithful be!
May we return to Thee rejoicing,
With Thy Redeemed ones ever singing:
Hallelujah!

Tax deductible contributions are welcome and can be sent to the
Heritage Center Foundation, 605 N. Fourth Street, Fairbury, IL 61739
c/o Sally Fehr.