

Apustuliska Draudzē Latvija
Gateway-North
February '09

Pastor Ken J. Rees

It was with a great sense of loss that the saints here in Latvija heard of the home-call of Pastor Ken at the end of December. He, along with his wife Eva were deeply loved and respected here for their commitment, their ministry and work among them. They longed for Ken and Eva to come back to visit, but appreciated that age does not come itself and that it would not be possible. Never the less their memories are full of the immense blessing that Ken in his unique apostolic ministry brought to the people of Latvija.

Until Eternity dawns there will always be a place in the hearts of the apostolic people of Latvija for the late, loved Pastor Ken. Our prayers are for his widow Eva, daughter Elizabeth and son Ian and their respective families.

VAT in LV.

From the 1st of January, as the rest of the world faces recession and all its' consequences, in their profound wisdom the Latvian Government has decided to raise the level of PVN (VAT) to 21%. It is a major cause for concern amongst the ordinary folk of Latvija. Some material purchases will rise from the current level of 5% to a whopping 21%!

Christmas Cards.

Thank you for every greeting card you kindly sent us for Christmas. Sadly we have to report that approximately 25% of our cards did not arrive. If you were among the non-arrivals accept our thanks too!

St. Valentine's Day.

Increasingly in Latvija our western traditions are being made known in the market place and are being participated in. Among them is the 14th Feb. We too take this opportunity; to express our love to you all for your faithfulness to us and to the saints and work here. We also use the occasion to share with the Latvians the greatest lover of them all, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who loved so much that He gave His life willingly to reconcile them to His and our Heavenly Father.

This month our newsletter will be accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation of the work we participated in during December, and especially the Christmas and New Year period. We hope you find the pictures of interest and a visual aid to your praying for the various aspects of our churches mission. The needs are many and varied, and the facilities and finances to meet these needs are small in comparison to the requirements. We not only endeavour to help personally, but also through our fellowships, we also link with other churches and social bodies in meeting the suffering of people in community.

Please pray for us as our message through the food, clothes, gifts and toys must always be that 'Jesus is the Answer'.

Pray that the people shall see the need of the salvation of their souls to be of eternal value, rather than the important physical covering and blessing that in itself is both temporary and transient.

We trust the PowerPoint will bless you and be of value to you as you continue to share with us in this mission.

As we have said many times, the mission is yours as well as ours, we share in this together, we need each other to fulfil this great commission among the people of Latvija and the Baltic States. Through your gracious prayers, generous financial gifts and grateful support we progress in this:

'Mission Latvija' – Gateway North!

Heading South!

On the 20th of February we head back down to Klaipeda in Lithuania to minister in a weekend seminar on "Christian Family Life". Please pray for us and the weekend, so that what we share will be of benefit and blessing to the saints in this port city. We look forward to giving you a report in a future issue.

At this time we pray that the Lord will continue to help you too during these difficult times of recession, may He be your provider and sustainer.

Blessings on you all in Jesus name,

Pastor John and Margaret.

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