

Nīgrandes evaņģēliski luteriskā draudze

Reģ. Nr. 90000784855

Nīgrandes pagasts, LV-3899

Dear friends in Karlslunde!

Another year has come around. Little by little, the activity of the congregation begins to recover. In cold weather, services have to be held in the Sunday school premises. Aija, the pastor's wife, works with Sunday school children, and in the future she will also be helped by our church member and retired teacher Anita. 15 children attend these classes, mostly from families in need. Since there are not enough young people in the church, a pensioner is helping out. We were able to prepare Christmas bags with sweets for the Sunday school children from the funds you had sent. The children received them during the Christmas service. In addition, the gifts you had sent were given to families with many children and families in need. One part of what was sent (notepads, painting kits, games, etc.) has been very useful during Sunday school lessons. The families that received these gifts are sending heartfelt thanks to you. Some photos of children playing with the toys they received are attached.

Now information about the use of money. The remaining balance from the 2022 transfer was 700 EUR, it has been used:

- 1) to support the pastor's salary (August 2023 – November 2023) – 400 EUR,
- 2) to cover participation fee for an excursion for 8 pensioners in need – 200 EUR, and
- 3) to pay for participation of 4 youngsters in a summer camp (from a family of 8 children) in August – 100 EUR.

From the funds received in 2023 (3300 EUR) so far we have spent for such causes as:

- 1) to support the pastor's salary (December 2023) – 100 EUR,
- 2) to pay for the packages of Christmas sweets for children – 123 EUR,
- 3) to support three pensioners who live alone with cash benefits – 165 EUR,
- 4) to support the pastor's family with repair of their apartment (I had written about it before) – 500 EUR, and
- 5) to prepare 22 food packages for the disabled – 300 EUR.

This time we prepared the food packages together with Saldus parish. Part of the money was donated by the dean, so our parish did not have to cover all the expenses. Those were again two pastors together with parishioners who delivered the packages. The Sunday school children had prepared greeting cards stating that the money came from Karlslunde church. You'll find attached photos from that day (December 27) when the parcels were given out.

Once again, we're expressing sincere gratitude to your congregation for your support and help. May God's blessing be with all the people of Karlslunde church, may you all have good health. Best wishes to Alfred as well, many of us have benefited from his family's warm welcome.

Valda Bišmane,

Head of the church council

12.02.2024.