



# European Christian Radio

1993 - 2018

25 Years Faithfully Broadcasting the Good News!

SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER

*...because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will continue to perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*  
**Philippians 1:5-6**

## Dear ECR Partners and Friends

I am very excited to announce that ECR is celebrating 25 years of Christian radio ministry in Estonia. This ministry was born out of a trip my wife, Laurel, and I took with our family in 1992 to Russia to hand out Bibles after the fall of the former Soviet Union. I thought it would be good to recap this journey of MIRACLES for you in this newsletter.

It all began one morning while I was on my way to work and listening to KAMB, a local Christian radio station. That morning Josh McDowell was asking for volunteers to join with him to hand out Bibles in Russia. I thought to myself that this would be a great family opportunity for a summer vacation. But I also thought to myself that Laurel would never go for it. Too far and too dangerous. Later that morning Laurel called me at the office and said that she had heard an announcement on KAMB that Josh McDowell was leading a group to Russia to hand out Bibles and she felt we should consider going and take the kids for this once in a life time experience. Of course I agreed!

There were so many people who were a part of this adventure that they divided us all up into smaller groups and assigned us to other soviet block countries. We were chosen to go to the tiny Baltic country of Estonia. A strategic country of 1.5 million people on the Baltic Sea. Estonia has a long history of being invaded and dominated by neighboring countries and have longed for their independence. Now their time had come and we were there to introduce them to the Gospel.

After handing out Bibles and developing relationships with local pastors and their congregations, we were getting ready to wrap up our visit. Our team engaged in a time of sharing of our experiences and prayer for one another. One of the leading pastors of Tallinn, Pastor Rein, who was the pastor of St. Olaf's Baptist church built in 12th century with a 405-foot steeple, gave a prophetic statement. He was asked what we as fellow believers could do to continue the work of spreading the Gospel in Estonia. Pastor Rein said, "We need workers, Bibles and we need a Christian radio station. We've never had a Christian radio station in Estonia. You could use our

church's steeple to broadcast the Gospel. After all, the Soviets have been using it for years to broadcast their indoctrination messages!" Then he turned to me and said, "and you are just the one to do it!" I said that it would take a lot of money and radio knowledge to build a studio and produce programming. He replied, " I don't know anything about that, I just know that is what we need."

This was a confirmation to me, because a day earlier God had impressed upon my heart that a Christian radio station would be a great asset to spreading the Gospel and giving the Estonian people a consistent message of hope and inspiration. However, as you may know, my profession is in medicine. I am a family practice physician. I knew nothing about radio operations other than turning one on and setting the dial to listen to music and other programming. So launching out to build a radio station was not any part of my skill set and it would be very easy to put it out of my mind. But God had other plans for me and my family.

When we got home, Laurel and I began to pray about how God could use us to bring about a Christian radio ministry in Estonia; a foreign country 5,446 miles away from Modesto, CA and people who speak very little to no English. This would be nothing I had ever done or contemplated before and we knew it would take a God size MIRACLE to accomplish. So the first thing I did was to send a letter to those on our Christmas mailing list and asked for prayers and financial support. God began to open doors. Some well meaning people said it was a little premature because they felt that the Russians would take back the country in less that 3 years and all this would be in vain.

As word spread of our desire to act on what God had planted in our hearts, God began to send us the right people at the right time to help organize and plan the building of our first radio studio. It would be built inside St. Olaf's church and the programs would be broadcast from its steeple previously used by the Soviets.

European Christian Radio's

25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY celebration

Saturday, August 18, 2018 - 12 noon - 3 pm  
**Modesto Covenant Church**  
 913 Floyd Ave. Modesto CA 95350

Over these 25 years, we have experienced many God sized MIRACLES! Time and time again, He has encouraged us and strengthened our faith through the process. We have experienced on many occasions that old adage; “God is never early, but He’s always on time.” We also experienced the verse; “Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it.” Because of His continued financial provisions and providing men and women with building and radio expertise to come along side us, we knew He was building His radio ministry, just as it was prophesied.

Over the years we have added more studios and broadcasting towers and increased our AM station’s broadcasting power from 50Kw to 200Kw. That has allowed us to reach over 60 million potential listeners throughout the Baltic states, Eastern Europe, St. Petersburg, Russia to the Kremlin in Moscow! Praise God!

I truly believe that God is not finished with us yet. His command to go into all the world and preach the Gospel, is still as relevant today as it ever has been. We will continue to use your financial gifts to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel as long as He allows us the opportunity. I appreciate your continued support for this ministry! If you have never given to this ministry or if it has been a while, I would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so today in support of our 25th Anniversary.

**I hope you will be able to join us on Saturday, August 18th at Modesto Covenant Church in Modesto for a time of thanksgiving, reminiscing, fellowship & lunch with old friends as we Celebrate 25 years of God’s leading and blessings.**

Please continue to pray for the radio staff in Estonia, pray for the listeners that they may hear and be encouraged, and that hearts would turn to Christ Jesus our Lord. May the Lord continue to bless you and your family as we celebrate 25 years of MIRACLES and faithfulness!

**James M. Carlson MD**  
President, European Christian Radio Project

## Our New Website



Log onto our new Website at [www.europeanchristianradio.org](http://www.europeanchristianradio.org) You will find more information about ECR and some great ECR and Estonia historical videos. For your convenience, you can also donate online through our secure portal. Many of our donors have found this to be a very convenient way for them to donate and communicate with us. We would love to hear from you.

## Future Communications

### We Need Your Help and Email Address

In an effort to be good stewards of our financial resources, we would like modify and update our communication with our you. We are finding more people are connected to the internet and prefer to receive their information through email. We would like to know how you would like to receive your ECR Newsletters in the future. If you have internet, please go to our website, click on “ABOUT” and scroll down to CONTACT US. In the subject box put Communication, put in your email address in the Email box and in the Message box let us know how you would like to receive future newsletters and regular correspondence. If you don’t have internet, reply to us in the envelope provided with this newsletter. We would love to hear from you either way. **ALSO, Please RSVP and let us know if you will be able to join us for our 25th Anniversary Celebration.**

### Letters from our listeners - In their own words

*At the end of the year 1980, I was very depressed and went deeply into an alcohol gloom. In 2000, I heard Family Radio for the first time. Your radio was a good help then for me, but now, it is much more interesting. Your programming is interesting and compelling. Listening to your broadcasts has made me bold and has caused me to address the Lord with prayer about healing from alcoholism. And God has answered my prayer, Now I continue to increase in belief and knowledge of God and serving him much. Thanks for your service to me. I also ask God for the money to keep you on the air. I want your voices on the air forever and ever. May God speed you!*

-Alexey

*Akxeu from Viljaka, Latvia writes: “Hello my brothers and sisters in Family Radio. I’m living in Latvia in a small city Viljaka very close to Russian border. I’m writing for alarger group of listeners and want to confirm you. You are doing good job, keep the same direction. Lot of people are pretty poor here and can’t send letters abroad but they listen your radio every day. We like how you call the station Family Radio, it’s symbolic for us. We have railroad station in our city same name “Semeinaja” (Family) also you are very close to our hearts. God bless you!”*

*Alexandrovich from village Uholovo, Rjazanskaja Oblast (about 1000 miles from Tartu) writes:*

*“Dear Family Radio makers, I’m 77 years old man taken part in 2nd World War. I didn’t’ understood lot about God and the Bible. One day I tuned my radio and randomly found your station. It sounded differently from other stations, I remember Anton Perevoztchikov read God’s prayer and it touched me very deeply. After this day, my radio still tuned on your frequency, in spite of weak signal in the daytime. I would like to hear you better.”*

