



*And the angel said to Joseph, "...do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." Matt. 1:20*

## Dear ECRP Partners and Friends

2019 will soon be a distant memory, but before it is gone, I want to reflect on some important aspects of our 26-years of radio ministry and where we are today.

Our Mission Statement: *"European Christian Radio supports life changing radio broadcasting of the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Estonia, Eastern Europe and portions of Russia in partnership with Tartu Family Radio (TFR) in Estonia."*

This was our goal at the start, when God called the AM and FM radio ministries into being, and it is still our commitment to this day. So many miracles and countless lives have been saved and encouraged over the years through these radio stations. Thank you God for allowing us all to play an important part in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this part of the world!

One of the biggest emotional hindrances that impedes many people from fulfilling God's call on their lives is FEAR. Fear of failure, fear of the unknown, and fear of the "what if's." That is why the reassuring words of the Angel to Joseph (above) were also reassuring to us at the beginning and comforting to us today. We know this ministry was conceived in the hearts of men and women in 1993 by the Holy Spirit because of the manifestations of miracles and testimonies over the course of our history. It is true that; "what God predestines, He calls into being for His purposes."



Christmas in Town Square - Old Tallinn, Estonia

## Five-Year Licensing and Annual Frequency Renewals

TFR's Pereraadio was successful in securing the five-year International and Regional Licenses for both AM and FM radio stations. These coveted licenses were awarded to Pereraadio by demonstrating excellence in broadcasting and submitting detailed Business Plans and Best Practices to the Estonian Government.

## Tartu Broadcast Studio Relocation

The Seminary in Tartu, where our broadcast studios are located, was sold and the studios will be relocated in Tartu. This relocation will require new studio recording treatments and offices as well as equipment and IT connections. This move will mean a sizable investment of money and time for TFR this next year.

## AM Radio Broadcasting Update

I would not have you think that this ministry has been without its challenges and set backs. We know full-well that the enemy does not want the Good News proclaimed over the airwaves and is doing his best to create challenges that can bring discouragement.

In late summer we received notice that we would be losing one of our major supporters and long-time broadcast partners, Trans World Radio, at the end of this year. TWR lost several of their program sponsors and will have to discontinue their paid broadcasting programs into Russia over our AM station. This will potentially put a large financial burden on our AM broadcasting for the coming year. We don't know what the AM broadcast ministry will look like next year or what the Lord has in store to help fill the time slots and financial gap. What we do know, is that this was not a surprise to Him and that He is in control. We want to continue to be good listeners and stewards of what He is trusting us with.

Paavo and his TFR leadership team have been working diligently to identify and secure new program sponsors for the AM Russian ministry and to consider other possible formats and ways to continue to spread the Gospel. So many people have come to rely on and appreciate the powerful and encouraging messages of redemption, forgiveness of sins, reconciliation, prayer for needs, worship music, etc. It has been a literal life line to so many.

## The FM Radio Ministry Update

The FM radio ministry continues to operate on a 24/7 basis and is not directly affected by the AM ministry turn of events because it has a different ministry focus and demographic that it reaches. Programming continues to be vibrant and impactful through radio and a variety of social media platforms. Plans are being considered to establish a Russian FM broadcast network in Tallinn and Tartu. It is estimated that 40% of Tallinn's population is Russian and that this would be an amazing opportunity to reach the Russian population in these two larger cities of Estonia.

**Reminder... You can contribute your Year-End giving online at [www.ECR25.com](http://www.ECR25.com) or [www.europeanchristianradio.org](http://www.europeanchristianradio.org)**

## Your Prayer Support Is Urgently Needed in three areas

Please join with us and our Estonian radio partners in prayer during this critical time. Pray...

1. That the Lord will provide the needed broadcast partners, sponsors and income to continue our AM broadcasting ministry to the cities of Narva, Jõhvi, Moscow and St. Petersburg.
2. For the Lord's guidance in finding a suitable location in the University city of Tartu for FM programming and broadcasts, as well as funding for equipment and leasehold improvements.
3. For financial resources needed to sustain and grow the radio ministry deep into Russia and throughout the Baltic States.

Paavo shared something with us that I would like to pass along to you. "The radio ministry is comprised of men and women, equipment, facilities, studios and towers; ALL of which belong to the Lord. We are merely the caretakers. What has taken place, and what will take place as we move into the New Year, will be at the direction of the Lord and His timing. Our job is to Seek, Listen and Respond to His Leading."

Joshua 1:9 says it best. "Have not I commanded you? Be Strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

During this Christmas season we are thankful for His saving Grace and for all He has entrusted us with. Let us all be encouraged for what He is able to do. "For He is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work in us."

Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer and financial support. Your partnership is a blessing to me and so many others. The ECR Board and I wish you and your family a very special Christmas and a productive New Year!

### James M. Carlson MD

President, European Christian Radio Project

### Letters From Our Listeners.

#### In their own words.

"Thank you so much, I always listen to you. There are a lot of good programs and God speaks a lot to me through you. We listen on a simple radio. I had always listened to Trans World Radio, everyone in the family listened to it. Once I searched for a program from Petersburg, and I heard you. Since then we always listen to your station. "

*Volyn region, Ukraine*



"I've been listening to you on the radio for a very long time. The first time I heard you on the radio was in 2009 when my little children 2.5 and 1.5 years old died. God left me to live on the earth, and the children died so early. As far as I know, a lot of people died in the fires that year. Since then, I am constantly with your radio. I am 35 years old. I'm from the Pskov region, Gdovsky district. "

"I have a radio in every room in my home and it is tuned to your station 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 12 months a year. Everyone listens to it. They're already used to it and everyone needs it, even children. Sometimes I wake up at 3 o'clock in the morning or at 5 in the morning. I lie on my bed and think, listening to your broadcast! Thank God for the radio and for you! May God bless you!"

*-Jõhvi, Estonia*

"I AM SO HAPPY YOUR STATION BROADCASTS 24 HOURS !! I GO TO YOU TO BED LISTENING AND TRAIN IN THE MORNING WITH YOU! I thank you for your service. At this time it is very important !!! Your service changes many fates !! May God bless you richly !!!"

*-Ukraine*

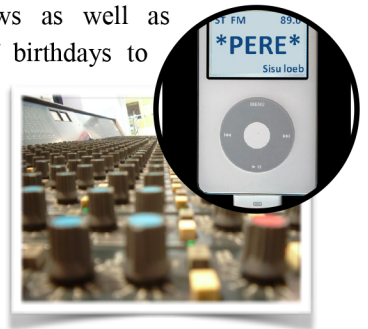
"In my childhood, my parents would listened to the radio on 1035am. Then after a while, when I bought a radio, I tuned in to the same station and found your broadcast." *-Ivanovo, Belarus*

The first day I found your Christian radio station, I heard a program that I liked and it encouraged me to continue to listen to the broadcast. I could listen to the radio all day. I began to listen more and more often. Over time, the rest of the radio stations seemed dull and gloomy, not saying anything. *-Pskov, Russia*

### Piret's Corner

As we approach the end of the year and looking forward to celebrating the Holidays with family and friends, we have a lot to be thankful for. My family and I are thankful for Tartu Family Radio - Pereraadio for many reasons and here are a few.

Each morning a warm caring and cheerful voice on Pereraadio welcomes listeners to a new day of hope. The daily programs are filled with encouraging words, daily scripture reading, local and world news as well as personal acknowledgements of birthdays to listeners who's loved ones have sent in greetings. There are many exciting and stimulating programs presented throughout the day including a Bible study course called "Bible from Cover to Cover". One of my favorite segments is Women talking with expert guest speakers on women's issues of the day. There are also programs where listeners learn about Israel and the Holy Land. On Sundays, Pereraadio features live worship services from selected churches around Estonia.



While I was back home in July visiting my family in Tallinn, I had the wonderful opportunity to reconnect with some of my friends I had not seen in a few years. One of my dear friends was recovering from an illness that had limited her ability to attend church. She mentioned to me how Pereraadio has been such a blessing to her during this time. She is able to listen to her church's live broadcasts as well as others. This warmed my heart to hear how Pereraadio is making a difference in so many ways.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Christmas and Blessed New Year in 2020!

*-Piret Leonetti*