



European Christian Radio

1993 - 2021

28 Years Faithfully Broadcasting the Good News!

2021 Fall - Winter Newsletter

...they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

Year End Greeting to Our Friends and Partners,

I thought it would be appropriate to begin this newsletter by giving you a personal update. This year was a challenge for me in many ways. January 1, 2021 began my first year of official retirement from my medical practice of over 45 years. It has taken me some time to readjust my thinking and lifestyle to a "new" daily routine, of which I am adjusting to more each day. Many of you may have heard that I have Parkinson's and that I recently had a bad fall due to extremely low blood pressure. As a result of that fall, I laid on the floor of my home unable to move for 2 days until my son discovered me. He worried about me when he didn't see me in church or answer my phone. He immediately drove 16 miles to my home in Ripon where he discovered me on the floor. I was laid up in the hospital and rehab for a month to get my body back in order so I could return home. I finished my physical and occupational therapy at home the following month.



James M. Carlson, MD
President/Founder

I am so thankful for the many prayers during this time. I can honestly say I felt every one of them as the Lord did His work on me. It is truly a miracle that I am vertical again and improving more each day. It was a humbling experience for me to go from total "independence" to total "dependence" on my family and the Lord. Our dedicated ECR Board continued the work of supporting the radio ministry in Estonia during this time. Thankfully, I am now back working at full strength with our ECR team. As we look forward to the New Year, please continue to pray for us and this ministry. I appreciate you all!

MINISTRY UPDATE FROM THE ECR BOARD

And A Call Was Given - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out not knowing where he was to go", Hebrews 11: 8. In much the same way, Twenty-nine years ago, Dr. Jim and Laurel, by faith, answered the call of God to put together a team to bring Christian Radio to Estonia, Russia and neighboring countries. This was no easy task and came with no instructions. Through their obedience God provided the materials, equipment, manpower as well as those with radio expertise to realize His call. Christian FM Radio was the initial answer to the Lord's calling. The Good News of Jesus Christ was broadcast out from the steeple of



Oleviste Church in Tallinn, Estonia. This message was soon to be heard in other towns and villages throughout Estonia on a network of seven (7) stations with multiple studios and recording sites. Partnering with Kuressaare Family Radio, the Gospel message would be broadcast throughout the Estonian islands of Saaramea and Hiiumaa.

Soon to be recognized as Family Radio-Pereraadio and predominate with FM programming in Estonian, steps were taken to reach out to the Russian speaking community through FM radio. In 1999 the vision of the ministry was expanded to reach further into Russia and other neighboring countries using AM radio. Establishing an AM broadcast system was a massive project in time and resources that involved scores of volunteers. It also entailed the need for an AM broadcasting tower and station. By faith, the call went out and the Lord, once again, provided teams of volunteers and resources to turn the vision into a reality. In a period of two years, facilities were in place, and a massive AM transmission tower stretched into the sky nearly casting a shadow on neighboring Russia.

Beginning with a miracle gift of an aging 50kW AM transmitter from Billy Graham Ministries, a signal of encouragement, healing and hope took root. A few years later it would expand to a 200kW solid-state transmitter operating 24 hours per day and seven days per week outside the obscure village of Kavastu. Christian AM Radio in the Russian language has continued through the efforts and support of Family Radio staff and volunteers, ECR and partnerships with TransWorld Radio, Voice of Hope and Light in the East Ministries.

The timeless message of our Lord and Savior never changes, however, the world in which we live is constantly changing - Advancement in technologies; Multiple choices of informational platforms including social media; Rising costs and partnership changes. In the last 18-months, established AM program sponsors have made financial decisions to divert their focus to other "least reached areas." With these changes in partnerships and soaring electrical costs, we have been forced to reduce our AM broadcast hours and transmission power.

The 24/7 broadcasting at full transmission power is no longer sustainable. The sobering message is that the ability to continue with AM Russian broadcasting into next year is uncertain.

We ask for your prayers during these uncertain times that the Lord will continue to provide miracles for the AM ministry, which was part of the calling and vision given so many years ago. We pray for His intervention to provide that which we cannot. We hold fast knowing that this AM ministry will come to an end only after every soul that the Lord intended to reach has in fact been reached through His Ministry of Christian Radio.

As we wait upon the Lord for His direction regarding AM radio, we continue to broadcast the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Russian language via FM radio to thousands living in the key cities and

boarder towns of Estonia that have yet to be reached. We sincerely thank the Lord for the sacrifices so many of you have made over the years in making the vision a reality. We pray you will continue to journey with us so we all can continue to be the hands by which the Lord continues His plan of salvation for the people of northern and eastern Europe. We thank the Lord for your faithfulness to His work and your partnership with European Christian Radio.

Blessings to you this Christmas Season from the ECR Board,

Dr. James Carlson, Pres./Founder	Larry Davidsee
Jim Needham, Exec. Director	Piret Leonetti, PhD
Ted Dickason, Treasurer	Doug Wesson
Lynda Sores, Secretary	Phil Yakligian

Personal Testimonies from Estonia Listeners

Sven - father of 3 sons. *I made the final decision to accept Christ in my heart 2018. I'm a Christian businessman who has run businesses for 29 years. Although I changed my life in 2018 I have sought and longed for God all my life. Jesus has truly blessed me in my journey. I started to listen to Pereraadio about 5 years ago and I enjoy it daily ever since. Wishing the radio team continues blessings and strength to continue the great work.*

Ülle - mother of seven. *I love listening to Pereraadio while doing house chores. There's not enough God's word in our daily life. God's word is the only power to change, free, and heal a person. Pereraadio makes God's word reachable in everyone's life.*

Priidu - from Tapa congregation. *I listen to Pereraadio often because I feel that I need this type of radio programming in my daily life. It's such a good program, interesting topics and good music for worship. I can truly say this radio is pure in its content. It's my go-to radio program whether I work out in the gym or drive in the car. Pereraadio is my number one radio station and I encourage everyone to listen to it and donate to it.*

Külliki - *I have to admit I'm a loyal listener of Pereraadio. Few years ago, I spontaneously switched all the channels to the Christian broadcasting and I've been a loyal listener for 17 years because my soul needs this type of broadcast. Every morning after prayer, I turn my radio to the Pereraadio channel. The program is always rich, filled with God's word - my daily bread that I need. Pereraadio is my daily helper to stay in shape spiritually. I can truly say Pereraadio is very dear and close to my heart and I need it daily. I'm so thankful Estonia has a Christian Radio!*

Eve - Tallinn - *I'm so thankful Estonia has its own Christian radio. I can be the witness for many who's homes have been changed to church like due to this Christian radio. My father's Sunday morning sermon starts every Sunday at home via Pereraadio. I'm so thankful for Pereraadio that has many listeners. May you be blessed!*

In 1544 the first manor or castle was built in Kõvestu. Fourteen years later the castle was destroyed by fire while under the ownership of Jacob Kräbbe. Over the years the castle was rebuilt and repaired by 18 different owners. Each owner would find it difficult to support the castle with the income provided by the crops grown on the manors large property. This was the main reason for many of the ownership changes. Most of the buildings surrounding the castle were built in 1896 when it was owned by Werner Wulfe. The 2.4 km avenue of trees that line the road leading to Kõvestu were planted at this time. The manor was surrounded by stone fences that separated the manors property from the peasants and many of these fences can still be seen in the area today. The dairy built near the beginning of this century on the manors property was destroyed by Russian artillery in 1944. The original dairy was located in the same place as the dairy we see now, and many of the stones have been used in both. Construction of the new dairy was begun on July 17 1992 under the direction of Tiit Veeber, the current owner.



These amazing hand drawings and beautiful calligraphy were done by Tom Garrels. Tom's incredible talents played an important part in the various building projects of the radio ministry in the years 1994, 1997, 1998, 2000, and 2001.

Piret's Corner

Christmas Season has always been my favorite part of the year, especially when I was growing up in Estonia. The daylight hours were very short, with only about 6 hours a day and outdoor temperatures could drop way below zero. As a child I always looked forward to the start of the Advent season, the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. I still remember times in the 1980's after formal church, we would go to my grandmother's home and she would read the scriptures and we'd listen to beautiful old hymns and traditional Christmas songs. It would not be long before my world view would change forever. It would come through Estonia's independence in 1991.



1993 was a significant year for me as a teenager - this was when Family Radio - Pereraadio was born and started broadcasting the hope of the Gospel and playing Christian music for the first time in Estonia and parts of Russia. It continues to bring hope and joy to thousands of listeners today, especially during cold long winter months. I will be visiting my home town of Tallinn again this Christmas Season. I'm looking forward to visiting the church of my childhood, Oleviste church, and waking up in the mornings - tuning into the broadcasting of Family Radio while reading my bible, drinking hot chocolate and enjoying a sweet gingerbread cookie.

Thank you for your prayers and ongoing support of this wonderful radio ministry!

With Blessings,
Dr. Piret



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Log onto our website www.europeanchristianradio.org, or scan the QR indicia with your smart phone to take you there. You will find more information about ECR and our long history of working with Pereraadio. For your convenience, you can also donate online through our secure portal.

