

# **European Christian Radio**

1993 - 2022

29 Years Faithfully Broadcasting the Good News!

2022 Winter Newsletter

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" which means, "God with us." Matt 1:22 - 23 NIV - Go tell it on the mountain over the hill and everywhere that Jesus Christ is born!

## Dear Friends and Partners,

We want to wish you a joyous Christmas and Holiday season with your family and friends! We also want to thank you for 29-years of faithful prayer and financial partnership with European Christian Radio (ECR).

For many, this season is filled with great uncertainty and hopelessness because of what is happening in our nation and our world, especially in Eastern Europe.

The impact and flow of Ukrainian refugees escaping the devastation of their homeland has been catastrophic and has put a real strain on neighboring countries including Estonia, which has taken in 25,000 permanent refugees. We have received many responses expressing how encouraging the radio broadcast of Tartu Family Radio have been. They have truly impacted the lives of individuals and families in many countries. This is such an encouragement to all who are involved and support the ministry's effort to pierce the darkness of this world with the Light of Peace, Comfort and Hope through Christian radio programming.

We are thankful that the Lord continues to bless the Family Radio ministry through your ongoing prayers and financial support. It is now more important than ever to be broadcasting the Life Changing News of Hope in Jesus Christ in Estonia and into the Eastern European countries devastated and separated by the Russia - Ukraine war.

"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." 1Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT)

You may ask yourself, how is it conceivable to be thankful in <u>all</u> circumstances when the world around us is so dysfunctional and life is so hard and uncertain? We are not instructed to be thankful "for" the circumstances, but to be thankful "in" them. God can use our circumstances to bring us to Himself for His purposes.

Tartu Family Radio FM broadcasting continues to run on a 24/7 basis from multiple sites offering a wide range of programs in the Estonian language. Additionally, in selected areas, where the populace is mainly Russian speaking, programs are broadcast in their native language. Family Radio's outreach through FM ministers to regular listeners as well as new listeners who happen to dial-in seeking to interact and connect through on-line forums, music, sharing prayer requests and praise reports. Just as important are those who scan their radio dial looking for someone or a message to connect with. One of those program forums is "The Connection." A life challenging symposium.

The broadcasting facilities of AM Radio Eli is ideally situated near the border of Russia. It continues to send the Good News of Jesus Christ into Russia and reaches south into Poland, Belarus and Ukraine. It is during times of war and political upheaval that many media outlets and lines of communication are lost or fall under government control – radio remains

as the exception and a viable alternative. Radio Eli, transmitting on AM in the Russian language, continues to reach tens of thousands beyond the reach of outside influence or intervention.

The overall impact of FM and AM Christian radio broadcasting is difficult to measure. Encouragement to studio staff and volunteers comes from the flow of listener responses that tell of the impact that their broadcast messages have on them and their families. Listener responses are encouraged and requested through a variety of Bible studies, commentaries, times of prayer and praise and recordings of local church services and speakers.

Family Radio is an indispensable catalyst in propagating the cycle for the "Harvest of Souls for the Kingdom." Through all of their various programming efforts and broadcasting they till the spiritual ground - plant the seed of God's love - water and fertilize with the message of hope - and take part in the Harvesting of souls by giving invitations to accept God's plan of salvation for their lives.

**T** estimonies are the fruit that comes from planting of THE WORD through Christian Radio and the sacrificial giving by you and so many other faithful supporters. Here are a few recent highlighted testimonies of those touched through this broadcasting ministry.

<u>Ukraine</u>— "Friends of Radio Eli, I am glad you have broadcasts around the clock again and signal strength increased. May the Lord bless you in these final days. AND Every time I get to you, you are soul food and inspiration."

<u>Belarus</u> — "First time listening to your radio. I feel that I will stay here for a long time. Blessings on a new day!"

<u>Moldova</u> — "Peace for you! Often, I listen to radio and always recommend it for friends and my brothers in faith".

**Estonia** — "Thank you for bringing calm, happiness and hope. God is hope!"

<u>Russia</u> — Thank you for all your inspiring broadcasts and all your work!"

We are grateful for the work of Maryana and Andrey who translate the many Russian messages and calls received by our Narva studio, which is located next to the Russian border

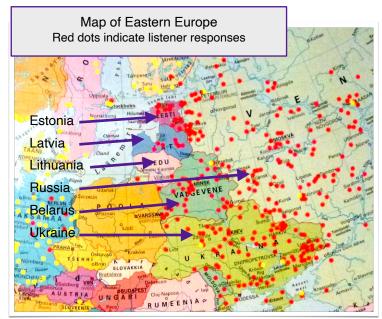
The tilling of spiritual ground continues with the introduction of the following new programs currently being put on the air; "Alarm Clock," a morning wake up program to start each day. Others include the Prayer Hour, Radio Forum, PULSE Point for youth, Basics of Faith, the Book Hour, Women's View and the Children's Hour, as well as a variety of programs to meet the needs of a very diverse group of listeners.

Family Radio continues to carry two key visions to expand FM Christian Radio in Estonia. The first is to provide the Gospel in the Russian

language throughout the capital city of Tallinn and surrounding areas. The second is to broadcast Christian programming into yet unreached areas of Estonia. Because of the exorbitant increase in electrical rates throughout Eastern Europe, funding is not available to fulfill these important visions. We pray that the Lord will provide what is needed to fulfill both visions in 2023.

The Lord continues to bless the radio ministry financially through Listener contributions which have increased significantly through the mid-year. We are thankful for our faithful ministry partners; Trans World Radio, Voice of Hope and Light from the East, and your contributions through ECR, which have maintained Radio Eli AM on a 24/7 schedule while running at full power during prime nighttime hours. As electrical rates continue to soar, we ask for continued financial and prayer support to keep FM and AM running every hour through every day.

Utilizing social media platforms continues to be an effective means of connecting with seekers and faithful followers. We invite you to visit the Facebook pages of Family Radio and ECR to keep up to date. Facebook: search for Pereraadio (Family Radio); and European Christian Radio (ECR).



### **Introducing Andrew MacMillan**

Andrew is our newest member of the Board of Directors of European Christian Radio. Many may remember Andrew as a team member on several trips to Estonia. Andrew brings a broad base of knowledge and

experiences from his time in Tallinn working on the Radio House, studio construction work in Tartu and on the AM tower and transmitter building in Kavastu.

Andrew is the the father of two sons and works as a Youth Corrections Teacher. In his spare time Andrew volunteers and shares his faith as a Troop Leader in "Trail Life", works with youth sports programs and attends Bible Studies. Loving the out-of-doors, Andrew and his sons enjoy fishing and hiking in the Sierras.

We look forward to working with Andrew as he continues to follow the call of the Lord with a commitment to Missions and ECR.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### SOCIAL MEDIA HELP

ECR's Board is asking for prayer that the Lord will bring a person to help us expand our outreach through Facebook and other Social Media postings.

#### • EASTERN EUROPE

With Russia's invasion of Ukraine, tens of thousands of Ukrainians have fled their country, the majority entering bordering and nearby countries. The generous people in the small country of Estonia have taken in approximately 25,000 Ukrainians, housing them in their homes, churches and available apartments. In addition, many Russians are fleeing their Homeland and entering Estonia as well. Pray for peace and reconciliation in Eastern Europe.

#### FAMILY RADIO OUTREACH

Please pray for the Tartu Family Radio network. Pray that they will be encouraged during these trying days, and continue to be an inspiration to Estonian Christians in expressing their faith through their works to those God has brought to their country for such a time as this. Pray that all who hear the broadcasts, refugees and Estonians alike, will discover New Life in Jesus Christ and understand God's love for them and their families in these uncertain times.

#### FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR VISION 2023

Pray for additional financial support to provide the Gospel in the Russian language throughout the capital city of Tallinn and surrounding areas, and to provide funding to purchase necessary broadcast equipment to transmit Christian programming into yet unreached areas of Estonia.

## Ukrainian refugees trying to cross into Estonia from Russia



#### ECR Board is sincerely thankful for your prayer and financial support

Dr. James Carlson, Pres./Founder Jim Needham, Exec. Director Ted Dickason, Treasurer Lynda Soares, Secretary

Andrew MacMillan Piret Leonetti, PhD Doug Wesson Phil Yakligian



# **European Christian Radio**

Log onto our website <u>www.europeanchristianradio.org</u>, 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-*Tartu Family Radio*. For your convenience, you can donate online through our secure portal.

