



Partnering
with
**East
European
Missions
Network**



First class in HOME of HOPE on December 3rd, 2019.

On December 2nd we celebrated the dedication of HOME of HOPE. Construction work finished and we were glad to see beautiful results. The Archbishop of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church consecrated the facility in the presence of approximately 100 guests. The service was filled with thanksgiving to God for His great blessings.

Many celebrating with us believe the opening of HOME of HOPE will have a much greater impact on Estonian history than we are able to think about today. Unique vision and people who are encouraged to follow God's footsteps, are making this place very special. This is a ground where we can realize unthinkable ideas. HOME of HOPE was an unreal idea 18



Thank you wall.



Names of major donors.

HOME of HOPE is Real and Opened

months ago as well.

December 3, student study work began in our new rooms and the students acknowledged that this place is homey and welcoming. We are glad to hear that because our aim was to create a place that feels homelike.

Some organizations have already booked our rooms for seminars and trainings and we have several apartment reservations for the coming months. It will take time before we are able to have this place in full use but we have had a very good start. We are completely confident, as the word spreads about Home of Hope, that the facility will be fully used for the Kingdom of God. Christian Radio is moving in and the Pastoral Care Center is making preparatory work for their opening.

We Have Seen HOME of HOPE!

It was a great joy for us to be invited over for the official opening of Home of Hope! After 14 years of a sharing partnership between TAT and East European Missions Network (EEMN), we are very thankful for this new facility and the inspired vision set forth by Siimon Haamer and his founding Father, Eenok! Over 100 guests responded to invitations to celebrate this milestone and many shared thoughts and encouragement through the day, expressing excitement over what God is doing in Estonia. Archbishop Urmas lead the official opening ceremony and consecration bringing blessing from the whole Lutheran Church family in Estonia! It was my privilege to bring greetings and some reflection on our friendship and work together. It was a very full day of joy and blessing and seeing so many friends of TAT coming together with glad hearts!

Many congregations in many states are represented as parts of the great anchor in prayers and financial gifting for the ministry and work of the Academy. It was a delight to see how the Estonian community has come together in this new place which will bring blessing to so many, both seeking and providing ministry through Home of Hope – named in Estonian "Pastoraat", a name that recalls the significance of the "parsonage" as a particularly Christian identity and safe place for people.

Home of Hope now has room for offices of several ministries for which TAT trains servants. The new spacious classrooms are homey and inviting, and the flexibility in construction, along with wise planning, makes it possible to make adjustments as needed. We would call it state-of-the-art construction for our digital world, and brings many needed resources for the professors. It was especially enlightening to hear from the



HOME of HOPE dedication service in the big classroom on December 2nd, 2019 with Bob & Patti Nordvall in front.

Director of Christian Radio Ministry in Estonia, who shared his excitement at finally having a home in the "Pastoraat". The ministry will be renting space in a beautiful, well-designed studio.

We praise and thank God for His faithful provision for TAT and for the gracious, steady work of His Holy Spirit bringing fruition to the long-held promise given to Eenok at the beginning - "Being confident of this that He Who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." Phil. 1:6 Thank you to all of you who have been raised up in prayerful and financial support for the Pastoraat!

With grateful hearts and Christmas blessings,

Bob and Patti Nordvall

Our Financial Challenges and Opportunities

I'm very thankful to all donors and prayerful friends that we have achieved together this important milestone. But the truth is, we still have a long journey ahead of us. Even though donations for HOME of HOPE and Tartu Academy of Theology dropped during the middle of September, we experienced some growth in giving during November and in the beginning of December. I am confident in God and trust the situation will be taken care of, even though at times it seems very difficult and current situation is also one of them. **At the end of the year, we have to make the first HOME of HOPE loan payment of \$79,596. At the moment we still need \$40,415 of it. At the same time, we need also \$49,127 to meet TAT's annual budget needs.**



Students having coffee break in main hall and reading room. December 3rd, 2019.

In order to track better our fundraising goals and process, we are coming up with **a new pledge program**. As our quarterly loan payment is almost \$80,000, we need eight congregations or private persons each quarter pledging \$10,000. We have some pledges already made and both of them are for the full 5 years. At the same time, we need to maintain the level of giving to TAT for yearly operation expenses.

We ask you and your congregation to consider becoming part of this pledge program.

We have recently received questions whether we have a plan in place for going forward, and what does this plan look like. Those are good questions and we share our answer.

1. We are continuing our active fundraising campaign and starting also new pledge program that was initiated by one of our major donors. He made already 5 year pledge and is working to get more people involved with their pledges.
2. We continue to extend friends of Estonia network. Since this autumn our connections were mostly involving members and congregations of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. This November Siimon Haamer had an opportunity to share about Estonia and HOME of HOPE also with North American Lutheran Church pastors and lay leaders. That was a good start for new friendships and fellowship.
3. We already have a great network of loyal friends in the U.S. and also in Europe and in Estonia who will continue to support us throughout this journey of faith.
4. We are renting rooms of HOME of HOPE and this income also goes toward loan payments.
5. We have also had discussions with the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church about possible financial problems and solutions if we are not able to pay the loan as timely as planned.
6. We are confident in God's guidance and are assured that your money will be used wisely and to the glory of God!

We can't of course say that we know exactly from where all this money comes but we can say and assure that we will work tirelessly under God's provision to realize the goal. We don't expect someone to cover major part of our need—every donation matters and brings us closer to the goal. And prayers keep us moving on.

HOME of HOPE LOAN PAYMENTS PLEDGE PROGRAM

2020 4 quarters				2021 4 quarters				2022 4 quarters				2023 4 quarters				2024 3 quarters		
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd
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*Value of every box is \$10,000. —pledges that are already made.

HOME of HOPE FUNDRAISING PROGRESS

\$596,436 RAISED 12/12/2019	\$40,415 to go Dec. 31 st goal 1 st loan payment	\$1,458,212 Total need 09/30/2024
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2019 TAT annual budget **\$236,471 USD**

\$187,344 USD
raised

December 12th, 2019

\$49,127 USD
to go

GIVING

CHECKS

Charity Lutheran Church (Tax deductible.)

120 Aspen Ave.

Bismarck, ND 58503, U.S.A.

Gifts for Home of Hope
Designate **"Home of Hope"**
in the memo portion.

Gifts for Tartu Academy of Theology
Designate **"TAT"**
in the memo portion.

ELECTRONICAL

To give electronically through

Charity Lutheran Church (Tax deductible.)

go to www.charitylutheran.org/give follow the steps and choose first **"Tartu Academy of Theology"** fund. Then you can choose also **"Home of Hope"** sub fund.