Tartu Academy of Theology

Tartu, Estonia Newsletter, October 2019



www.tatest.org



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Woe to those who go down to Eqypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord. Isaiah 31:1

Graduation class of 2019.

20 Workers for God's Kingdom Graduated in June

June 22nd we had good reasons to celebrate and praise students have used their education and what new steps they the Lord. On that day, 20 graduates of our school received have made: diplomas. 15 graduated with bachelor degrees, 2 from the *4 continue their studies in our Master of Theology program master program in Theology and 3 finished Studies in the and their goal is to become pastors in the Lutheran Church. Christian Culture master program. This is a very good addition *3 continue their studies in our Master of Theology program in of workers for God's Kingdom in Estonia. That gives reason the Pastoral Care specialty in order to become pastoral care for even more encouragement to continue with our HOME of givers. HOPE project as we know that there are people who want to *4, even before graduation, are serving as deacons (assistants study theology in a Bible-based school and want to proclaim to pastors) in the Lutheran Church. the Word of God in many ways.

Today, we also share information on how our newly graduated

*1 is a newspaper correspondent.

*7 are working as pastoral care givers.

*6 are lay leaders in their parish congregations.

34 New Students

Were Admitted in August

More good news is that in the end of August we admitted 34 new students: 10 into the bachelor program and 10 into the master of theology program (7 of them just graduated our bachelor program and continue on to pursue the master level). And, it's interesting that 14 new students have begun their studies in the Christian Culture master program. This shows that we have, in Estonia, many people who have gained their education without receiving any knowledge about Christianity. During their life and work they have felt they are missing something and they need to complete their education. That's why it's important to have this educational program.

We are very thankful and humble that God has granted us such a blessing.



Beginning of the new school year. Sept. 11th, 2019.

TARTU ACADEMY OF THEOLOGY NEEDS FUNDS FOR ITS MISSION WORK

Donations for TAT's work have been decreasing consistently since we launched the HOME of HOPE fundraising campaign last April. It's important to emphasize the HOME of HOPE campaign is temporary and will last five more years but TAT is the heart of this center and is long-term with a large perspective. We hope to continue our mission work for years and years to come and we need support gifts from our donors to finance this work.

PLEASE ALSO DONATE TO TARTU ACADEMY OF THEOLOGY IF YOU ARE ABLE!

You can send your donation through Charity Lutheran Church (Tax deductible.) 120 Aspen Ave., Bismarck, ND 58503 Designate "TAT" in the memo portion.

2019 TAT annual budget \$236,471 USD

\$163,282 USD		\$73,189 USD
raised	October 11th, 2019	to go

Delightful Youth Bible Camp

In Estonia, in co-operation with East European Missions Network and Christians from the United States, English Bible camps for adults have been held since 2006. In August of 2019 we together launched the first Bible camp for youth and it was very fruitful. Ten boys and girls, ages 13-18, attended. The theme of the camp was relationships. That was very meaningful for the youth as they were able to talk about their relationships with Jesus, with their family and with their friends. Afterward, one of the participants confessed to her parents that this camp was the absolute highlight of the summer and she is waiting impatiently for camp in 2020. Not all of the participants were Christians but we pray and hope with confidence that seed was planted into their hearts.



Bible Camp youth singing at the last evening picnic. August 10th of 2019.

As this group of youth is very enthusiastic, we are hoping to form a Christian youth group that will meet at HOME of HOME, as this place is planned to host many outreach activities.

Youth Bible Camp in August 10th of 2019.

We Became Owners of the HOME of HOPE Facility

September 19th, 2019, Tartu Academy of Theology became the owner of the HOME of HOPE facility. We took out a \$1,300,000 mortgage loan for 5 years with 5% interest and bought the property. The contract has been signed and notarized.

In April of 2018, under God's guidance, we began this project from zero with 100 dollars. Now, 17 months later, we have a property, which in December, will house a unique Christian Outreach Center. We have experienced tremendous blessing and we are blessed by so many good friends who form a great circle of God's ambassadors. **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS AND PRAYER WARRIORS!** Together we have made the impossible possible. HOME of HOPE is a landmark for Estonian people that is testifying that God is alive.

Please, don't abandon us now, because we have to continue this path for 5 more years until the mortgage loan is paid. Stopping or returning is impossible.

The opening of HOME of HOPE is scheduled for **December 2nd, 2019,** and you are all welcome to join with us on this glorious day if you are able.

You can read and see more about HOME of HOPE from <u>www.tatest.org/facility</u>.

 \$563,255
 \$73,596 to go
 \$1,465,920

 RAISED
 Dec. 31st goal
 Total need

 10/11/2019
 1st loan payment
 9/30/2024

HOME of HOPE FUNDRAISING PROGRESS

\$2,646 of matching funds are available

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 eletronically through **Charity Lutheran Church (Tax deductible.)** go to <u>www.charitylutheran.org/give</u> follow the steps and choose first **"Tartu Academy of Theology"** fund. Then you can choose also **"Home of Hope"** sub fund.

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