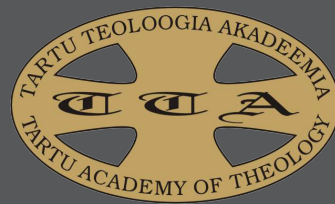


TARTU ACADEMY OF THEOLOGY & HOME OF HOPE



tatest.org

Newsletter, December 2021



Confirmation and baptismal service in Pastor Eenok Haamer's church in the middle of August 2021. Eight confirmed and five baptized.

PARTNERING WITH



SPIRITUAL ORPHANS NETWORK

formerly EEMN
SONetwork.org

Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things!
Joel 2:21

Sown On Good Soil

I'm sharing with you an extraordinary experience with one of our first year Bible School students.

In autumn of 2020 Agne joined our Bible School. She had been baptized and confirmed about 25 years ago but after her confirmation she didn't have any connection with church any more. At the time she was the only one in her family who was baptized and confirmed. In September of last year she heard from a Christian radio advertisement about our Bible School and she decided to participate.

At the very beginning of our Bible School, founder of Tartu Academy Pastor Eenok Haamer, gave lessons. Eenok's message was so inspiring for her and because of that Agne decided to visit a church service in Mustvee where Eenok is pastoring. And since then she has been present almost every Sunday. A great surprise was that most of the time she didn't come alone. She brought her niece, husband, sister, mother and friends.

As a result of her inspiration and desire to get to know more about Jesus many people wanted to become Christians. As we had at the time COVID restrictions, it was difficult to meet people in person. So Eenok launched a confirmation school in

Zoom. **Finally, in the middle of August, in Eenok's church eight adults were baptized and confirmed and five children baptized.** And all of that happened because of one Bible School student who desired to find a spiritual home!

This story is a great encouragement for us and joyful testimony that our activities are having a certain impact in God's plans. We'll continue to be God's tools!

We have also a video available where Agne is sharing her story. You may find it from our website tatest.org/about/testimonies.

Majority of Bible School expenses are covered by tuition fees. Budget for 2021/22 is \$26,850 and tuition fees cover \$17,000. **Additional funding is needed for \$9,850.** We are thankful for your donation.

Siimon Haamer
President of TAT



About Financial Situation

As you know we have a challenging task—we need to pay Home of Hope mortgage loan. As for now we have achieved a goal that seemed unbelievable. **Since April of 2018 we have raised \$1,066,316.** It's almost half of the total needed. We are truly hoping that this result is encouragement to all our donors. We know there are much hesitation among people when they think about this huge sum we need to raise. We understand these doubts but we just can't share the same opinion. **We are convinced God has a plan also for the rest of \$1,156,575.**

We don't have short term plans. We are representing a story of four generations proclaiming Word of God throughout bad and good times, throughout persecution and liberty. **Our goal is to proclaim message about our Savior Jesus Christ for generations to come.** Home of Hope Outreach Center isn't a goal of our mission, it is a tool that gives an opportunity to accomplish our calling.

Home of Hope is like a multi-tool. Facility is planned in a way that it is usable for many different activities. This has given us an opportunity to earn rental income. **During 2021 we have earned \$41,000** and these funds are used mainly to cover salary costs of our staff. Thereof we can use donations given for our mission work, mostly for our different projects.

We are very thankful to all our donors but we have to emphasize that we continually need your help very much. Mortgage loan is a strong pressure on our shoulders.

tatest.org/give

HOME of HOPE Mortgage Progress

Loan Total \$2,222,889

\$1,066,315

\$1,156,575

RAISED
12/01/2021

\$40,736 to go TO GO
12/15/21 PYMT

Christian Outreach in Estonia for **GENERATIONS TO COME**

HOME OF HOPE IS SHAPING THE CHRISTIAN CULTURE OF ESTONIA

Johannes Ots, Organizer of Youth Worship Night



It's my pleasure to share with you my thoughts how work done at Home of Hope is shaping

the Christian culture of Estonia.

But first, let me introduce myself. My

name is Johannes Ots and I have been a Christian my whole life. As a 23 year old, I can still call myself a young person and I can understand what a young Christian person needs. To understand the needs of Estonian culture better, I began my studies in Tartu University in a field that can be described as social studies, social politics and social works. Since Home of Hope is located in Tartu city, I can contribute as a volunteer in

being the main organizer in worship evenings. So far, the worship meetings have been a blessing for the people involved. We have had great speakers and beautiful worship songs presented by the wonderful people who want to spread the Gospel.

You may be well aware that Home of Hope offers many other opportunities besides worship evenings. I guess the largest contributor to the Estonian society is Family Radio, a Christian radio station spreading Christian message to thousands of people in Estonia. Home of Hope also offers rooms for the pastoral care workers who receive calls 24/7 from people with difficulties about their faith, life and many other everyday problems. Their work has a powerful impact in improving the Estonian society. Home of Hope hosts one of Estonia's biggest Bible schools. And of course Tartu Academy of Theology that is center and root cause for all these activities.

For the youth, Home of Hope is a place to meet other young people in different

events. We have youth evenings, board game nights, meetings of Christian Students Union and the aforementioned worship meetings. I hope to see these events continuing to happen so that we can keep teaching the Christian values and faith to the generations to come. Once again, as a young Christian, I know that this is exactly what the Estonian youth needs.

The truth is that with the ambitions of Home of Hope, a lot more could be done to improve the Christian life in Tartu and Estonia. That's why we also need the help from our friends from different parts of the world. Your much appreciated donations have helped to keep Home of Hope and Tartu Academy of Theology afloat in difficult times and we are thankful for that.

The planned future projects will be realised with the help of God and you. The future projects can flourish and bring more people to grab and hold onto God.

I wish you many blessings and successes in your future endeavours.

MORE DETAILS ABOUT YOUTH WORK

Mattias Haamer, Assistant to the President of TAT



Thanks to Home of Hope, Tartu Academy of Theology has been able to focus ever more on our younger generation in Estonia. It warms my heart because I have always

felt the need for education about Christianity for young people and to break down barriers at an earlier age, which may have been put up by the families which were taught to think and live by Soviet teachings. I also believe that my great-grandfather, Pastor Harri Haamer, would have been proud of us, because as much as I have heard, he too had a heart for youth and kids work.

As I have been coordinating youth work, I wanted to cover three areas. First, and main one, is to help young Christians remain and grow in their early faith path. For that, we have started with youth evenings, where we focus on providing a Christian environment where youth feel free to share their thoughts and questions. In these events we also take

time to pray, sing, play, share bread and have a planned topic discussion.

Secondly, it is of utmost importance that we introduce Jesus and Christianity to youngsters who do not yet believe. In addition to youth evenings, where they could find their way through friends, we also host board-game nights. This is a really laid-back event and the only thing that we have as a part of the program is playing board games. It is so that those youngsters who are already Christians could easily invite their non-Christian friends. This is the place where they can have their first interaction with Christian topics if they are ready to talk about it and show their interest. Then we have Christians there, who can answer their questions and invite them to churches or youth evenings from there.

Third level is for those who are seeking worship and prayer times. For that we have an evening focusing on worship, music and a talk. For this season we have chosen topics that are about everyday

life and where we can see God working. Since it is more reflective and needs a more mature faith, we aim it for the university students and overall young Christian adults.

These were the events happening consistently once every month. We also organize a Youth Bible Camp in the Summer with SONetwork and at the moment we are working on a plan to organize a conference for young Christian adults in March 2022.

I am so thankful that so many people have it in their heart to lead young people to Christ. We have so many cheerful volunteers helping us and so many good donors showing their heart through financial support. Thank you for that! And thank God for showing us how to love each other!



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