

TARTU ACADEMY OF THEOLOGY & HOME OF HOPE

tatest.org

Newsletter, October 2022



Youth Bible camp attendees in front of Home of Hope.



Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

Romans 14:19

Graduation and New Beginnings

At school, life is always framed with new beginnings and graduations. And this circle goes on and on. It may seem to be a boring pattern but it is actually a great pattern—we get to know new people every autumn and we will get new coworkers every year in June when students graduate.

At the beginning of June, 40 Bible school students finished a nine-month long study period. Beginning in September they gathered every Monday evening to eagerly learn the Bible. This was a joyful experience, realizing there are people

around us willing to get to know God's Word.

At the end of June 5 students graduated from bachelor's program and 7 from master's program. 2 of them are already pastoring, 4 of them are working as pastoral caregivers.

In August we had new admission: 15 new enthusiastic bachelor students and 5 master students.

In September we launched also a new Bible School class. This year we have 30 participants. The total number of Bible

School participants during these three years is now almost 200. Thankfully there aren't any COVID restrictions and we are able to meet with people in person. We even made this year's on-site participation cheaper compared to distance learning in order to motivate people to come and meet each other. Therefore, the majority of students are present at Home of Hope and we enjoy great fellowship.

Siimon Haamer
President of TAT



Opening of Bible School new class on September 19, 2022. Pastor Eenor Haamer, founder of TAT, is speaking.



Graduation service on June 29, 2022.

Current Financial Situation

TARTU ACADEMY & HOME OF HOPE ACTIVITIES

In order to run all our activities we need also donations for our annual operating budget. **Total need during 2022 is \$297,315 and today we have raised \$149,936.**

Over the years we have been able to diversify our income resources and we aren't so dependant on US giving. However bit less than 50% of our income comes from US.

HOME OF HOPE MORTGAGE

Home of Hope mortgage is our great challenge. **During 2022 we have made so far only \$75,000 of mortgage payments.** In total we have still \$1.1 million to pay until November 2024.

We need much help to sustain Home of Hope and all these good activities that we have launched during this short period of time.

We are very thankful to all of our donors and are hopeful to have continuing partnerships.

Christian Outreach in Estonia for GENERATIONS TO COME

Youth Invasion to the Home of Hope

Although summer is over it's still good to share some great memories from the very beginning of summer. Home of Hope hosted a joyful youth Bible camp together with a group of Spiritual Orphans Network's (SON) short-term missionaries from June 14 to 17. The topic was Truth and the camp was held under the leadership of my assistant Mattias Haamer.

We had about 20 participants with ages ranging from 12-19, most of whom were 13-15. Two girls were from Ukraine. They didn't speak English, however, some youth spoke Russian and were able to help them communicate.

Mattias was very satisfied and happy with the camp. We had wonderful workshops,

sang, played lots of games, and of course, learned about Truth. The youth were very eager to participate and enjoyed this fellowship. After participating in the camp, many continued to meet several times throughout the summer.

We are very thankful to all SON missionaries: David and Angela Breidenbach, Mike and Nancy Wind, Torin Wiggins, David Michael Carillo, and Penny Gerhartz.

It's important to note that most who attended the camp were not regular participants in our youth events. We hope they do become active and attend our youth activities.



Ukraine Refugees from Occupied Territory

In the middle of August, the Ukraine family who had lived in Home of Hope's guest apartment since the middle of March moved to Germany.

We continue hosting refugees from Ukraine and have found another family in need of help. Larysa and her 88-year-old mother Tamara now live there. They are from Severodonetsk, a town occupied by Russia. A residential house where they had a condo was bombed shortly after the war began. They escaped and found shelter in different places in Ukraine and finally in the middle of July came to Estonia and Tartu. At first, they were able to stay in a hotel. The Estonian government funded

their living costs until the end of August. After that, they needed to find a place to live.

Larysa was the principal of a kindergarten and she has been able to get a job in a recently established daycare for Ukraine children. Larysa's husband is still in Ukraine. We don't know when they will be able to return to their country.

We have helped 12 Ukraine families with your donations. We are able to help only a small number of people compared to the total need. This contribution is important as many small drops form the sea. We are thankful to our brothers and sisters in Christ in the USA and other countries as



Larysa prepared a delicious borscht to express her thankfulness towards us.

you give your drops into this huge sea of need.



Larysa's home in Severodonetsk after Russian's missile attack.



Simon with Larysa and her mother Tamara at Home of Hope's guest apartment.

CONNECT WITH US...

tatest.org
facebook.com/simonvsgoliath

siimon.haamer@teoloogia.ee