

“Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man’s behalf.” Psalm 66:5

OUR MISSION – DEVELOPING LEADERS

“Your Leadership Development Seminars are high quality events,” says camp director, Viktor K. “When our camp leaders return from your Staff Training Workshops (STW), they are on fire and ready to go. They are equipped with knowledge and inspiration.”

Camp leader, Natalia K., observed that few Christian leaders in her part of the world know how to talk to children about intimate relationships. CCI (Christian Camping International) is meeting this need by offering the Sexual Education Seminar. She invited CCI to do this seminar in her church “so our Sunday School teachers and parents could learn these precious truths.”



Vladimir Shevchenko, CCI/Ukraine director of Leadership and Program Development, together with his team of Ukrainian instructors organized and carried out nine leadership events this year with 952 camp leaders in attendance. “Parents are looking for quality camps to send their children to,” says Vladimir. “Quality camps need well equipped staff. To help achieve this high goal we publish articles like Practical Steps for Overcoming Procrastination, The Biblical Foundation and Definition of Christian Camping, and How to Lead a Camper to Jesus.

“Campers have become more intelligent and are asking trickier and tougher questions. They are skeptical. They are not satisfied with pat answers. To help prepare camp leaders be models of our faith and provide satisfying answers, we have developed ten new courses and updated others. Generation Z, Prayer – the Foundation for Camp

Ministry, Audience Analysis, Innovation Techniques, Cabin Group Time, are among the courses we teach.

“We have also set up a website for our Camp Vertical Follow-up Program. At the beginning of each month the program for the next 30 days is posted. Campers can now work on their assignments using their desktops, laptops, tablets or even smart-phones.



“Many people’s lives in the former Soviet Union are quite drab these days. Colour It Up is a program designed to help campers develop their gifts of service.”

We asked Vladimir for trends in Christian youth camps in Ukraine. “Secular and government operated camps are adopting the model which Christian camps have implemented from the beginning – small camper groups, relationship oriented atmosphere, good food, clean facilities, and western quality sports equipment.

“Campers are no longer satisfied with new experiences and camp memories. They are looking for personal transformation. Life as it is, is not satisfying. They want to be changed forever. Offering this change through Christ Jesus is our

challenge and Christian camps are well positioned to be the place to initiate the transformation process. This is the mission we hope to achieve through our leadership development ministries.”

CAMPING IN UKRAINE



Pavel Bakum, executive director of CCI/Ukraine reports that approximately 500 Christian youth camps opened their gates to eager campers this summer. Attendance was down from the pre-war years due to the continuing political and economic crisis, war, corruption and galloping inflation. Pavel is thankful for the churches and camp leaders who, in spite of circumstances, had the faith and courage to fulfill the Great Commission through their camps. Enrolment in the leadership development seminars was up from



2014. They even had leaders from the war zone and Crimea attending. A few camps operated in those areas.

The container of camping supplies sent by KVI significantly helped to increase the quality of facilities

and programs of the model Alpha Camp. Orphans received clothes, the new tents were cool and dry, fishing was a great new activity and the new sports equipment provided opportunity to expand the Character Building Sports Program.

Pavel reports: *“I was overwhelmed by the prayer support I received from our overseas friends during the military draft process. Two courts ruled in my favour allowing me to direct our model Alpha Camps all summer. The military recruiting office is no longer pursuing me.”*



Pavel Bakum

Our staff, the CCI/Ukraine board of directors and camping leaders are rejoicing over the office they were able to purchase in Kiev. The generous donation from a KVI supporter made this possible. “We needed this office for a very long time,” says Pavel. “It will serve as our hub for camp leaders and camping organizations. Besides a permanent work place for our staff, it provides suitable space for specialized seminars year round.”

VERTICAL PRAYER PROGRAM

Vertical, a camp for boys ages 13-17, designed to inspire and teach boys to become Godly men, was begun in 2011. It was founded on prayer because *“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective...” James 5:16*. Today Daniel and Ivan, both Vertical graduates, send a Prayer Bulletin to Vertical campers and staff every seven days. “Camp Vertical changed my life,” says Ivan. “I keep physically fit through sport activities and good cooking which I learnt at camp. I stay spiritually fit by living the ten Biblical values taught at camp.”



Daniel Y.



Ivan D.

PRAYER COORDINATORS

Daniel was baptized last summer because he wanted to serve God more. *“I realized that I could be part of a meaningful ministry that requires dedication and responsibility,” he said. “When I serve God I grow!”*

The bulletins remind the boys to be diligent in their weekly follow-up assignments, to thank God for His care in their lives and for Camp Vertical. They keep the boys current with the camp and one another’s needs.



FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO PRAY



Praise God for the hundreds of camps that opened their gates in 2015, for the thousands of staff who volunteered to serve, for the tens of... thousands of campers who attended, for safety, for protection from the enemy and for the powerful work of His Word and the Holy Spirit transforming lives.



Our People are perceived as cultists who are a threat to the establishment. Often parents are reluctant to send their children to our camps. In some regions the enemy calls for the eradication of the cultists. Pray God's protection upon our people. **Pray** that parents would not believe the lies of the enemy and let their children go to evangelical churches and camps.



Stas K.
Sports
Coordinator



Viktoria K.
Alpha Teens
Camp Program
Leader



Viktor K.
Vertical
Leadership
Program
Coordinator



Thank God for Staff who were hired in Ukraine this spring. They have served in our camps and are serving on our staff part-time year-round preparing program resources and doing follow-up.



Hostile Activities in eastern Ukraine are less frequent. Shooting is much less, causing fewer deaths. Thank God for the de-escalation and continue to pray for peace, law and order.



CCI/Ukraine, the Lord willing, plans to celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2016. There is much to celebrate. Ask God for wisdom to plan celebrations that will bring great honor to Him, that will encourage all who are involved in Christian camping and that will open many new doors of opportunity.



Love is Powerful

Bogdan (his name means 'loved of God'), a 8 year-old orphan boy, arrived at camp from a psychiatric hospital. He had a severe stuttering condition. The camp staff showered him with love, even when he was misbehaved. His stuttering stopped on the first day. He didn't stutter for two weeks. His stuttering returned on the last day of camp due to the stress of having to return to an unloving environment.



I Am an Orphan

"I accepted Jesus at age 8. At age 15 I began to attend church. I learned about Alpha Camp through the internet. At camp God gave me a passion for children. Now I want to get my teacher education so I can give God's love to children. In the summers I want to start a camp in my village so the children will get to know God. Please pray for me so my aspirations will become reality." **Yeizaveta P. age 16**



FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO GIVE

KVI's commitment to leadership development continues. Our Ukraine staff are preparing a three-day Strengths Finder Clinic scheduled for January 25-27. God has endowed each one of us with spiritual gifts. This clinic will help the 25 handpicked leaders attending this clinic, to identify their gifts from strongest to weakest. The better we know our gifts the more effective we become in our daily living and in our ministry. Confidence increases!



Insur S., a dear brother in Christ, whom we have often invited to teach at our seminars, will lead this clinic. The cost to KVI for this clinic is \$380 per participant. Students will pay for their own food and accommodations. Your help for this important clinic will be greatly appreciated.

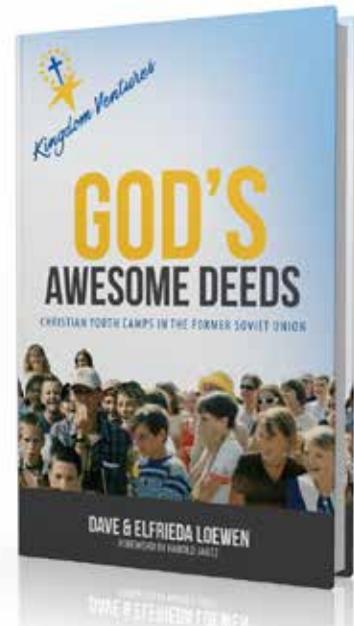
Thank you from KVI

Your prayers and financial support sustained our ministry throughout 2015. Thank you for your faithfulness.

We wish you the joy and peace Jesus brought to earth for your Christmas celebrations and throughout the New Year.



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CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA

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