

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.” I Corinthians 2:9 NIV

“WE HAVE A DEBT TO PAY”

God is always at work. Elfrieda and I were in Moscow in February 1991, attending a conference arranged by Art DeFehr of Winnipeg. We were connecting with Russian people to explore the possibility of helping to start Christian youth camps. It was during communism, Gorbachev’s period of Glasnost (freedom) and Perestroika (restructuring).

Ivan Warkentin, a businessman from Shchuchinsk, Kazakhstan, asked us to help the church in his village organize a camp. After months of faxing (emails did not work there in 1991) information on how to prepare for camp, Elfrieda and I and our interpreter arrived at the end of July to help start a camp.

Ivan drove ahead of the small bus packed with 39 lively girls and boys, insuring the police at the many checkpoints would allow us passage. We arrived at the primitive tent camp in the forest and set the camp in motion. More campers arrived daily as word spread in the village that this camp organized by Canadians was “like heaven on earth” compared to the communist camps.

Isaak Fast, the new young pastor of the almost empty church gave his full support. All but a handful of families attending this Mennonite church had left for the better life in Germany. “We have a debt to pay,” explained Pastor Fast. “Our Mennonite people have lived here for 200 years and have not shared the gospel with the local people. We want to reach these indigenous people through the camp. Thank you for coming and showing us how to do it.”

In April of 2019, we received an invitation to the 70th Anniversary Celebration of the Shchuchinsk church. Vladimir Shevchenko and I decided to attend the July 18-21 event. Instead of a tent camp in the forest we toured an impressive stationary 80-bed camp on owned land, serving 700 campers annually. A new impressive chapel had been added this spring.

Instead of a small church building with Bible verses in German hanging on all walls, we celebrated in a new 300 seat sanctuary decorated with scriptures in Russian. Not a word was spoken in German; only Russian and Kazakh. The place was crowded.

By 1995 the campers increased the Sunday school to 150 children so an education facility was built. The building is also used for community activities giving the church many new contacts.

Campers soon became youth; the church saw an opportunity and recognized the need for discipleship training. A resident Bible School facility was constructed to serve churches in the area, giving youth the opportunity for sound biblical training in righteousness.

We were greeted by a teenage brass band on Sunday morning. Sunday afternoon the accordion orchestra enhanced by mandolins, flutes, guitars, and violins, commanded the stage. Sunday evening it was the youth choir.

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Camp Transforms a Dying Church into a Thriving Church



Vladimir and I listened to the Bishop's report from Omsk, Siberia, where CCI has conducted leadership training seminars. He told of many vibrant camps operated by the churches. Pastor Alexander Fast talked enthusiastically about the camps in the Karaganda (central Kazakhstan) region.

Marina, program director of Shchuchinsk camp, was one of the campers in 1991. She is a very gifted leader, writes programs and Bible lessons for the camp and for Sunday school. She organizes and leads the year-round camper follow-up program.

You can well imagine that with such rich children's and youth programs there is no need for I-phones in the hands and minds of the youth. All we saw was a large crowd of children and youth with happy faces enjoying their friendships and taking pride in their instrumental and vocal achievements.

Before we departed, we asked Pastor Isaak Fast what percentage of his congregation was Russian. 80% was his reply. For 29 years the church has faithfully paid the spiritual debt owed to the indigenous people. They expanded their camp this year so they can continue to "pay their debt" more effectively. God is at work!

KVI - A JOURNEY OF FAITH



Stan Hamm

My journey of faith with Kingdom Ventures Inc (KVI) began in May of 1993 when I received a call from Dave Loewen asking if I would travel to Anapa, Russia and speak at several teen camps and a family camp. After speaking with my wife, church leaders, and Providence

College leaders, I agreed to go. Christian camps as camper and staff were part of my life. The cross-cultural experience in Anapa convinced me again of the incredible impact that this ministry has on children, teens and adults. The experience in Anapa was life-changing. Several years later my wife Bev and I were invited to become KVI board members. This resulted in traveling to Ukraine and Georgia to train camp leaders, attend conferences, and eventually become chair of the KVI board. God has been faithful!

This journey of faith could not have happened without the many people who supported the work of KVI over these 29 years. People expressed and demonstrated their confidence in the mission and work of KVI through their prayer, financial and moral support. The HymnSings, the

Prayer and Praise events, the cross Canada tours, and church visits were always well attended by people who believed in this ministry. God blessed this ministry beyond the imagination and vision of the board.

Throughout the journey, board members gave of their talents, time, energy and resources to support and grow this work. Irv Koop, the first board chair, provided leadership and direction as the board sought God's guidance. His insight and experience was highly valued and necessary as the board launched this project. Shirley Bergen typed the many manuscripts for Dave and Elfrieda's leadership manuals and books. Lil Koop, Esther Unruh and Peter Wilms did the weekly banking, accounting and bookkeeping. Board meetings included reports and discussions, debate, prayer, and decisions. Board members demonstrated a sense of unity, openness, wisdom, insight, and vision. The strengths and contributions of each board member were highly valued and needed as the journey continued over the years. Stuffing thousands of KVI Newsletters three times each year became board parties with Henry Unruh's one-liner humor.

The board also enjoyed journeying with Dave and Elfrieda Loewen who entered this ministry with over 25 years of Christian camping leadership experience nationally and internationally. God opened the door for this ministry, and Dave and Elfrieda obeyed the call of God to return to the countries of their forefathers. God used them with their gifts, abilities, experience and determination to evangelize thousands of youth in the FSU. They travelled to all parts of the FSU training camp leaders, and establishing camps.

The board is confident that God will continue to expand the youth camps in the FSU through the national staff. Dave and Elfrieda, now in their early 80s, are retiring, but the journey will continue with trained and gifted national leaders. We strongly encourage our supporters to continue to support this ministry through prayer and finances.

Stan Hamm, Ph.D., KVI Board Chair



CORE TRUTHS I LEARNED FROM DAVE LOEWEN

by Alexander Kharitonov



Alexander Kharitonov

- 1. Centrality of the Bible.** In Russia, "spiritual" is often associated with "mystical". Dave has always impressed me as a very practical, hands-on, getting-things-done man. But the more I got to know him the more I realized how deeply his actions and decisions are rooted in the Word of God. That included both his teachings on Christian camping and his personal walk in life. Such a non-negotiable commitment challenged and eventually transformed my own values and choices.
- 2. Counselor as the key camp staff member.** Modern culture is focused on visuals. It praises individuals on the forefront of the "show", be it in sports, politics, music, cinema, and even Christian life. Tele-evangelists and pastors of megachurches are so often mistakenly considered major influencers and actors in the Kingdom of God. On the contrary, Dave has always been so adamant to elevate and educate those who truly affect the lives of the campers the deepest, i.e. camp counselors. Camp Counselors Manual is his and Elfrieda's most famous book, and thousands of counselors they have trained – directly and indirectly – are applying its principles in hundreds of camps throughout the FSU.
- 3. Redemptive Relationships as the cornerstone of a Christian camp experience.** Programing and over-programing is the plague of many Christian activities, including camps. But the true "Power of Camp" resides in interpersonal relationships that are made possible because and through Christ the Redeemer. I was privileged to witness Dave conceiving and wording the chapter on Redemptive Relationships for the Camp Counselors Manual. At that time we were traveling around Russia together, me as Dave's interpreter. We often shared a room, and I had little sleep on those nights. Dave is a loud man, very audible in speaking and singing by day... and snoring by night. However, on that particular night my sleep was uninterrupted. Dave was praying and thinking and writing, and in the morning shared with me a concise text that describes this value of camping the best until today, and for many generations to come.



God led Alexander Kharitonov, a brilliant philology student in St. Petersburg, Russia, working on his PhD, into our (Dave & Elfrieda's) path in 1992. He travelled thousands of kilometers with us as our interpreter, translator, and mentor in Slavic culture, Soviet politics and Orthodox traditions. Always willing to serve, Alexander's work was marked with excellence. He was our first fulltime national employee and as such facilitated the development of Christian camping in the former Soviet Union. He soon became president of Christian Camping Int'l Russia taking responsibility for furthering camping in Russia, Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Central Asia. As his life was impacted by Christian Camping, so his life has impacted many.

KVI'S FUTURE

KVI's vision and goal from day one was to transfer the responsibility and leadership of developing Christian youth camps in the former Soviet Union (FSU) to the nationals. Now that God has equipped a team of nationals to joyfully continue the ministry, Kingdom Ventures Inc. (KVI) is taking the next step.

As of January 1, 2020, the mission of KVI will be carried forward by the CCI/Ukraine staff under the leadership of Vladimir Shevchenko. The leadership and services Dave and Elfrieda have provided will be continued by the CCI Kiev staff and by Abundance Canada, Winnipeg.

THIS WEEK, the weekly edition of our Prayer Partner, will be published by Daria Stepanchenko, CCI/Ukraine Staff, every Tuesday on the KVI website www.kvicanada.org, by email, and on Facebook. If you prefer to receive **THIS WEEK by email, please send your email address to cci.thisweek@gmail.com**. The KVI staff will also manage KVI's website.

The KVI Newsletter is written and edited by Dave & Elfrieda Loewen. We distribute it by email and post mail and on our website www.kvicanada.org If you want to receive the Newsletter or would like to change method by which you are receiving it, email kingdomventures@msn.com or call **204-224-4175** or post mail: **Kingdom Ventures Inc. PO Box 38144, East St. Paul, MB Canada R2E 1H3**

A PASTOR'S VIEWPOINT



Andrey Dvoretzkiy

"Christian camping is the best part of my life," says pastor Andrey Dvoretzkiy, Ukraine. "I got involved at age 17 and made my best friends at camp. My wife and I met there and have continued in camp ministry together ever since. Our three children have been in camp from birth and are happy campers now.

"100% of the people in our village church are involved in the four camp sessions we operate each summer. Those who cannot work at camp for health reasons support camp in prayer. We cooperate with staff from other churches in our area. Camp brings new people to our church and the churches we work with.

"We can see God at work in the hearts and lives of our children and youth. They accept Jesus as their personal Saviour, develop character traits God wants to see in them, get baptized, and join our camp staff. The leadership qualities they develop help them to find the ministry they are created to do and to do it with love and passion.

"Camp is a great place to share the Good News with children and teenagers, develop them through the church and fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus."



"WE HAVE ONLY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE"

by Vladimir Shevchenko - CCI/Ukraine CEO

I was born during the Soviet Union into a strongly atheistic family. There was no need of God. Easter day was spent in the cemetery commemorating deceased relatives. Christmas was all about Santa Claus and New Year Celebrations. In my mind God, Jesus, Church, was about darkness and graves.

Growing up in the Communist school system, I went through the ranks of Children of October, Young Pioneers, and Komsomol member. This made me eligible to enter university.



Learning English was the passion of my life. I fell in love with English from the very first lesson. Little did I realize this was from God! Providentially I met a Bible school teacher from the USA. He invited me to be his interpreter. I interrupted my university education to learn English while interpreting for a theologian. In the Spring of 1992 Dave and Elfrieda Loewen invited me to interpret for them. In Fall I returned to the University to complete my degree only to join Dave & Elfrieda again in the spring of 1993.

All my exposure to Christianity convinced me of my need for God and I made the decision to accept Jesus as my personal Lord and Saviour. For the next five years I interpreted for some of the best Bible teachers and scholars at St. Petersburg Christian University. A solid theological foundation with effective Bible study tools was formed in me.

In January 1997, the Loewens hired me fulltime and the "Dave & Elfrieda University" began for me. I learned the science of Christian camping. It was also the time for learning how to lead a Christian family life. Vira and I were married the previous Fall and expecting our first son.

During the years I travelled with the Loewens, I have interpreted for them at 77 events attended by 12,069 camp leaders. KVI has created a culture of Christian camping all over the former Soviet Union (FSU). CCI is directly connected with more than 600 camps in Ukraine alone. And there are many more we could serve if we had the resources. I would say that since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Christian camping is the fastest and the most massive development as a ministry within the Evangelical church in the FSU. And it is firmly established in the hands of local people across the entire FSU Empire. Christian camping is definitely an important tool in the mission of God.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING TEAM



Vladimir Shevchenko

- Chief Executive Officer

As a child growing up in the Soviet Union I attended Communist Pioneer camps and I never liked them. As a University student I had worked in the Pioneer camp system for two summers and I didn't like it either. In 1992 I was hired by KVI as an interpreter and was pleasantly surprised at the camp structure and the love for campers. Soon afterwards I became a Christian and worked at CCI camps as an interpreter, counselor, and later on, camp speaker. Christian camping and developing camping associations in the former Soviet Union became my life career. I enjoy sharing my knowledge and experience at our seminars and

conferences by teaching the Bible and courses on Leadership and Management, Experiential and Adventure Learning, Creating Unforgettable Experiences, Biblical Foundations, and History of Christian Camping.

My passion is to make our staff successful and to help all of us implement our strategic plan to fulfil the Great Commission, helping camps to create life-changing experiences where boys and girls encounter Jesus.



Aleksey Skurikhin

- Ministry Development Director

My camping career began in 2006 as counselor. The next summer my wife Ira and I founded Camp Mountain Pass which I still direct. I found CCI/Ukraine on the internet in 2008 and attended my first Staff Training Workshop as a student. In 2012 I was invited to be a STW group leader. I served CCI/Ukraine as a volunteer, an instructor at conferences and eventually as board member. In 2016 I was invited to join the CCI staff team. To leave my well-paid employment and follow God's call to a fulltime ministry with minimal pay was a tough decision for my wife and I. As Ministry Development Director, I am passionate about strategies, innovation, analytics and surveys that

transform the entire camping community. I promote Christian Camping among churches and promote a holistic view of leadership development and camp ministry. I market all CCI Ukraine events, develop training courses and teach at camping conferences and seminars.



Viktor Korniychuk - Director of Camp Vertical

I came to Camp Vertical in 2011 as a counselor. The camp influenced me more than I influenced my campers. I realized I wanted to continue to help boys become men after God's own heart. In 2017 I was asked to be Camp Vertical director and I felt God's calling to do this. I was a businessman producing furniture. After praying it over with my wife, we decided to give up my business and serve Camp Vertical. My sincere desire is for boys in Ukraine to put their trust in Jesus, to become men who love God, become faithful husbands, hero fathers, useful servants in their churches and salt and light in society.



Oksana Magdych - Director of Training Programs

My camping career began in 1996 as a counselor. I fell in love with organized Christian camping and transitioned through the ranks as sports leader, program leader and eventually camp director. By 1998, I was a Sports Instructor in CCI-Ukraine training events and in 2016 I was invited to join CCI-Ukraine as fulltime staff member. As Director of Training, I am in charge of the entire educational department, developing courses, organizing and managing CCI's many seminars, conferences, and Instructor Training events. Teaching Psychology, Pedagogy, Generational Theory, and Leadership and Management inspires me. I thank God for calling and equipping me for this ministry.



Pavel Bakum - Membership Director

I've been serving in Christian camps since 1999, as a counselor, a program leader and camp director. In 2008 I became a volunteer with CCI/Ukraine. In 2012 I joined the fulltime staff. Currently I provide legal support for Christian camps, help camp directors network and exchange experiences and manage CCI/Ukraine's finances. I also oversee CCI/Ukraine's relations with government officials. In camping conferences I teach Program Leading, Stage Techniques, and Creativity. Currently I am working on a postgraduate thesis "Training camp staff for non-profit organizations".

TELLING JESUS' STORY

With the 2000 Christian youth camps operating in the former Soviet Union, “we have only scratched the surface.” There are 30 million school-age children in the FSU; most of them have never heard about Jesus.

Will you help us continue to tell the JESUS STORY?



Viktor Korniychuk
Director of Camp Vertical



Pavel Bakum
Membership Director



Aleksey Skurikhin
Ministry Development Director



Vladimir Shevchenko
Chief Executive Officer



Valeri Buiglishvili
CCI-Georgia and
Transcaucasia Coordinator



Mikhail
CCI Coordinator



Tatiana Levchuk
Camp Consultant



Oksana Magdych
Director of Training Programs



Astghik Mikaelya
CCI-Armenia Coordinator



Daria Stepanchenko
Administrative Assistant



Valeri Buiglishvili - CCI-Georgia and Transcaucasia Coordinator

Christian camping is totally different from the Communist Pioneer camps that I attended as a child where there was constant bullying instead of love. Christian camps have become very dear to me and to which I have committed my life. In 2000 I got acquainted with CCI. They invited me to organize camping seminars in Georgia. I agreed with pleasure, and as a result my life was changed, as well as Christian camps in Georgia. Since 2003 I am a full-time staff overseeing CCI ministry in Georgia and the Transcaucasus. I plan and organize training events and conferences. I also direct Camp Grapevine, a rental facility used by churches for their summer camps. I also direct three weeks of our own programs. I work with the future generations of my country and

I take this very seriously. Listening to the testimonies of the many campers who choose Jesus and observing their changed lives gives me joy.



Daria Stepanchenko - Administrative Assistant

I don't remember not being at camp in summer. My parents were leaders at Camp Shalom. In 2004 my active camp ministry began - first, as a dining-hall assistant, then a counselor, then a sports leader and since 2009 a program leader. I was watching CCI-Ukraine closely; its impact on camps and camp leaders, its impact on my parents and me. It was my dream to become a part of this ministry. In 2017 I joined CCI-Ukraine's Instructor Training Program and completed all three levels. I taught camp counseling at the CCI STW in Georgia, and eventually was invited to join the CCI/Ukraine staff. It was God's answer to my prayer. I enjoy interacting with people, answering phone-calls and emails, making arrangements for meetings, looking after office

supplies, maintaining and updating mailing lists, and collecting stories of God's awesome deeds. Camp leaders need... encouragement and inspiration, and I know it's important to keep in touch with them on a regular basis. And what I love most about camp is seeing campers fall in love with Jesus.



Tatiana Levchuk - Camp Consultant

Camping ministry is my passion and calling. Our church started Camp Level Up of which I became director in 2003. We realized that we had a lot to learn and that's when I heard about CCI-Ukraine. I attended the course for Program Leaders at STW. In 2007 I was a group leader and a few years later I was invited to STW as an instructor. I am happy to be a CCI-Ukraine staff member because I am being developed as a resourceful camp consultant. I know how important it is to get good training in order to be an effective camp leader. My teaching focus is Christian Camp Counseling, Program Leading and Camp Program Development.



Mikhail - CCI Coordinator

I am the CCI Coordinator for camping in Country X where Christian camps are forbidden. In 2005 I attended the CCI Staff Training Workshop (STW) and was certified as a Sports Instructor. After three summers of leading sports, I became the Program Coordinator of our Church camp. In 2010 I was asked to take on the responsibility of CCI Coordinator of camping in Country X. My role is to organize leadership training events and to keep camp directors and sponsoring churches inspired in these very difficult and risky circumstances. Our driving purpose is to make disciples of children and youth in our country that persecutes Christians.



Astghik Mikaelyan - CCI-Armenia Coordinator

It is painful for me to see children and youth reject the Good News. I searched for activities to effectively reach our children with the gospel. My Camp ministry began in 1997 as a counselor. I fell in love with camping and I love it to this day, always wanting to make it better. When CCI came to Armenia in 2003 I attended the first seminar. Then I worked at camp as program leader and camp director. In 2006 I organized the STW in Armenia. In 2007 I was appointed CCI/Armenia Camping Coordinator. As coordinator I chair the CCI committee which organizes STWs and Camp Conferences. I teach STW Group Leaders course, visit camps and write reports. Keeping in touch with camp directors throughout the year, encouraging follow-up, organizing prayer meetings and inspiring churches who don't have camps to get involved is what I enjoy doing. I am thankful that God has entrusted me with this ministry.



FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO PRAY

Prayer acknowledges our dependence on, and faith in God. Fervent prayer keeps us connected with God. Persistent prayer moves God's hands. Luke 18:1-8

GOD AT WORK IN ARMENIA

Since Christian camps began in Armenia sixteen years ago, the hostility among various denominational leaders has ended. Praise God for the interdenominational cooperation among leaders.

Reaching today's youth with the gospel is much more complex than it was ten years ago. Ask God to give us insight and wisdom to design the programs, to equip the staff needed and to make the personal sacrifices required to evangelize today's youth.

UKRAINE LEADS

Our staff team is in direct contact with 629 camps in Ukraine alone. CCI/Ukraine has over 20,000 Facebook subscribers. More than 3,000 leaders participate in training events organized and led by our staff team. Churches and para-church organizations view camping as one of the most effective platforms for connecting with children and youth. A culture of Christian camping across all denominations and confessions – Evangelicals, Protestants, Catholics, and Orthodox, has been firmly established throughout Ukraine and many other countries of the former Soviet Union. PTL!

Our vision is to expand our partnership with other ministries to develop competent leaders in every one of the 26 provinces in Ukraine; leaders who will take charge and expand camping into areas, villages, and churches currently without Christian camps. Pray and ask God to make this happen.

COUNTRY X DEVELOPMENTS

Camps in Country X are operated in hiding because Christianity is not permitted. Official church registration documents were cancelled years ago, casting fear of severe fines and imprisonment upon Christians. However, churches have kept their vision and operated camps again this summer.

Recently the government has started to register churches again. Churches that are receiving registration status may operate camps openly. Thank God for this positive development and pray earnestly that God would restore registered status to all evangelical churches so summer camps could flourish again.

RUSSIA, THE BALTICS AND CIS

CCI/Russia celebrated its 25th anniversary of camping in 2018. The second generation leaders are stepping in taking responsibility for the camping ministry after their parents who began camps in the 1990's. And they are doing camps better and bolder. Openness to the gospel makes Christian camps possible and more are taking advantage of this and are starting camps.

CCI/Russia is offering an Online Academy, a six-month web-based training course for counselors. It is an inexpensive way of preparing camp leaders.

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One hundred have already been trained. Praise the Lord for making this training possible.

There are some regions where Christian camps are under surveillance. Some have even been closed. Pray for protection and for wisdom for camp directors to deal with unfriendly officials.

REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

Camps in Georgia have helped to break down denominational barriers. Churches in Georgia were closed to working together. Today they share camp curriculums, staff and equipment. No one could have thought that possible 20 years ago.

Thank God for all the leaders who have been developed through the camp training events, gained leadership experience, and now are leaders in their churches and missionaries in Georgia.

There is a great need for campsites in Georgia. Ask God to provide more campsites so more churches can have camps.

CCI/Georgia celebrated its 20th anniversary this year. Thank God for the eleven churches operating camps for the thousands of children and youth who are followers of Jesus and for the hundreds of camp leaders who are also the work force in their churches.

MOLDOVA

Christian camps in Moldova are vibrant and many have been operating since the early 1990's. Eight camps send their staff to our training events in Ukraine because there is no one in Moldova to organize training events. Our Ukraine team, upon invitations from individual camps, has travelled to Moldova twice in 2019 to conduct leadership training events.

Moldova has a strong core of evangelical churches and missions. Ask God to raise up a camping Coordinator to rally the camps and to organize leadership training events in Moldova.

COUNTRY Y – A SPECIAL PROJECT

Thank God for making Christian camps possible since 2011 in this hostile environment, for the two new camps in 2019, and for protecting staff, campers, campsites, and churches operating the camps.

Ask God to help us train national instructors how to develop their own leaders and for the \$27,000 to do so in 2020. Country Y has over 50% unemployment. Ask God to provide the domestic needs of camp and church leaders so they can remain in Country Y to serve their own people.

GOD IS FAITHFUL

We can never thank God enough for opening the windows of heaven upon the former Soviet Empire and bringing to life some 2000 Christian youth camps. Forgiveness, peace and the joy of the Lord now live in the hearts and minds of hundreds of thousands of children, youth, young adults and their parents in an Empire that for 70 years denied God's existence and persecuted those who sought God. What an outpouring of God's patience, grace and mercy!

And we cannot thank you enough, our faithful Prayer Partners and cheerful, generous donors, for walking this journey with KVI for 29 years. Your participation, attendance at our many public events and your heartfelt words and notes of encouragement "fueled our fire". And KVI is debt-free!

And think of the safety on the millions of kilometers of road, rail and air travel God provided for the thousands of leaders from Canada, USA, Germany and the former Soviet Union who served voluntarily or who came for training. (Dave estimates that he crossed the Atlantic Ocean more than 150 times.) There is not one known fatality.

Spread the word! Rejoice with thanksgiving!

KVI'S FUTURE

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After January 1, 2020, your donations will be processed by Abundance Canada. Abundance Canada, headquartered in Winnipeg with services in each province, is a registered charitable public foundation with Canada Revenue Agency. You will receive your official receipt for taxation purposes from Abundance Canada in the mail, just like you did from KVI. KVI has received donations through Abundance Canada for several years and has been completely satisfied.

To donate to KVI through Abundance Canada, please refer to KVI Legacy Fund in this newsletter.

Vladimir Shevchenko, our CEO and longtime friend and faithful staff member in Kiev, Ukraine, will communicate with the KVI support constituency. **His email address is vsh@cciukraine.org**

The KVI board will change into an executive board of three at the end of this calendar year. It will consist of KVI board member Gerald Huebner of Arborg, MB, KVI staff Dave Loewen of Winnipeg, MB, and CCI CEO Vladimir Shevchenko of Kiev. KVI donations and charitable status will be managed by this executive board. KVI is continuing as a charity because that is our resource for staff salaries and administrative costs.

All other expenses are raised within the FSU. Camp Vertical is moving to a new campsite and is totally dependent on KVI for funding the move and development of the site. KVI has a committed donor base – people who want to continue to be part of what God is doing through Christian youth camps in the FSU. We will continue to give them this privilege.

Dear friends, KVI's ministry would have had a very short life had it not been for the millions of dollars you donated. The CCI staff in Kiev is in the identical situation, so "Let us not become weary in doing good..." (Galatians 6:9) Millions are made up of individual donations. **The KVI Legacy Fund is essential for staff salaries in the former Soviet Union.**



CCI/Ukraine Certified Instructors

THANK YOU

from Dave & Elfrieda Loewen



Dave & Elfrieda Loewen

It is time for us to say Thank you to all for the enjoyable, fulfilling and deeply satisfying and unexpected and unimaginable twenty-nine year journey with Kingdom Ventures Inc.

Thank you, God, for calling us to this

awesome ministry, for equipping us with the gifts, faith, and health to carry it out and for protecting us from all harm and evil.

Thank you to our parents who taught us the biblical foundations of Christian living, the dignity of disciplined work, and showed us the essence of love.

Thank you, Camp Arnes, for teaching us what Christian youth camping is all about and for your patience over the 26+ years while learning our leadership roles.

Thank you to our three children and their spouses, six grandchildren, and our brothers and sisters for your constant encouragement, generous financial support and keen interest in the growth of Christian camps across the former Soviet Empire.

Thank you, CCI/Worldwide (Christian Camping International) for making us and KVI part of your vision and enthusiasm through which many doors were opened to us.

Thank you to all our faithful Prayer Partners whose prayers moved the hands of God to accomplish His purpose in us and through us in the former Soviet Union.

Thank you to ALL our cheerful and generous donors, for the "widows mites", for the larger than expected gifts, and for all gifts in between. You kept the ministry growing and debt-free.

Thank you to our staff in the former Soviet Union, for treating us with respect, for your outstanding cooperation, for owning the mission God has called you to and for your commitment to – "scratch deeper" – the work that has begun.

Thank you, KVI board of directors, for your wisdom, guidance, prayers, participation, correction, full support and friendship these twenty-nine years, and for supporting our retirement which will take place December 31, 2019.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO PARTICIPATE IN GIVING

KVI \$1,000,000 LEGACY FUND

KVI's goal is to raise \$1,000,000 to start the Legacy Fund. In view of all God has done through Christian youth camps in a land many of our forefathers called home, a **THANK YOU GOD GIFT** would be most appropriate. Consider it prayerfully. Nothing has more eternal value than investing in Telling the Jesus Story to children and youth.

The purpose of the Legacy Fund is to keep the KVI ministry going by providing the salaries of our staff in the FSU, operational costs, expenses incurred with leadership training events in countries where Christian camps are forbidden and for developing the new site for Vertical Boys Tent Camp. The interest generated by the Legacy Fund when it is built up, will provide for staff salaries as long as the banking system functions.

The KVI Legacy Fund is being held by **Abundance Canada**, a faith-based public foundation registered

with the Canada Revenue Agency. Donations can be made to Abundance Canada by cheque, visa, master card, or Interac e-transfer. It is important to always write the KVI fund number **W1125G** on every transaction to designate the donation for the KVI Legacy Fund.

Abundance Canada can also receive donations for KVI in stocks, mutual funds, life insurance policies, estate gifts and wills. For specific information on transaction procedures, please go to www.abundance.ca or call Harold Penner at **1-800-772-3257**.

To the end of 2019 we suggest you send your donation to KVI as usual. If you prefer part of, or all of your gift to go into the Legacy Fund please indicate the amount on your cheque. If you want to make your special **THANK YOU GOD DONATION** by credit card or Interac e-transfer in this calendar year, go to Abundance Canada website or call their office.

MY 'THANK YOU GOD' GIFT

- For God's great mercy in the lives of hundreds of thousands of young and old in the former Soviet Union who have become Disciples of Christ through Christian camps.
- For the salaries of 10 CCI staff God has prepared and are passionate about **TELLING THE JESUS STORY** to 30 Million youth who have not heard about Jesus.

I enclose \$_____ as my **THANK YOU GOD** Gift – make cheque payable to KVI

I enclose \$_____ for the **KVI \$1,000,000** Legacy Fund

Make cheque payable to Abundance Canada – memo W1125G

If making transaction with visa, master card, or Interac e-transfer, see www.abundance.ca

___ I have included/am thinking about including KVI Legacy Fund in my will.

___ Please send THIS WEEK. My email address is _____

Name _____ Send to: Kingdom Ventures Inc.

Address _____ PO Box 38144

_____ East St. Paul, MB R2E 1H3

Donation Policy: Spending of funds is confined to KVI Board approved projects. Gifts designated towards approved projects are used as designated with the understanding that when the need for a project has been met, or the project cannot be completed for any reason determined by the Board, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Gifts are acknowledged with a receipt for income tax.