



PRESENTATION BOOK 2011

SPECIALLY FOR GLOBAL CHRISTIAN FORUM 2011



Preparing for the "Second Global Christian Forum", we have the opportunity to look at what God is doing in Latvia today.

It takes my breath away to see His magnificent work in our land.

I love God, our Father and I love my country where I was born and call it my Latvia. I am worried about the situation in Latvia: every day in Latvia 34 children are destroyed through abortion, while only 53 are born; more than 25% of the population is connected with problems resulting from alcohol abuse; during the past 10 years 13% of the population has emigrated in an effort to be able to provide for their children ...

... but only 3% read the Bible and attend church.

What do we have to offer in response to this disaster? Jesus Christ. Because He is the Way, the Truth and the Life! Together with my brothers and sisters I pray and fight for every mountain of influence in Latvia, so that in every possible way they would hear the only real hope for our land.

I invite you to become a part of this plan for Latvia through your prayers and support.

Ilze Codare,
LEA board member

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ilze Codare'.

ABOUT OUR NATION – LATVIA

Republic of Latvia

The Republic of Latvia was founded on November 18, 1918. It has been continuously recognised as a sovereign state since 1920 despite occupations and rule by the Soviet Union (1940-1941, 1945-1991) and Nazi Germany (1941-1945). On August 21, 1991 Latvia declared the restoration of its de facto independence, re-established international diplomatic ties, and joined the United Nations. Latvia joined the WTO in 1998 and in 2004 became a member of the European Union and NATO.

The Coat of Arms

Latvia's national coat of arms was established as a symbol of independent statehood after the proclamation of an independent Latvian Republic in 1918. The coat of arms combines traditional heraldic symbols of Latvian national identity with those of historical territorial districts.

The sun is a central symbol in Latvian culture, particularly in songs, poetry and art, and here symbolizes Latvian national statehood.

The three stars above the coat of arms represent the three historical districts (Vidzeme, Latgale and Kurzeme-Zemgale) which formed a united Latvia. The western Latvian regions of Kurzeme and Zemgale are represented by a red lion, a symbol used by the Duke of Kurzeme (Courland) as early as 1569. Latvia's eastern regions of Vidzeme and Latgale are represented by a silver griffin. This mythological winged creature with an eagle's head first appeared in 1566 when this part of Latvia came under Polish-Lithuanian control.



The Flag



The maroon-white-maroon flag of Latvia is one of the oldest in the world and dates back to a battle against Estonian tribes near the Latvian town of Cēsis in the 13th century. According to one legend, it originated from a white sheet used to carry a mortally wounded Latvian tribal chief from the battlefield. Soaked with his blood on two sides, his soldiers hoisted the warrior's sheet as a banner as it led them to victory.

National Holiday

November 18, the date of the proclamation of Latvia's independence in 1918.

Geography

Latvia is the central country of the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) and is located in North-eastern Europe on the east coast of the Baltic Sea. It consists of fertile lowland plains and moderate hills, with most of its territory less than 100 metres above sea level. It has an extensive network of rivers, thousands of lakes and hundreds of kilometres of undeveloped seashore lined by pine forests, dunes, and continuous white sand beaches.

Location

Latvia is bordered by Estonia to the north, Russia to the east, Lithuania to the south and the Baltic Sea to the west. Its strategic location has made it an international cross-road for trade, commerce and cultural exchange since ancient times. Vikings followed the 'Amber Road' through Latvian territory along the Daugava River to reach Byzantium and the Mediterranean Sea.

Nature

With over 44 percent of its territory covered by forests, a vast network of free flowing rivers and thousands of lakes, Latvia is one of Europe's best preserved havens for a wide variety of wildlife. Over 27 thousand species of flora and fauna thrive in natural

settings that are still relatively undisturbed by man. Many rare species, such as the black stork and lesser spotted eagle, make their homes in Latvia's mixed forests, marshes and meadows. There is also an abundance of otters, beavers, lynx and wolves, as well as great concentrations of deer, elk, fox and wild boar. Bird-watching is particularly rewarding in Latvia, especially in the coastal areas and wetlands during annual migration periods.



Population

Latvians are the indigenous people of Latvia, and the Finno-Ugric Livs (or Livonians) are the only indigenous minority. Latvia's present ethnic mix is largely a result of massive post-war immigration, which resulted in a decline in the share of ethnic Latvians from 77% in 1935 to 52% in 1989. Population in 2010: 2 248 374, Urban: 68% Rural:32%

Ethnic composition:

- 59.4% Latvian,
- 27.6% Russian,
- 3.6% Belorussian,
- 2.5% Ukrainian,
- 2.3% Polish,
- 1.3% Lithuanian,
- 3.3% other nationalities.

Official Language: Latvian

Largest Religious Confessions:

Evangelic Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and Russian Orthodox. Since the 16th century Reformation, the Lutheran church has played a leading role in Latvia.

Government



Latvia is a democratic, parliamentary republic. Legislative power is in the hands of the single chamber Saeima, which has 100 deputies. Parliamentary elections are held every 4 years. Latvia's head of state, the President, is elected by the Saeima for a period of 4 years. The President signs laws, chooses the Prime Minister (who heads the government) and performs representative functions.

Riga - the Capital City of Latvia



Latvia's political, economic and culture centre is in Rīga, where more than one third of Latvia's population (706 thousand) lives and works. Rīga's elegant Old Town and distinctive Art Nouveau architecture serve as a stimulating setting for a vibrant modern business and cultural life. Founded in 1201, this former Hanseatic League member is one of the oldest medieval cities in Europe and has been listed by UNESCO as one of the world's most important cultural and natural sites. As one of the new stars of the dynamic Baltic Sea region, Rīga has hosted a NATO summit, world hockey championship, the Eurovision Song Contest and many other large-scale international events. Rīga's International Airport is one of the fastest growing travel hubs in Europe.

LATVIAN EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE – LEA

About

LEA represents a unique interdenominational movement in Latvia that invites all Christians to unite in mutual understanding and the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations. We desire to promote Christian values in all spheres of our society – individuals, families, scientists, business, education, culture and politics. The LEA encourages cooperation between the government and the church in social, moral and ethical issues.

The LEA was founded on September 20, 2002 at the Riga Lutheran Cathedral (Doms) during a service which included the spiritual leaders of the major denominations.

Our logo states: Initiative, Unity, Voice.

Which would mean: Initiative for Latvia, Unity of Evangelicals, Voice of the Alliance.

- **Initiative** for Latvia – promotes projects that actively influence society locally, nationally and internationally.
- **Unity** of Evangelicals – that Jesus prayed about in the 17th chapters of the Gospel of John. We promote unity among our denominations, of leaders, large and small multicultural congregations, Christian organizations and individuals.
- **Voice** of the Alliance – We are members of the European Evangelical Alliance and the World Evangelical Alliance. This gives us many privileges and responsibilities within a Christian society throughout the world that represents over 600 million Christians in 128 countries.

Latvia sets a wonderful example for other countries as all confessions unite in defense of traditional Christian values. Latvia was the first country whose parliament changed our constitution to affirm natural family values, specifically marriage as between one man and one woman. The LEA is encouraged to remain faithful to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the

name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

May the Lord help us!
God bless Latvia!
President of LEA,
Vadim Kovalev



LEA - A neutral God's created platform in Latvia where all the brothers and sisters in Christ with different and similar callings may meet in order to strengthen, grow, work together, share, encourage, pray and intercede ... for the Kingdom flavor, values, principles and the power may cover the entire Latvia to impact all seven mountains of society: Family, Church, Business, Education, Government, Arts & Media, Science & Technology! In faith through unity of the Christ's body and love, we expect spiritual awakening - the REVIVAL in LATVIA!

ALL GLORY AND PRAISE TO GOD THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT!

...to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. /Eph. 4:1-6/

In HIS love to all of you,
LEA Vice-president,
Inga Zinge-Pupina



Vision

Our vision is for spiritual revival in the nation and people of Latvia, by affecting all mountains of influence throughout society: Family, Church, Business, Education, Politics, Art and Media, Science and Technology. We desire that all Christians be united in love, and releasing kingdom values and principles in society, so that the kingdom of God would come and his will be done in Latvia as well!

Mission

Our mission is to provide a platform for interdenominational unity and cooperation among Christians in Latvia, to encourage mutual understanding and to facilitate Christian initiatives in society, bringing kingdom values and principles to the Church and to the world.

The Seven Mountain strategy

Society can be broken down into seven primary categories, or institutions, which we refer to as "The Seven Mountains" (also known as "spheres of influence" or "mind-molders"). Ideas, practices and these mountains all influence and transform one another, thus creating culture. Every person has the ability to influence one or more of these spheres through their actions and prayers. Those who control the mountains usually set the agenda and shape culture for society at large. So, God sends His people, the Church, to impact all these mountains with Kingdom wisdom and love, that grace, righteousness, justice and peace would reign in the earth.

We invite you to pray daily for Kingdom transformation in the Church's mountain and especially to pray for the mountain for which you personally have been called.



BIBLE FESTIVAL 2011 IN RIGA

BIBLE FESTIVAL 2011 IN RIGA THE CAPITAL OF LATVIA – UNIQUE IN EUROPE!

Goal:

to proclaim the Word of God in Riga's historical center, providing testimonies and praise for the importance of the Bible in the life of each individual; giving Latvia's Christian denominations the ability to unite around the Word of God, presenting a united witness to the world.



1. Prayer at Latvia's strategic places: the Freedom Monument, Riga City Hall, the Parliament (Saeima), and the President's Palace. Our aim was to intercede for, to proclaim the Word of God and to loose the Kingdom over these strategically significant places that influence our society.



2. Bible reading on Latvian Christian Radio all day long: For the first time in the history of Latvia, the Word of God was read live on Latvian Christian Radio for 12 hours non-stop. This Bible Marathon included 72 people from all denominations, including youth, seniors and children.

3. Children

The goal was to create an unforgettable day for the children as they learned about the heroes and stories of the Bible.

Vision: To touch each child's heart as they met Jesus in various innovative and child-appropriate ways: play, creative workshops, theatre, etc. The eyes of the children shone as they participated with great interest.





Praise the Lord, all you nations. Praise him, all you people of the earth. His mercy toward us is powerful. The LORD's faithfulness endures forever. Hallelujah!

/Psalm 117/



if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. /Chronicles 7:14/



4. Bible exhibition

The Ernest Glik Bible Museum displayed examples of the history of the Bible's translation into Latvia. E. Glik himself completed the first translation and this museum is the only one of its kind in Europe.



5. Seminar for Sunday School Teachers

"Let's experience the Bible" is a project allowing Sunday School and Public School teachers to experience innovative and creative methods of presenting God's wonderful plan for our lives. "Let's experience the Bible" is a project authored by Swedish pastor Jonas Magnusson that has been presented in other countries and teachers are enthusiastic



6. Dominos with a Pastor

A stylish café was created in a central park in Riga. A pastor sat at each table, discussed the Word of God and drank mineral water with anyone who desired conversation. Pastors represented all denominations. (Water bottles displayed the slogan: "But, who drinks from the water that I give him will thirst no more. Jesus"). While playing dominos, one question was allowed for every move.



Purpose: People are given the opportunity to speak with a pastor outside the walls of the traditional church and present questions in the informality of a game of dominos. To show people that God lives not only in the church but in people, believers, and every follower of Jesus. The response was very positive as many people wanted to take advantage of this opportunity. Pastors were happy to be able to reach people who would not attend church.

Testimony: A 13 year old girl had a very lively conversation with a pastor. They talked during more than one game of dominos. We were able to give the girl a gift of a Bible. Afterwards, the girl didn't go anywhere but sat down on a bench and started reading the Word of God. We thank God for this girl and believe that God will continue to work in her life. This event was worthwhile for this one girl alone.

7. Flashmob for youth.



In a flashmob a group of youth come together in a public place – in this situation they began reading aloud from the New Testament. The group included youth from all denominations.

Purpose: To let people hear the Word of God on the street and to give Christian youth the experience of participating in a modern activity from a Christian perspective. This brings attention to and creatively portrays the importance of the Bible to youth today.

Testimony: As I was reading the Sermon on the Mount at the Laime Clock square,



a man came, stood beside me and listened to the entire reading, then said thank you and went away.

48h Praise and Worship: Together with musicians to cover the Bible Festival with prayer.



Testimony:

Hearing live praise music, many tourists came in to see what is happening. Polite servers and Christian guests naturally evangelized the tourists who had come to Latvia to see the architecture, nightclubs, alcohol and girls. God worked powerfully in the hearts of individual musicians, gave them a deeper understanding of praise. During the day, on the street many people didn't know what to say, didn't know what to do, were confused and were attentive to hearing God's Word as a two-edged sword.

Many young musicians participated in the "Port of Peace" who had never been involved in evangelization. During this Festival they felt God's strong call and His presence while speaking to the international guests in English and telling them about God. Before the Festival I asked God: "What will the 48 hours of praise and worship be?" God said: "It will be a blessing to the musicians."





Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

/James 5:16/



This is the day the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Please, LORD, please save us. Please, LORD, please give us success.

/Psalm 118: 24- 25/

A new song came to the musicians during this time with these words:
 ” ... scattered hearts along the streets that we collect in dishes. The dishes have water in which the hearts are washed clean. Jesus says: ”I am the living water. Whoever drinks of Me, they will no longer thirst!”

9. Revelation tent



Purpose: To create a place to draw near to the Holy Spirit, to pray for people, lose the Kingdom of God in Riga’s central square, speak to people on the streets and give them the gift of the Word of God.

Testimonies:

- The Revelation Tent was staffed by a variety of people and I saw how Christians from different denominations served together in love and unity. People received prayer for a variety of needs and left with thanksgiving
- A woman, learning that she could receive prayer, began to cry because she had been calling out to God asking, “If you exist, let me see you. “
- I asked an ice-cream stand server to choose a Bible passage from a basket, saying : ”Pick the Word, that God wants to say to you today.” Reading her Bible verse, she began to cry.



10. Concert in the Dom Square and evening concert for youth.



The culmination of the Bible Festival was at the Dom Square (the central square of Riga). A giant screen was set up to show a documentary film where celebrities shared their faith in God. The Festival was opened by the Vice-Mayor of Riga, Andris Ameriks. The program included well known praise songs in Latvian and Russian, sung by a choir of over 100 singers from different denominations from throughout Latvia. The program ended with a joint blessing by leaders of all denominations.



Many of the onlookers were tourists from other countries who viewed the event with great interest and excitement about such a festival that is unique in Europe. In the evening, the youth were presented with a concert of popular Christian bands. This was a wonderful opportunity to hear praise and honor to Jesus with songs and words, giving glory to the Triune, living God. We believe that after these days Riga will experience spiritual changes. It was a great, wonderful victory for Jesus. We believe and expect even bigger things in Riga, Latvia!

LEA SUPPORTS CHRISTIANS IN POLITICS – WWW.JESAJAS61.LV (Isaiah 61)

On July 23, 2011, at the request of Latvia's president Valdis Zatlers, a national referendum was held to dissolve the 10th Saeima (National Parliament) and national election was held on September 17th.

The Latvian Evangelical Alliance supports Christians in politics, parliament and the government of Latvia. God needs His people to work in all areas of society, especially those that influence the nation. As one of our obligations, we believe that we must bring this news to the Body of Christ preparing and sending out Christians to all seven mountains of influence (family, church, business, education, government, art and media, science and technology) so that Christ is represented everywhere, not only on the Church mountain.

Preparing for the 17th of September, the LEA prayer group prepared prayer guidelines inviting churches in Latvia to pray for the upcoming elections and the new parliaments. These prayer guidelines were sent out electronically to prayer groups throughout Latvia

Jesajas 61

Dieva Tā Kunga Gars ir pār mani...

Vizija | kandidāti | lūgšanu vadlīnijas

Īpašā veidā vēlamies izgaismot mūsu brāļus un māsas Kristū, kuri ir atsaukušies Dieva aicinājumam iet politikā un kandidēt 11. Saeimas vēlēšanās. Mēs neaicinām balsot par kādu konkrētu partiju, bet aicinām iestāties lūgšanās un atbalstīt brāļus un māsas Kristū.

Mēs esam par kristiešiem politikā, parlamentā un valdībā Latvijā. Mēs atbalstām kristiešus, kuri ir pieņēmuši šo izaicinājumu kandidēt un iet politikā. Viņiem ir ļoti svarīgi katrā mūsu personiskais atbalsts.

and the world as well as being published on a webpage in Latvian and Russian-www.jesajas61.lv.

The aim of this webpage is to highlight our brothers and sisters in Christ who have responded to God's call to go into politics and be a candidate for the 11th Saeima. Of the 1092 candidates only 37 were revealed and represented in the webpage. We did not ask anyone to vote for a specific political party but invited everyone to pray and support their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Why the webpage is called Isaiah 61? Because this is a special word that we believe has been given for the nation of Latvia and its people. This word from Isaiah 61 was also our prayer and proclamation for our brothers and sisters, parliamentary candidates, because it contains God's call, His promises and His protection. Politics is one of the platforms that influences the fate of a nation. This is a spiritually heavy place because, as we all know, we fight not against flesh and blood but at against evil principalities and powers in heavenly places. This is why those who work in this platform must be men and women called by God, who have given their whole hearts to God and desire to follow Jesus and who will be the salt and light of the world, the city on a hill:

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

/Matthew 5:13-16/

Five political parties were elected into the new Saeima on September 17th. We are thankful that of the 100 deputies, 9 are Christians, representing each of the five elected parties. Praise God! We believe that God has a good plan for Latvia!

Please pray for Latvia.
In Christ's love,
Website Jesajas.lv leader
Inga Zinge-Pupina
Inga.zinge-pupina@lea.lv

Youth Festival "History Makers"

On August 24th-37th we experienced one of the biggest youth gatherings in Baltic States – we saw 400 young people from 8 different countries and from around 80 different churches in one place for 4 days with only one reason – to worship and praise our Lord and Savior! Powerful sermons, amazing worship, encouraging testimonies, personal prayers and beautiful surrounding... but we believe that it was something deeper than that. It was the cry of our hearts – God, meet with us and meet with this nation. We believe and we see that there is a new generation rising up, who is not satisfied with the cold religion, but whose hearts are set ablaze and whose eyes are filled with love. It was HISTORY MAKERS UNITED camp.



History:

In year 2006 God spoke to us clearly: „You have to start organizing camp for those, who already know Me, but who want to know Me more. You have to organize prayer camp.” It was the beginning of something new that now has impacted thousands of young people. There already have been 14 camps in different cities of Latvia and we also started School of Worship project.

We saw that in Latvia usually Latvian churches are doing things separately and Russian churches separately. We decided that we could start something new, something together with different nationalities – so the idea of History Makers UNITED was born. It was an idea of unity. Why not we as a young generation show a way for a nation! And it really happened. 4 amazing day were spent in Gods presence with His people from different nations, cultures and language groups. Worshiping together in Latvian, English and Russian... what a feeling it was, when 400 young people were singing- “You are the hope of all hearts!”

Testimonies:

After the camp we have heard so many good testimonies. Many people received physical healing, some received emotional healing, some were baptized with the Holy Spirit, some received spiritual gifts and started prophesying, some accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior, some surrendered their lives anew to Gods calling, some threw away all ungodly

music and started listening to Christian music only etc... there are so many amazing stories from these days!

Organizers:

Camp was organized by organization “Children Worldwide” who also has been part of Latvian Evangelical Alliance. It has been our joy and honor to serve together with many wonderful God’s people who are willing to serve freely. They are not receiving any salary here on the earth. They are sacrificing their time, money and energy for these camps to happen, because they know that Lord has greater reward. With these people you can move mountains. Already one we did! □ But now we are praying and thinking how to release this movement even more in this country. We want to see changed and transformed young people lives!



Contacts:

If you want more information or you have any questions – feel free to contact with us!

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HISTORY MAKERS UNITED

ONE GOD. ONE FAITH. ONE NATION.

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LATVIJA LATVIJA - INDIJA

24.-27.AUGUSTS
 VAIRĀK MEKLĒ:
WWW.HISTORYMAKERS.LV



C O N T A C T S :



You can bless and support us both prayerfully and financially by the work that God does in Latvia through the Latvian Evangelical Alliance.

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