



Kingdom Ventures Inc.

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Winter - 2025

Christian
Youth Camps
In Eastern Europe

GOD'S AWESOME DEEDS IN 2025

Dear Faithful KVI Friends,

This letter comes to you with gratitude for God's awesome deeds. It also comes with thankfulness for your prayer and financial support and holds requests for further prayer.

Dave and Elfrieda Loewen have been the faces of Kingdom Ventures Inc. (KVI) since its inception in 1991. After many years of faithful service, Dave and Elfrieda have retired. Although they will be dearly missed, KVI's Board of Directors has confidently assumed responsibility for the ministry's ongoing work and is taking this opportunity to bring you up to date. We will share stories, facts and pictures about KVI's camping ministry overseas. Included is a "Save the Date" invitation to Dave and Elfrieda's retirement celebration and an insert regarding KVI's Legacy Fund with Abundance Canada.

Read and discover why Christian camps continue to matter deeply in shaping lives and building God's Kingdom. As we look forward to new frontiers in a war-torn region of the world, we trust you will be inspired by God's awesome deeds and His faithfulness. We invite you to continue to give generously as you have done so faithfully over the years.

"Camp strengthened my faith and gave me a sense of belonging. Attending CCI Ukraine seminars equipped me with the skills to serve as a counselor, then as a program leader, and later as a camp speaker sharing God's Word with children. Today, I also serve as a youth pastor, applying what I learned at camp to lead and inspire the next generation."

– Pavlo, Youth Pastor, Ukraine

Ukraine in Wartime: Faith Amid Crisis

In 2025, Ukraine faced its fourth full summer of war, and yet **351** Christian camps opened their doors, welcoming **42,820** children. Many senior leaders have left the country or joined the military but a new generation of 18- to 23-year-olds stepped forward to lead. This is the fruit of years of KVI's camp-based leadership development. When the need came, they were ready!

Through every campfire, Bible study, and prayer circle, campers experienced hope and discovered that even in wartime, God is present and faithful.

SAVE THE DATE!

Celebration of God's Awesome Deeds -
Retirement Dessert Celebration for
Dave and Elfrieda Loewen

April 24, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church,
1315 Gateway Road, Winnipeg, MB



*"At camp I felt peace for the first time since the war began.
I knew God was with me." Maria, Camper, 15, Ukraine*



Why Camps and Leadership Development Matter

Christian camping is not a modern invention - it reflects God's design. Throughout Scripture, God met His people in temporary communities for spiritual transformation, like Old Testament festivals and during Israel's 40 years in the wilderness. The very heart of Jesus' ministry was lived out in a temporary community with His disciples.

Camp as a temporary community creates an environment where young people discover their identity, build authentic community, and embrace God's mission for their lives. The Bible reveals, research confirms and it has been proven in practice, that camp is a powerful setting for long-term faith and leadership development. When camp, church, and family work together, they form a natural partnership that strengthens faith and shapes the next generation of Christian leaders.

"The lessons at camp were enriching, and many of us made commitments to faith. It was inspiring to see the impact the camp had on us. I returned home with gratitude and new friendships, looking forward to the next adventure!" Eldar, Camper, 15, Country X

"My faith was shaped at Camp Vertical. I was 15 in 2013, and that camp left a deep mark on my life. Even when I felt unsure or weak, my counselor encouraged the whole group to take part in every activity, and I did. I also remember making vows to God with torches in our hands. I promised to serve Him. Camp wasn't just fun; it was where my character and faith began to grow. Today, I serve in a Christian Student Fellowship, walking in God's plan for my life." Roman, Camper, Ukraine



Leadership Development also reflects God's design. Campers hear the gospel, counselors discover their calling and leaders are trained to serve in the church, while discovering gifts they never knew they had. Christian camps are leadership incubators as they provide role models, close supervision, immediate feedback, the weight of real responsibility, supportive community, hard work, incremental advancement and more. Many who serve as counselors later become church leaders, missionaries and pastors.

"I began as a counselor at 17. Today I serve as a pastor. Camp taught me how to lead with faith and courage." Levan, Pastor, Georgia

"My journey into camp ministry was transformative. I developed leadership skills, boosted my self-confidence, and stepped out of my comfort zone. I realized that serving children and the church is a vital and rewarding area where I want to focus my efforts." Arthur, Counselor, Ukraine

"When we run camp, the whole village notices. Children return home singing Christian songs, and families ask questions about the church." - Pastor Artavazd, Armenia





Our Impact in Numbers



TOTAL	CAMPS & EVENTS
410	Camps across 5 countries
51,909	Campers reached
2,412	Leaders trained
426	Camps equipped
83	CCI Ukraine group leaders
32	Training Events

COUNTRIES	CAMPS	CAMPERS
Ukraine	351	42,905
Georgia	18	1,200
Armenia	17	5,053
Moldova	8	2,215
Country X	16	536
	410	51,909

"I attended camps often as a child but never thought of myself as a leader. I came to the Staff Training Workshop expecting to be just an assistant counselor. But God spoke to my heart: leadership is about service, consistency, and faith. I discovered new confidence in my calling and am ready to take initiative and invest in children who might feel unseen." – Liliana, Counselor, Moldova

Please pray...

for the board, for wisdom and direction, as they oversee KVI's ministry which God set before Dave and Elfrieda Loewen many years ago. Pray also for Vira and Vladimir Shevchenko. Vira provides administrative support to the KVI board and Vladimir leads the CCI Ukraine team through which KVI has been carrying out its ministry in Eastern Europe since 1996. Together, we're ensuring every contribution helps transform lives for Christ.

Introduction to Kingdom Ventures Inc. Board of Directors

Board Chair	Elmer Thiessen, Retired <i>Missionary in Burkina Faso; Roles with Camp Arnes for 4 years</i>
Vice-Chair	Stan Hamm, Retired <i>Long term KVI Board Member; Providence University & Seminary Professor</i>
Secretary	Neil Rempel, Retired <i>Missionary and Former Director of Greater Europe Mission</i>
Treasurer	Erna Falk, Bookkeeper <i>Former Church Administrator</i>
Member	Ann Goertzen, Health Care Assistant <i>Long term involvements with KVI overseas and Canada</i>

For those who love to give

God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7) and so do thousands of campers, parents of campers, and KVI oversees ministry teams.

The 2025 results reflect far more than numbers—they show transformed lives and emerging leaders, made possible through your faithful giving. Abundance Canada (W1125G) has carefully managed all donations to KVI's Legacy Fund since its beginning in 2019. The Fund's growth through continued donations and investment income has greatly strengthened our ministry.

Thanks to this support, KVI has grown steadily, and has assisted both ministry teams and war-affected campers during more than 1,365 days of full-scale war in Ukraine. We give thanks to God for His guidance and look to 2026 with the goal of providing the resources needed to continue KVI's mission of Christian camp leadership training in every country where we serve.

Donations can be made in the following ways:

By cheque: Payable to Abundance Canada W1125G and send in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

By bill payment: Through your bank or Credit Union's website or phone app, send your donation to Abundance Canada W1125G and then notify Abundance Canada of the amount and your name and address. Visit kvicanada.org/support-us

By PayPal: Visit kvicanada.org/support-us

Through your Will: Including Kingdom Ventures Inc. in your Will is deeply appreciated and makes a lasting difference.

