



LATVIA

Expansion of Church Facilities

Dates: May, June or August

Individual Costs: \$580. This includes food, lodging, in-country transportation, translators, and travel/health insurance. This is an estimated cost and does not include visas or international flights, and is based on a team of 10 people for 11 days in country.

Project Costs: \$10,000. This includes all construction materials. This is a shared cost between team members.



Project Description

Join Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)-Latvia in expanding the church for the Bolderajas congregation in Riga. During communist times, Latvian community was suppressed by the Russian communists because Bolderaja is an important industrial center. The Bolderajas congregation is now a growing church. This project will expand the existing building to make room for normal church activities like Bible class, Sunday school and seminars. With the congregation growing in this community, the expansion will give them the opportunity to invite more people to share the good news of the Gospel, plus partner with LHM-Latvia on outreach activities even through the winter months.

Project Location

The Republic of Latvia is a country in the Baltic region of Eastern Europe. It is bordered to the north by Estonia, to the south by Lithuania, to the east by the Russian Federation and to the southeast by Belarus. Across the Baltic Sea to the west lies Sweden. It has a temperate seasonal climate. Latvia reflects the strong cultural and religious influences of centuries-long Germanic and Scandinavian colonization and settlement. Eastern Latvia (Latgale) retains strong Polish and Russian cultural influences. Latvian is the language of the Latvian people and the official language of the country. It is an inflective language with several analytical forms, three dialects, and German syntactical influence. The oldest known examples of written Latvian are from a 1585 catechism. Latvian and Lithuanian are the only surviving direct descendents of the Baltic languages of the Indo-European family. While Latvia was a component of the U.S.S.R., Russian was the official language, so many Latvians also speak Russian, and the resident Slavic populace generally speaks Russian as a first language.

LHM International Volunteer Trips provide the opportunity to learn through authentic cross-cultural experiences and have the opportunity to share the love of Jesus. If you are interested in touching lives, please call Chris Myers at 314-317-4268 or 1-800-944-3450, ext. 4268; or by email christine.myers@lhm.org.