



VOLUME X ISSUE XIII FEBRUARY 2014

## SECURITY VS. RISK IN THE MIDST OF UNCERTAINTY *by Doug Lucas, Founder and President, Team Expansion*

As this Visionary goes to press, Team Expansion's workers in Ukraine are confronting a firestorm of political unrest in Kiev and Crimea, while others in South Sudan have already evacuated and returned. Still others in North Africa wrestle with daily uncertainties regarding whom to trust and whom to hold at arm's length.



Line of protesters at Dynamivska str. Euromaidan Protests in Ukraine. Photo by Mstyslav Chernov.

Here at Emerald Hills, our Director of Global Security monitors world events, interacts with international communications networks, as well as with all the families involved. On a daily basis, he helps our workers seek the balance between courage and commitment on the one hand, and safety and security on the other - all in the midst of uncertainty.

Our workers pretty much know what they are getting into before they board the first jet. In their orientation programs here at Emerald Hills, we tell them straight up. We help them shore up their confidence in God as the ultimate source of true security. They study conflict management and even simulate kidnappings and terrorist attacks.

In spite of all the odds, they say, "Yes!" to the Great Commission, yes to selling homes and giving away the family dog, and yes to relocating to hazardous living conditions. Emerald Hills becomes their launching pad; but their faith in God is their fortress.

We're inspired daily by their courage and we hope you are as well. Ultimately, their security doesn't come from circumstances. Their security comes from trust in a higher power. The "keeper of the stars" is also the one who holds their hands. And we're grateful for his watch care over them in answer to our prayers.

Thank you for the part you play in partnering with us to send them out!

## FIELD HIGHLIGHT *Venezuela*

*by the Lugos*

One day I was preaching, and at the beginning of the sermon a guy came to the church. He looked lost. He came looking for answers, and his name was Vladimir.

I remember when I finished preaching he approached me and said, "This is incredible. How do you know all about me?" He kept saying, "I felt like God was looking at me and spoke to me right through you." I explained that God can use anybody and that God loved him and could speak through anyone and through His Word.

Then we had the opportunity to meet several times to study the Bible. He was captivated by the message of salvation but was afraid that he would fail God. We learned he had just been released from prison, but God showed him that He would lead him at all times despite being imperfect, so Vladimir was baptized, and he's been coming to church faithfully.

Glory to God.



Our office staff enjoyed playing in all of the snow at Emerald Hills this past month. You can view more photos on our Facebook page.



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

January 2014

| Emerald Hills Fund  |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Balance 01-01-14  | \$22,984.25        |
| January Receipts  | \$47,425.00        |
| January Expenses  | \$18,414.28        |
| Balance 01-31-14  | \$51,994.97        |
| *Balance owed to First Cap Bank: \$1.28 million, \$170,000 in Maintenance Endowment |                    |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>   |                    |
| A Refuge Foundation, INC  | \$1,625.00         |
| Coastal Community Christian Church  | \$250.00           |
| College Heights Christian Church  | \$100.00           |
| Crossroads Christian Church, IN   | \$12,500.00        |
| Fern Creek Christian Church   | \$400.00           |
| Indian Creek Christian Church, IN   | \$500.00           |
| Individuals   | \$28,500.00        |
| Northwest Christian Church  | \$200.00           |
| Shively Christian Church  | \$750.00           |
| Spencer Christian Church  | \$2,500.00         |
| Team Expansion (Stapleton)  | \$100.00           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$47,425.00</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>   |                    |
| Banking Fee   | \$69.95            |
| Payment towards principal   | \$10,000.00        |
| LG&E  | \$180.70           |
| Fuel  | 39.75              |
| Mortgage  | 8,123.88           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>18,414.28</b>   |

## EVENTS

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT EMERALD HILLS

FEBRUARY 25-26  
Kairos Head Facilitators Training

MARCH 10-21  
Engaging Islam Training

MARCH 21-22  
Leadership Task Force Retreat

## PRAY WITH US

- Praise God for those who completed the Kairos head facilitator training at Emerald Hills this month. God is opening doors throughout the U.S. and in many countries overseas for Kairos training, which is impacting many concerning God's desire for the nations. More head facilitators means even more trainings can be conducted.
- Pray for the planning and execution of Team Expansion's annual meeting of the board of directors, the Leadership Task Force, which is planned for March 21 and 22 at Emerald Hills.
- Ask God to provide the means to pay off the debt currently standing on Phase I of Emerald Hills and to raise funds in order to begin construction on Phase 2.

\*In addition to the balances noted above, we have set aside \$170,000.00 in a fund that ensures even billing of our mortgage payments (\$8,200/month), as well as Maintenance and Upkeep.