I am writing to you today to invite you to join us in fundraising campaign for purchasing a new campus for the Tavriski Christian Institute (TCI).

For over 25 years, TCI has been dedicated to training and equipping indigenous Christian leaders in Ukraine and other former USSR countries.

TCI provides high-quality formal and informal training for local bi-vocational pastors and young church leaders, recognizing the vital role these trainings play in developing holistic ministry in these regions.

Throughout the years, TCI has prepared numerous church leaders, including pastors, evangelists, missionaries, chaplains, church counselors, and educators. TCI supports these ministers with practical tools, technical assistance, infrastructure, sustainability businesses, and aid in establishing churches and various projects. As a result, TCI's alumni now serve in more than a dozen countries, spreading the Good News worldwide.

In the realm of Christian education development and leadership cultivation in Ukraine, TCI has often taken pioneering steps. Notably, **TCI obtained a state license, making it the first Evangelical school in the country licensed to educate church leaders in Theology**. TCI is also advancing in online education and textbook translation, aiming to offer the entire BA program in Theology online for the first time in Ukraine's history, supported by 24 textbooks in Ukrainian.

TCI distinguishes itself by fostering open interaction with churches, schools, and organizations from various denominations. Moreover, TCI collaborates with Oversees Council, Scholar Leaders, Tyndale House, Overseas Outreach, Frontier, Pioneer Bible Translators, TCMI, Johnson University, ICOM, and other organizations.

Leveraging its extensive experience, TCI has coordinated several educational and humanitarian initiatives in Ukraine and Central Asia.

In the context of the ongoing war crisis, the need to nurture Christian leaders in Ukraine has become even more pressing. Millions have become refugees, and thousands of Christians were displaced, leaving a significant void in church leadership. On the other hand, many people have sought refuge in church communities, resulting in numerous conversions to Christ. With over 500 new ministers urgently needed in TCI's church family, lay Christians have stepped up to fill leadership roles within churches.

To meet this demand, these individuals require specialized training in preaching, church management, and Christian leadership. Additionally, soldiers need chaplains, and the wounded need Christian counselors.

TCI is committed to addressing this need and aims to raise as many new church leaders for Ukraine as possible.

TCI's training programs have a direct impact on local churches, as its primary goal is to catalyze transformation in evangelism, church planting, and church leadership among the unreached people of Ukraine.

On March 10, 2022, the TCI campus in Kherson was taken over by the Russian Army, resulting in extensive looting and the removal of all valuable items. The buildings on the campus were repurposed as a military base, barracks, and hospital. There are reports that Russian troops even brought in mobile crematoriums to dispose of the deceased.

During the night of August 28-29, three out of the five buildings were completely destroyed. These included the newest buildings, such as the office, library (which also housed a chapel), and one of the dormitories. After the Ukrainian army liberated Kherson, the campus was returned to TCI on November 11. However, the remaining two buildings were unfortunately also destroyed in the months that followed. The campus continues to face constant destruction due to ongoing shelling, as the front line is located dangerously close.

The campus (located at the Dnipro river) was used by the Institute to train pastors, church ministers, missionaries, and church planters from Ukraine and in Central Asia. The campus property, consisting of five buildings, played a crucial role in obtaining TCI's license, as the government mandates the school to have a minimum of 2,000 square meters of study facilities to meet the licensure standards. It also served as a Christian camp and community center for the believers of the Kherson and Mykolaiv and many other regions of Ukraine. The destruction of the TCI campus was a major loss for the Institute and for the Christian community in Ukraine. The Institute has been forced to relocate temporarily to Ivano-Frankivsk, but it is still providing its programs and services to the best of its ability. The destruction of the TCI campus is also a reminder of the suffering that is being caused by the Russia-Ukraine war. However, the TCI is determined to continue its work and to help rebuild Ukraine. The new campus would be a symbol of hope and resilience for the Ukrainian people.

Thus, the <u>TCI is now seeking to purchase a new campus</u> near Kyiv. The new campus would be used to train future generations of Christian leaders and to serve the Christian community in Ukraine with state licensed and accredited theological programs. We consulted with real estate agents and builders, and the following is the estimated cost of the new campus:

• *Land: 33 acres at \$15,000/acre = \$500,000* 

• Building: 2,100 square meters at \$1,300/square meter = \$2,730,000

• Second building: 2,000 square meters at \$300/square meter = \$600,000

• Fence, parking, and landscaping: \$160,000

• Total: \$4,000,000

We are confident that we can raise the necessary funds to purchase the new campus. However, we need your help. We are inviting each of our partners to pledge an annual contribution of \$50,000 to \$100,000 for a period of four years to support the acquisition of the new campus.

We know that this is a significant ask, but we believe that it is an investment in the future of the Tavriski Christian Institute and in the future of Christian community in Ukraine. The new campus would be a symbol of hope and resilience for the Ukrainian Church. It would also be a place where future generations of Christian leaders could be trained to serve the Lord and to serve their communities.

In light of importance of acquiring a new campus, TCI is actively engaged in developing a comprehensive strategic plan. This plan is being carefully crafted, taking into consideration the changing landscape and the realities of the post-war country.

Moreover, TCI is collaboratively working with its partners to reflect on and refine its ministry strategy. Through this collaborative effort, TCI aims to ensure that its mission remains relevant, effective, and adaptive to the current circumstances.

The dedication to developing a strategic plan and the ongoing partnership with other organizations demonstrate TCI's commitment to navigating these difficult times and continuing its important work in nurturing Christian leaders in Ukraine and beyond.

We are grateful for your partnership with the TCI. We believe that together, we can make a difference in the lives of people in Ukraine and beyond it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peace be with you,

Valentin Siniy, Ph.D, President of TCI