

April 2024

Farming for a Brighter Future in Armenia

For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work among you will complete it by the day of Christ Jesus. Phil 1:6

From Jeff — As the plane touched down in Yerevan, Armenia, I met David LeCompte and Zaven Pogosov at the airport. David was a missionary with us many years ago and has recently returned to the US to rejoin MP to assist with our farm development and ministry in the Caucasus. Zaven is Armenian, he speaks 4 languages, and is our interpreter and team member living in Helsinki.

The purpose of our trip was to plan further development of the farm and to reserve our summer camp this year on the Black Sea.



We have 5 new calves and 21 total cows. One cow died in a violent December storm and the heavy plastic cover was destroyed.

He Who Began a Good Work Will Complete It

Vika Khazarian sat at the small dinner table with her son, Samvel, and recalled her first camp experience. We sat in the Yerevan apartment she shares with her sister Hasmik and their mother Liana.

"I will never forget that first camp," Vika said laughing. "It was so fun, I was 16, and it rained everyday. I didn't know who Jeff was, but in his class he taught the Bible and told us bible smuggling stories. I couldn't believe he did that! It made a big impression on me."

At that same camp, a cow walked into Zaven's outdoor English class and "relieved itself" as everyone scrambled away!

Today, Vika attends a large church in Yerevan and she will be our main counselor at the Black Sea summer camp. God began a good work in her in that first camp, and now 15 years later she is sharing her faith with others and raising her son to walk with the Lord.

Developing the Farm For Retreats and Ministry

So far, three cabins (right) have been built for family retreats and local eco-tourism. We hope to develop different income streams for the farm to support future camps and needy families. Local churches in Armenia are excited to use the farm as well.



Vika and Samvel. Samvel can't wait for the summer camp. He loves to speak and learn English.



3 cabins were built with more on the way.

The Caucasus Region

The farm is in the middle of the Caucasus region made up of numerous people groups mostly unreached with the Gospel. Believers from minority ethnic groups will join us at our camp this summer.

Located near the border with Georgia only 3 hours from Tbilisi, the farm is in a perfect geographical location for cross-cultural training. To prepare for this future ministry, we have started construction on a small multi-purpose dining hall / conference center.



Building A Brighter Future

Tearing down old buildings is never easy, but we are stepping out in faith to build for the future. and create a resource for God's Kingdom in this corner of the world.







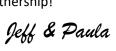
David fires up the chainsaw to cut down trees in the snow.

The Goodness of God

A local pastor stopped by the farm one day and remarked how he lived in the area but never knew about the farm. He immediately asked how he could help. Three years ago, when we bought the farm, we prayed for local church involvement.

An additional 8 acres may be available soon which is also an answer to prayer. A refugee family from Nagorno-Karabakh now live and work on the farm. And now David has joined us with farming experience to move the project forward. In addition, we hope to be a missions training center for the Caucasus.

He has definitely begun a good work at the Armenia farm. Thanks so much for your partnership!





8 more acres may be available soon for additional grazing and planting. We are excited and grateful for your prayers and support.