

# Kevin and Catharine Carson

## Autobiography

### A Brief Personal History

We are both first-generation Christians that were converted in the 1980's while attending the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. We were actively involved in the church's campus ministry—door knocking in the dormitory, participating in evangelistic group Bible studies, studying one-on-one with non-Christians, and eventually helping new Christians to mature.

After attaining my Bachelor of Education degree I started teaching secondary school and shortly after Catharine began her career as a registered nurse. After our marriage in 1988 we continued to be involved in the congregation's evangelistic outreach through home Bible study groups. As well, at the request of the elders, I worked with another brother to establish a young marrieds' ministry for the congregation.

I left my teaching position in 1995 to serve full-time as the pulpit evangelist for the church in Edmonton. During this time our son Jesse and daughter Claire were born. In 1997 we moved to Klaipeda, Lithuania where we did 5 years of full-time mission work.

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*After returning to Canada in 2004 from the mission field of Eastern Europe, we made many short-term mission trips to Cambodia to work alongside Bill and Marie-Claire McDonough of Partners in Progress.*



*Working triage in 2011 on Partners In Progress's Ship of Life on the Mekong River in Cambodia.*

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*We invite you to partner with us by helping provide the financial support we require in order to serve full-time in the mission field with Partners in Progress.*

#### WHY PARTNER WITH US?

- Partners in Progress has a proven track record of 35 years of successful humanitarian mission work in 58 nations on 4 continents. As the future International Director, Kevin will be ensuring this legacy continues.
- We have five years of full-time and eight years of short-term missionary experience.
- Kevin has experience planting churches and training preachers both in Canada and the mission field.
- We are both 100% committed to sound, Biblical teaching and the New Testament pattern for the church.
- We have experience living in developing countries and learning a new language.
- We promise to provide regular reports on the progress of all mission efforts as well as a complete and transparent accounting of all financial support that we receive.

# Mission Experience

## Lithuania and Cambodia

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In 1997 we were part of a campaign team that established a new congregation in Klaipeda, Lithuania. We opened a Bible center and offered free, one-on-one Bible studies, in English. After the two week campaign, the short-term workers returned home and I coordinated the work for five years. By studying with hundreds of World English Institute and World Bible School contacts in the area, the congregation grew to over fifty members. We incorporated humanitarian efforts into the mission work by distributing two shipping containers of medical supplies to area hospitals and establishing a sponsorship program for some of the city's neediest children through the Christian Relief Fund. Catharine's training and experience as a nurse was invaluable in our work with medical staff. As well, she created a children's Bible school program for the church, trained women to teach children's classes, and led ladies' studies with non-Christians and church members. When we returned to Canada, Kestutis, a Lithuanian who I had studied the gospel with and helped train, became the preacher for the Klaipeda Church of Christ.

In Cambodia we have both led one-on-one studies with non-Christians using the World English Institute material. As well, Kevin has preached and taught classes in numerous congregations and has taught in a preacher training school. Both of us have volunteered on the Ship of Life. Catharine uses her nursing skills to treat patients and I assist with overall organization, logistics and administration. My main focus in Cambodia has been to work alongside Bill McDonough, International Director for Partners in Progress. In October 2014 we returned to full-time mission work along side Bill and his wife Marie-Claire. Bill is training Kevin to assume the role of International Director of Partners In Progress at some point in the future.



*Catharine giving a meal supplement to children in a Cambodian village.*



*Kevin (right) visiting Kestutis (left) in Klaipeda Lithuania in 2008.*