

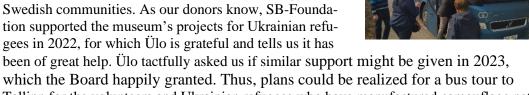
Newsletter May 2023 **ESTONIA** 

Dear Friends and Supporters,



Ülo Kalm

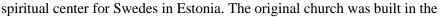
Ülo Kalm, the Foundation's contact person was previously, head of the municipality of Nuckö, where the majority of the population was Swedish speaking until World War II. He is now Director of Aiboland Museum in Hapsal. Aiboland is the collective name for Estonia's (formerly) Swedish communities. As our donors know, SB-Foundation supported the museum's projects for Ukrainian refugees in 2022, for which Ülo is grateful and tells us it has





The first stop was at the newly renovated medieval St. Nicholas Church (Estonian: Niguliste Kirke), which today is a museum.

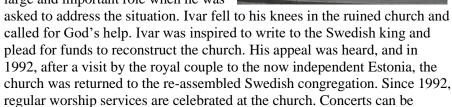
In Tallin they did, of course, also visit St. Michael's Swedish Church (Estonian: Rootsi-Mihkli kirik, Swedish: Svenska Sankt Mikaelskyrkan), which for several centuries was an important



13<sup>th</sup> century, with later additions and reconstructions in Gothic and Baroque styles. The church was partially destroyed during the Soviet bombing of the city in 1944. The few Estonian Swedes who remained after the war were unable to keep their church during prevailing Soviet laws about religious practices and to their great sorry had to witness their church converted into a sports club. The

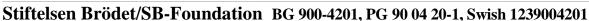


church was in this humiliating state, when the Foundation's Board member Ivar Boman came to play a large and important role when he was



performed there and its basement is home to a museum. Outside the church portals fly both the Estonian and Swedish flags. – The travelers from Hapsal were served coffee in the church's congregation hall. Finally, the travelers walked to Toompea (a word derived from the German Domberg, i.e., Cathedral Hill), where the Parliament (Riigikogu) is located in a reconstructed castle, also known as Reval Palace. The events of the day made the Estonians and Ukrainians feel that they share many experiences.

The refugees from Ukraine and our friends in Estonia send grateful greetings to all donors via us on the Board of SB-Foundation, Arne, Elisabeth, Gloria, Ivar, Lena, Roger



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