

# swedenbound

Dear Praying Friends,

Nov-Dec 2015

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends! It certainly is a difficult time of year to be away from family, but I'm thankful for the friends I was able to celebrate with! I truly have so much to be thankful for!

After 11 months of waiting for word on my visa, it still doesn't feel completely real yet that I have finally been granted permanent residency here in Sweden—but I'm so incredibly grateful! I have an appointment at the migration board this week to get fingerprinted and to get my picture taken. Then it should take about a week before I get my official card in hand! All I can say is, "Thank you, Lord!!"

This coming Monday, we are having our 2nd annual Christmas carol evening in the meeting hall here in my apartment area! Please pray for this opportunity for outreach with the Gospel!

December 13th is our church Christmas program, and I was asked to put together a musical for it. The theme is "From Christmas to the Cross."

Please continue to pray for our kids' ministry opportunities here in my neighborhood! Kids come up to visit somewhat frequently—and just now I have one girl who comes nearly every day! I've invited her—along with her friends and other kids in the area—to come up sometime soon for a cookie baking evening! My desire is to use this opportunity to share the true meaning of Christmas with these kids! Please pray for us!

In my last letter, I mentioned a possibility for the expansion of the kids ministry in this area. Well, I still don't have any definite answers, but I would like share a little bit of the possibilities. For the past 2+ years, I have had my eye on a certain property located between the local school and my apartment area. It's a long story, but the short version is that the place was empty for a long time, but has now been purchased. I have been in touch with the new owner, and it looks like there may be a chance for me to use one of his outbuildings as a clubhouse for the kids in the area. My goal would be to use this property for after-school activities, Bible clubs, etc. I haven't made any official decisions as of yet. I need to have a friend take a look at the building to be sure that it's sturdy and suitable for

my purpose. The place is also lacking electricity (which is kind of important—especially if I ever plan to use it in the winter!!), so I need to see what the options are in regards to pulling electricity from another nearby building. I ask that you would please be in prayer for wisdom and direction! I definitely desire to make a wise decision in regards to this property. And if this building ends up being a dead end, please pray that we might be able to find something else suitable in this area! Thanks!

Again, I am so thankful for you all—my faithful prayer warriors! Thanks for remembering us here and thank you so much for your support of this ministry! God bless! Merry Christmas!

For Christ Alone,  
Melissa Carlson  
Jer. 32:27



## Prayer Requests:

\*Church ministries—upcoming Christmas program, tract distribution, etc.

\*Christmas Carol Evening Outreach—7 dec.

\*Kids' Ministries—possible building for use as a club house

\*The Pittmans and the Sixts—currently raising support to come to Sweden as missionaries

\*Pray for A., A., L., I. - for salvation

\*PRAISE! I have been granted permanent residency!

\*PRAISE! I have a new little nephew—born the same day the decision was made on my visa! :)



## Riley's Corner!

Hej Friends!

I hope you had a nice Thanksgiving! I sure did—I love turkey!! And friends. I like friends too. But mostly turkey!! :) haha!

I also have enjoyed my new friend L. She comes over almost everyday—and sometimes she brings her rabbit, Snowy!!! I like that! Pray for her and her friends—that they would be saved!

Have a Merry Christmas!



Your Pal,  
Riley