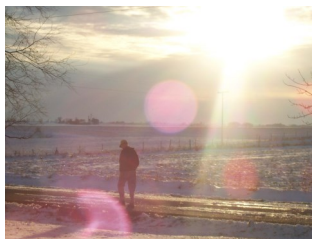


# swedenbound

March-April 2016

## Prayer Requests:

- Church Ministry/Outreach
- Church “growing pains”
- Bible clubs—Thursdays
- Monthly “Fika” time (coffee time) for my neighborhood—please pray for this opportunity for outreach in the community!
- Pastor Karl’s wife, Masayo, is still waiting for her paperwork to go through! Please pray that that would be worked out quickly!
- The Sixt family on deputation.



My Grandpa—Raymond Carlson

Pray for Masayo’s Paperwork!



Dear Praying Friends,

Spring is coming! I love to see the signs of new life—the green grass, the buds on the trees, the birds singing in the morning! But this spring has also had it’s sorrows. As many of you may already know from Facebook, my Grandpa Carlson passed away a couple of weeks ago. It has been hard being so far away from family during this time, but I’m so thankful for the hope we have in Christ!

It’s a sad time for those of us left behind. But we don’t grieve as those who don’t have hope! And I know that my grandpa isn’t sad! I’m so thankful that he knew the Lord as Savior! And I look forward to one day being able to see him again in heaven! So in that I do rejoice!

And thank you to everyone who has sent notes of encouragement! You’ve been a real blessing to me!

## Church

It has been a blessing to see real growth in some of the young couples in our church! The past year or so has seen the attendance of our Wednesday night prayer meetings nearly triple! There is more regular attendance to our church Bible studies as well. It’s so neat to see young adults asking questions, studying their Bibles, growing/maturing and desiring to

step up and take responsibility in their homes and in their church! It has been especially exciting to see young men stepping up and wanting to do more in the church—desiring for the church to be a real light and testimony to the Gospel in the community! But unfortunately, when there’s a lot of spiritual growth within a church, Satan seems to do his very best to hinder it.

So please pray for our church as we have also been facing some “growing pains,” some struggles as of late in regards to church polity. It is our desire for the church to reflect Christ and to remain pure as we strive to faithfully follow God’s Word and plan. Please pray for further growth and revival, and that God’s Word will shine brightly in this place where God has us!

## Outreach

I had the chance to witness to a couple of Jehovah’s Witnesses a little over a week ago. (It’s so handy when they come right to the door!) ;)

In the course of the conversation, they asked where I was from (hard to hide the accent!) and why I came to Sweden. I was able to share a little bit of my testimony with them. I also told them about working with Bible Baptist Assembly in Jönkö-

ping. Then the older of the two women got very excited and asked, “Do you have any tips for us as to how we can show people that God’s Word is true?” I was kind of taken by surprise by that question—I’ve never had a Jehovah’s Witness ask me for witnessing tips before! I was able to turn the conversation to how I like to begin conversations with people—and it opened the door for me to be able to share the true Gospel with them. So please pray for these women—A. and T.

Pastor Ron also has had some really great conversations with some folks in recent days! Pray especially for 2 Jehovah’s Witness men he talked with out on the street. The younger of the two seemed to really be searching and interested in what Ron was sharing from God’s Word. Please pray for him! And pray for a farmer friend of Ron’s as well. He seems to be very open and wants to talk more about things with Ron in the near future!

Thanks for keeping us in your prayers! Your ministry is very much appreciated!

God bless!

For Christ Alone,

Melissa Carlson

Jer. 32:27

## Riley’s Corner

Hej Friends!

I hope you all are having a good spring! I like spring when it’s sunny outside, but I’m not too crazy about going out in the rain!! I always try to

help out on Saturdays when we go to the outdoor market area to hand out tracts! Please pray for the people we got to talk to this past week!

Also, if you think of it, please pray for me! I have been struggling with some

allergies or something that really make my paws itchy! It has been going on for some time and it’s kind of annoying! I just got some new medicated shampoo to try—please pray that it will help so I don’t have

to keep chewing on my feet all the time!

Thanks for praying for us!

Your Pal,

Riley

