

swedenbound

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for the ministry of Smålands Baptistförsamling
- The Sixts purchased a home and can move into it in March! Please pray for their continued adjustment in Sweden.
- Outreach opportunities—tracts, visiting, potential new Bible study possibilities
- Counseling opportunities—Pray especially for C. and M. and M. They are going through some very difficult stuff.
- Bible club—pray for L., J. and E. E. hasn't come in a long time. She has found other interests. L. has been the most faithful, and we have had many good opportunities to talk about God and the Bible, etc. Please pray for these gals!

Dear Praying Friends,
Merry Christmas! I hope this letter finds you doing well.

I greatly appreciate your continued prayers! It encourages me every day knowing that people are praying. You play such a vital role in the ministry here. These past months, I have truly seen God provide for needs, often in unexpected ways! He has also given strength and peace in difficult circumstances and in working with/counseling with people facing heartbreaking situations. There have been many times these past few months that I have been exhausted mentally and physically and emotionally, and I am thankful to know that God is still in control, and that He is working in each of these situations/needs. Thanks for your prayers.

Please pray for K. whose dad passed away recently. It's a harder loss knowing that her dad had spent his life rejecting the Gospel. She has been struggling.

In contrast, a neighbor of mine just lost her mother, yet we can rejoice knowing that she was a believ-

er and is now in the presence of her Savior!

In other areas of outreach, I am also now focusing my tract distribution on the communities/towns surrounding our target area. Please pray for these opportunities and that hearts would be open to the Gospel!

I was also able to participate in Vaggeryd's Christmas market this year. I was asked to play some Christmas music on my saxophone as background music for the market. It was cold standing out in the snow and playing, but I enjoyed being able to interact with people throughout the afternoon/evening. I was especially excited to be able to reconnect with M.—the woman I had been able to get to know a little bit several months back when we ended up on the wrong train together. She came over to talk to me and we visited for a bit. Please pray for her. She is having a really tough time as her daughter just passed away unexpectedly. She looked at me with tears in her eyes, asking if God even hears her

prayers any more. Please pray for her. She professes to be saved, but she truly needs encouragement. She wants to get together after Christmas, so please pray that nothing will hinder that!

For all my Green Bay Packer fan prayer supporters, I actually met a Packers fan in Vaggeryd! A man came into my friend's bakery wearing a Packers hat, so I commented on it and we talked for a bit. He's a Swedish guy who loves American football—especially the Packers. So there you go! You just never know what will lead to an opportunity to reach out and connect with people!

I hope that each of you will have a wonderful Christmas season! I know this time of year gets super busy, but let's not lose our focus on the reason we celebrate. I'm so thankful that Christ came to earth—born to give His life that we might live! All praise to Him!

Thanks again for the prayers and support! God bless!

For Christ Alone,

Melissa Carlson
Jer. 32:27

Riley's Corner

Hej Friends!

Merry Christmas! I hope you are having a great day!

We have had some snow off and on, but mostly we've just had rain and rain and more rain. I make my human carry me outside, because I really hate walking in the rain. It bothers my feet and makes me itch. I like snow, though, so I hope we get some more soon!

I got to help my human at the Christmas market this

year. Actually, I helped out with the Fall Market as well! My human says I make a good decoration. Plus people like to come over and talk to me. That helps my human get to meet new people in the community. I like helping out!

I also got to help my human drive a neighbor to her new home far away from here. That makes me sad, because I'm going to miss my friend. My human said I did real good sitting in the car for the 7+ hour round trip

that day! Don't tell my human, but it's no problem riding in the car. I love it more than almost anything else! Plus, they had more snow up where we drove to. That was fun!

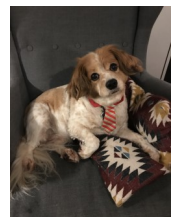
I hope you all have a super great Christmas this year! Enjoy your time with family and friends!

Thanks for praying for us!

Your Pal,

Riley

Fall Market



Christmas Market

