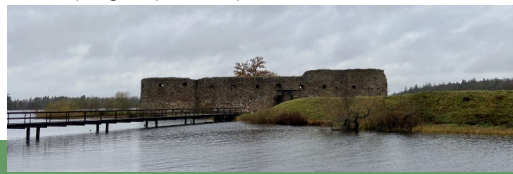




Road trip to get my residency card renewed –castle ruins



Merry Christmas!

swedenbound

October-December 2020



Prayer Requests

- *Ministries of Smålands Baptistförsamling—outreach projects; growth in the new year
- *Bible study opportunities
- *Bible club gals—J and L
- *Writing projects—new Christmas brochure, larger recording project for distribution by Easter, other brochures
- *Neighborhood Christmas outreach on Dec 22nd—outdoors, please pray for good weather!
- *Neighbors struggling with loneliness just now

Dear Praying Friends,

Merry Christmas! I hope everyone is doing well and finding ways to celebrate and share the true reason we rejoice this season. May our focus be ever on Christ throughout all the busyness and excitement of this time of year!

The end of the year gives time for reflection. In spite of all the craziness of 2020, I am certainly finding so many ways to rejoice in God's goodness and provision and care. Throughout trials and difficulties, God has shown Himself faithful. He has been, as He always will be, ever present regardless of the things we face.

I'm thankful to have seen answered prayers in ministry, in my family, and in my personal life.

I have seen God work in surprising and unexpected ways.

There have been plenty of encouragements and discouragements this past year, but I know that God is still on the throne. He is still at work. He

is still in the business of answering prayers.

Tightened coronavirus restrictions and illnesses have made the past couple of months challenging. Please keep praying for J. and L, my Bible club gals. J. has been sick a good bit off and on. It has been harder to hold contact with them in general. I'm praying that we will be able to meet this next week for a Christmas party. Please pray for this opportunity. Please pray for their salvation!

I have been working on a few different writing projects for the ministry here. I'm finishing up a Christmas brochure for use at a neighborhood outreach event on the 22nd. Because we can't gather inside, I will be setting up a table outside and serving coffee and ginger bread cookies, etc. I'm praying to be able to visit with people and hand out many Christmas brochures as well. Please pray for these opportunities to share Christ with those around me. Please pray as well that the weather will cooperate!

I have also been working on a larger

project that will, Lord willing, be finished for distribution at Easter. It's a more involved project involving recording a script, music and sound effects. The script is nearly at the point where it can go to my Swedish friend for revision. Some of the music is already finished and ready to go. Please pray for all the details to fall into place! We would love to have the script recording done January-early February to give time for adding the background soundtrack/effects, etc. Some of what we want to do certainly stretches my level of experience. So please pray that we will be able to put it all together in an effective way!

Thank you all for your prayers and support and encouragements! I know this has been a tough year for so many of you. I pray for you and your ministries and the opportunities you have to be a light in a spiritually dark world. God bless!

For Christ Alone,
Melissa Carlson
Jer. 32:27



Riley's Corner

Hej Friends!



I'm getting excited about Christmas! How about you? I just know there are a few presents for me to open! I saw my human wrapping them. And my neighbor told me that she got me a present too!!! I'm so excited!

I have to say, lately it has been dark and wet and chilly! I don't like getting my paws wet. I do love snow, however, so I was glad those days that we have had some snow. I hope we get some more for Christmas!

I have enjoyed getting to know some new neighbors. One couple is from Macedonia. They have cats!! I like going to their house. I wish the cats would be my friends.

Thanks for praying for our neighbors! We really would love to see them get saved.

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas! Don't forget to spoil your pets! ;) That reminds me, I need to beg my human for a bone. That sounds good right about now!

Your Pal,
Riley

