

April-June 2021

# swedenbound

A nearby lake



Dear Praying Friends,  
Happy Summer! I hope you are all staying cool and enjoying these months wherever you may be! Summer here means longer days, therefore being able to visit with more neighbors as everyone spends a lot more time outside. Every night after walking our dogs, a few of us will sit outside until sometimes 10.30 or 11 just visiting and enjoying the evening light.

The pandemic has continued to make some of our usual neighborhood outreach opportunities difficult as my apartment complex hasn't been allowing anyone to use their meeting hall, as we typically do. Now that summer is here, however, we are moving our coffee times to the outdoors! Please pray for these weekly opportunities.

In spite of covid, there have been plenty of chances for talking with my neighbors—

including many good opportunities for sharing the Gospel with them. Please pray especially for M and S. (from Macedonia).

I have been able to continue with a weekly ladies' Bible study with K. Also, through talking with another couple of neighbors, there seems to be some interest in maybe adding an additional ladies' Bible study later on this summer or fall.

We have been able to continue with our brochure outreach. I am currently working on 2 new ones. We have also been able to distribute brochures in a couple of different towns these past few months.

We are going through a bit of transition with Bible club. Both the girls have now turned 16 and are about to start high school, and their attendance has been a bit hit and miss in recent days. I am working on some ideas to be able to continue

contact with them while also working toward starting something more with some of the younger kids in the neighborhood. Please pray for wisdom in planning as well as good contacts/interest.

I'm also working on getting a good start toward writing our Christmas program. We are praying to be able to record it as we did the Easter program, but we would like to be able to do a live version this year as well.

Please pray for fruit from these opportunities/ministries!

Your prayers, encouragement and support are greatly appreciated!

May God bless you in your service to Him!

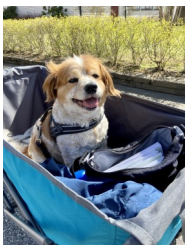
For Christ Alone,  
Melissa Carlson  
Jer. 32:27

## Prayer Requests:

- The Ministries of Smålands Baptistförsamling; growth, outreach, encouragement
- Brochure writing/distribution
- Neighborhood outreach: summer outdoor coffee times; weekly in July (and possibly August); then monthly or bi-monthly
- Bible club—in transition; pray for L and J/ possible new opportunities for the fall with a younger group
- Pray for M and S - salvation
- Weekly Ladies' Bible studies (and possible new opportunities)
- Christmas program preparation: writing, orchestration



Riley and Friends



## Riley's Corner

Hej Friends!

We had some unusually super hot days this past weekend!! I spent a lot of time sleeping under things, trying to stay cool. Thankfully, though, it looks like things are cooling off! I definitely like cooler summer weather!!

I have been busy trying to be helpful these past months! I

have been able to help my human hand out brochures. She even got me my own wagon so that it's easier for me to go with on the longer walks. Sometimes I get tired going up and down every street, but now I can ride! :) I really like that—especially on hills!

I also really like being able to spend a lot of time outside in the summer—especially at

night after we take our evening walk. The air is so much cooler then—and we get to talk to a lot of our friends (both dog and human)!

I hope you have a terrific week and a fantastic summer!

Your Pal,

Riley



Enjoying the ride