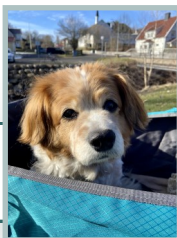




From a ladies' meeting!



Spring 2023

swedenbound



Northern Lights from my balcony

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers for us here in Sweden!

I was wanting to get this update out last week, but Riley had quite the health scare that threw off the plans a bit. I'm thankful to say that he is doing better, and I am so grateful for the extra time God has allowed me to have with him in my life.

Riley is a dog, but he has also been a very faithful friend and a huge help in ministry. He's pretty special to me!

Some updates:

Church

Please pray for a couple of kids who came to Sunday school a couple of times. They are friends of Isak, Kristian and Yuli's son. Isak, who is almost 7 years old and himself recently saved, is such a soulwinner! It is so encouraging to see his heart for his friends. He is not afraid to talk to anyone

about God!

So please pray for these children. They enjoyed coming to church and wanted to come more at first, but their parents are atheists and there has been some pushback as a result. It has been sad for Isak. Pray for him as well as he tries to continue to be a good friend and testimony to these boys. And pray for the parents, that God would do a work in their hearts!

Neighborhood Outreach

We continue with our weekly coffee times in my neighborhood meeting hall, and back in December, we also added monthly ladies' meetings. This has given me further opportunity to share God's Word with the ladies who come. We have a short devotional time and enjoy fellowship, treats and crafts. Please pray for these opportunities!

Fruit of the Spirit Program

We got the first part of our kids' program recording out

this week.

I have several other stories in the series written, and we're hoping to be able to start recording more of them soon. I'm also working on the music for the upcoming stories.

Please pray that these stories can be a good tool in reaching out with God's Word to kids.

Thanks again for your prayers and support. I pray for you as well, and I am very thankful for the important role you play in the ministry here in Sweden.

Thanks for being such a blessing and encouragement in my life. I appreciate you. May God encourage your heart today and bless you in your continued service to Him!

For Christ Alone,
Melissa Carlson
Jer. 32:27

Prayer Requests:

- *Ministries of Smålands Baptistförsamling*
- *Brochure writing-distribution*
- *Fruit of the Spirit project*
- *Our weekly neighborhood coffee times/monthly women's meetings*
- *New contact with a new neighbor in my stairwell*
- *A family Kristian and Yuli have recently met. They are not believers, but have been open to talking about the Gospel. The mother is interested in her children maybe going to Sunday School*
- *I had opportunities for some good conversations with people while volunteering/helping out at a friend's bakery*
- *A neighbor's partner just passed away. Please pray for B. as she grieves the loss. Also, she has been more open to the things of the Lord recently, so please pray that God will continue to do a work in her heart.*
- *Riley's health*
- *Pray for B, G, C, I, M, S – for salvation*

Let me know how I can be praying for you too!

Riley's Corner

Hej Friends!

I just want to say that I am feeling better.

I was pretty sick a week ago.

I think that I really scared my human.

I have been getting a lot of extra cuddles and pets from everyone in my neighborhood now. I like that part!

A while back, the church hu-

mans were singing the song, "Count Your Many Blessings". I decided to join in. I don't know why everyone was laughing! I have lots to be thankful for too. Why shouldn't I also sing?

After being so sick, I think my human is feeling extra thankful for me. She told me that I am one of her blessings! I think that that means she should give me more treats this week. :)

By the way, I turned 12 on March 7th. I got my favorite thing for my birthday present:

lots and lots of snow! I don't think everyone was happy with my birthday wish!

Thanks for praying for us here!

Please keep praying for me. I do have some tumors. I'm just taking things one day at a time and enjoying being with my human as long as God will let me! Have a super great day!

Your Pal,

Riley

