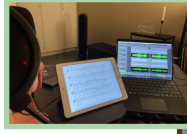
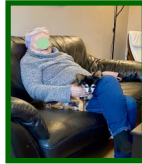


Winter 2023

# swedenbound



## Prayer Requests:

- Ministries of Smålands Baptist-församling; pray for Kristian/Yuli and family; pray that God would help us find a family or two who would be willing to come and help us in the ministry; pray for outreach and growth
- Furlough 2024: **14 march-16 july 2024**—Please pray for God's provision spiritually, financially, emotionally and physically. There are so many details involved, so please pray that everything will come together well.
- Brochures—writing, distribution
- Fruit of the Spirit programs—2nd story out now, working on music/recording for the 3rd story
- J./L.—continued opportunities to meet one-on-one, pray for their salvation
- Neighborhood outreach ministries—coffee times, ladies' meetings, Bible studies
- Pray for B., E., L, G, P.—for salvation



Dear Praying Friends,

I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! I know that it's a busy time of year for sure, but I hope you are all finding good opportunities to enjoy time with loved ones as you reflect upon Christ's birth. I know that many of you are involved in church programs and special outreach this time of year, and I pray that God would really bless in each of those ministries!

I appreciate your prayers for me here in Sweden as well.

### Christmas market

I had the opportunity to play my saxophone for an area Christmas market. The woman who organized the event is a believer and allowed me to share Gospel brochures as well. It was a cold 4 hours of playing Christmas music outside in the snow, but thankfully I had access to plenty of strong, hot coffee! I very much enjoyed the opportunities for conversation and outreach, and it was a blessing to be able to get involved in the community in this way.

### Bible Club Gals

I have been able to meet fairly regularly with L. and J for one-on-one outings. There have been good opportunities for

further witness, especially with L. She has continued to be really open. She says she understands and thinks about the Gospel a lot, but that she just hasn't really taken it to heart yet. Please keep these girls in your prayers! Both of them are finishing their last year in high school and are considering future plans, jobs, etc. Pray that God will really get ahold of their hearts!

### Fruit of the Spirit series

We were able to get the next story in the series out! I'm hoping to get a third story done before my trip to the States. Please pray that things will come together.

### Neighborhood Outreach

Neighborhood coffee times continue. We have had some new folks come by! This month, our ladies' meeting has kind of spilled over into a few different weeks as we are painting Christmas ornaments. :) I also continue leading individual Bible studies. K, who comes to Bible study at my house on Tuesdays (and also comes regularly with me to church) has a friend in the neighborhood (L.) who has expressed potential interest in taking part in an individual Bible study. She has been curious, and God seems to be doing a work in her heart, so please pray for an open door!

### Church

Please continue to pray for us as we look to the future of our little church. Please pray for

guidance in finding a new pastor. We have also found a potential location to rent. We are discussing giving it a test run to see if it's something that might meet our needs as we look ahead. Please pray for wisdom and discernment in these decisions and plans.

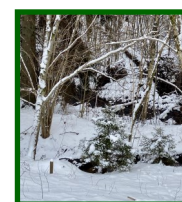
### Furlough

I have my plane tickets for next year's furlough! Lord willing, I fly out of Gothenburg March 14th, ultimately heading to Oregon, where I plan to start my trip. I will keep my itinerary updated on my website ([melissacarlsoninsweden.com](http://melissacarlsoninsweden.com)), so please feel free to check it out. I hope to be able to see many of you while passing through the country!

I am so very thankful for each one of you! I'm grateful for your faithfulness in prayers and support. I appreciate your vital role in the ministry here in Sweden! I certainly wouldn't be able to be here without you. Thank you. I pray for you as well, and ask that God would richly bless you in your place of ministry!

I wish you once again a very Merry Christmas!

And may God bring forth fruit in the coming year!



For Christ Alone,  
Melissa Carlson  
Jer. 32:27

## New Website!

[melissacarlsoninsweden.com](http://melissacarlsoninsweden.com)

