

The Good News

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Nordic Newsletter

Swedish Student Studies at Ambassador Bible Center

Solveig Hammar, resident of Stockholm, Sweden studied at the Ambassador Bible Center (ABC) at the Home Office of the United Church of God in Cincinnati, Ohio from January to August 2007.

ABC offers a concentrated curriculum that ranges from the study of individual books of the Bible to practical Christianity and comparative religion. About 50 students, mostly from the United States, take part in this annual program. Classes run five days a week from 08:30 to 16:30.



Solveig Hammar

Solveig described the experience of studying at the Home Office of the United Church of God as exciting and one that has made God much more real to her. It has been one of the most awesome things she's done in her 40 years as a Christian.

While at ABC she did more than study. She did a considerable amount of volunteer work for the Church helping mostly with mailings and computer data entry. She also appreciated the experience of attending a large weekly Church service of more than 200 people. There she also sang in the Church choir. In Sweden she is one of only a few members, so fellowshiping with so many of like mind was encouraging and uplifting.

In Sweden Solveig is active in the Church by distributing *Good News* magazines in subways, railway stations and doctors offices. She has also organized newspaper advertisements in Stockholm newspapers including

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Södermalmsnytt. She is helping translate United Church of God literature into the Swedish language.

Solveig spends six months of the year in Sweden and the remainder in the United States with her children and grandchildren. There she is also able to attend the San Antonio, Texas congregation of the United Church of God.

Her desire is to get the Gospel message out to the Swedish people which she believes can be done through a mix of Swedish and English literature, the *Good News* magazine, advertising and simply getting more things into the hands of the Swedish people to read.

Senior Pastor Visits *Good News* Subscribers in Nordic Countries

United Church of God pastor Victor Kubik now regularly visits *Good News* subscribers and members of the United Church of God in the Nordic countries as well as the Baltic and Eastern European countries. As people read the *Good News* magazine, booklets and take the *Bible Study Course* some have questions about what to do next in their lives.

The latest tour started in Stavanger, Norway and ended in Estonia. He was accompanied by another minister, Bruce Anderson who lives in Minnesota, USA and whose family comes from a Swedish background. They visited 12



families in the Nordic countries from June 10th to the 29th.

Victor Kubik continued on to Estonia for another week and spent time with members there. He also helped pastor, Johnnie Lambert from the United States with Estonian and Russian mailings of the *Good News*, Bible Study Course and other literature. Johnnie Lambert from New York maintains a part-time residence in Tartu, Estonia.

The greatest challenge in this part of the world is how scattered all the members and interested parties are. Most cannot see one another on any kind of regular basis. Being without someone of

like mind and faith for months on end is difficult. Consequently, visits like this are valuable to maintain contact, answer questions, encourage one another and just be together.

(see "Pastor Visits," page 2)

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there we held a Bible Study and got better acquainted. We look forward to future visits.

In Oslo, Norway we visited with a number of people who ranged from those we had known for many years to people with whom we made the first contact. Always there is



Bruce Anderson conducts Bible Study in Trondheim, Norway.

overcrowded refugee camps on the Burmese/Thai border.

Our next trip through this area is in early January and then in late March 2008.

If you would like a visit or have any comments or questions, please write to us at visit@kubik.org. We'll see if we can stop along the route.

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In Trondhiem, Norway a refugee United Church of God family from Thailand has been resettled. They are Karen refugees from the long-standing Civil War in Burma that has raged for 50 years. Various governments such as Norway and Finland have taken in families to relieve the refugee crisis in Thailand.

They treated us hospitably and we spent the night with them. While



Outdoor visit with the Olson family near Gothenburg, Sweden.

a good discussion about Bible and personal questions.

In Sweden our stops included Gothenburg and Mjölby. We traveled throughout by train.

Finally, we reached Finland where we visited with a Karen family that has been resettled by the Finnish government from the



With the Klogay Doh family in Kemi, Finland who recently resettled from refugee camp in Thailand.

Swedish Members Distribute *Are We Living in the Times of the End?* Brochure

Members of the United Church of God in Mjölby and Stockholm are distributing 2000 brochures in their areas. The brochures offering the booklet *Are We Living in the Time of the End?* were sent to Sweden from the Home Office in Cincinnati, Ohio. Inside the brochures, a cover letter has been included which offers a subscription to the *Good News* magazine and the article on the End Time in Swedish called *Tecken På Tidens Ände - Som Endast Är Möjliga i Vår Tid*. Paul



Paul and Kira Spenser distributing brochures in Mjölby.

Spenser commented: "It's very exciting to be involved in helping the Church preach the Gospel, to do something hands-on personally to promote the Gospel message."

Solveig Hammar in Stockholm said: "As I put the brochures out, I was praying that someone who is looking for these answers will find this brochure and article."

Please be sure to request our Swedish booklet *Vägen Till Evigt Liv* by sending us a request to the address at the top of this page. Be sure to also check our Web site at www.ucg.org/svenska.

