

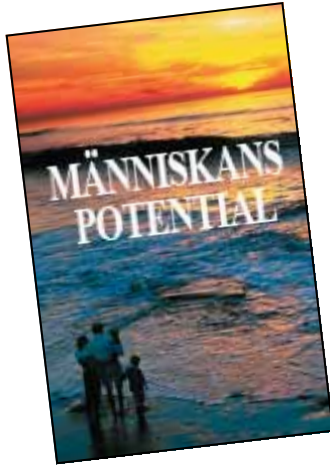
The Good News

February 20, 2008
Volume 2 Number 1

Nordic Newsletter

What is Your Destiny? Now Published in Swedish!

Människans Potential is a booklet that gives an overview of the purpose for your existence. People often ask, "Why Am I here on earth?" Is it just a random phenomenon or was there some reason that we exist? What about what will happen AFTER this life? These questions are answered in a newly published



booklet that is available at no cost to you.

The United Church of God is happy to share this with you. Here are titles of some of the chapters:

1. The Question of the Ages
2. Man's Destiny Planned Before Time Began
3. Who Will Be in God's Family?
4. The Key Steps in God's Master Plan

Issue Highlights:

- What is Your Destiny? Published in Swedish!
- Report on Work in Nordic Countries
- Blessing of Children: Viktoria Spenser
- Visiting Good News readers in the Nordic countries.

Order your booklet NOW by writing to our Swedish office address on the back of this newsletter.

Update On Our Outreach To The Nordic Countries

The work of the United Church of God to preach the Gospel to the Nordic countries has grown in both scope and response. The Internet has been a powerful tool in getting this done along with readers who have recommended our literature to friends and family.

In Sweden there have been two adverts placed in the *Readers Digest* magazine and also an advert in the *Information Service Brochure* as well as two adverts in the Stockholm newspaper *Södermalmsnytt*. Brochures have also been distributed along with the Good News magazines to homes, waiting rooms and train stations. In Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland we are also using Google-sponsored advertising, reaching those who are asking specific questions about the Bible, Prophecy and Christianity.

We have also opened a P.O Box in Stockholm and an email address to more easily service those who respond. Our readers have been invited to an open meeting where they had an opportunity to hear from our Pastor, ask questions and fellowship.

This is hoped to be repeated in the summer of 2008 ministers Jim Franks and Britton Taylor along with Victor Kubik from the United States come for a special weekend of sermons and seminars. Mr. Franks

is director of Church Administration and Britton Taylor is the pastor of the Ft. Worth, Texas congregation. We will notify you all about the exact weekend and location which we think will be in the latter part of July.

We have just added new readers to the *Good News* magazine in Iceland. We welcome you to our growing family of subscribers!

Visiting Good News Readers in the Nordic Countries — January 2008 Journey

Our plans are to travel through the Nordic countries three times a year. Our purpose is to visit the scattered members of the United Church of God and speak with any *Good News* subscribers who have requested a visit. In January my wife Beverly (who is of Norwegian heritage) visited in Finland, Sweden and Norway.

Our trip had earlier started in Ukraine and the Baltic Republics. We also serve people living in those areas. In Estonia the United Church of God has got an office from which we mail out the Good News magazine along with the *Bible Study Course* and various booklets in the Russian and Estonian languages.

(see "January Journey to Nordic Countries" on page 2)

The Good News

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Blessing of Little Children: Viktoria Spenser

Would You Like to Speak With a United Church of God Minister?

We travel regularly on a route visiting our members and readers of the *Good News* magazine through all the Nordic countries. If you would like to meet with one of us and ask any questions about the Bible or the Work of the United Church of God, please email us at visit@kubik.org or write to the above address.

Following the example of Jesus Christ in Mark 10 and Matthew 18, the United Church of God asks a special blessing on children. In our churches this is normally done in the fall, however, in Scandinavia where people are scattered, we did this when Beverly and I visited.



We were happy to have the blessing of Erin Louise Viktoria Kira Spenser on Wednesday evening, January 2nd, 2008. Parents are Paul and Kira Spenser of Mjölby. Extended families were invited for the happy and enjoyable event.

The Spenser's also have twin sons Aaron and Isak.

“January Journey to Nordic Countries” continued from page 1

Our Nordic part of the trip began in Finland and continued until we reached Norway. Our travel was mostly by train.

From Helsinki we traveled by train to Kemi where the Klogay and Margaret Doh family lives. We now have three immigrant families from refugee camps in Thailand, one in Finland and two in Norway. This is our fourth visit to Kemi since 2006.



John Wennström in Oslo
with Beverly Kubik

A civil war in Burma that has raged on for 60 years now has left tens of thousands of Karen people homeless and placed into large refugee camps in Thailand. The camps are very overcrowded and there is no end in sight to the civil war. Some of the Nordic governments have taken upon themselves to help relocate some of these people from Thailand and integrate them into their countries.

Each family who has been granted passage to these countries must study the language of that country fulltime for two years. They cannot work until then, however, the government does provide for them until they can work.

From Kemi we traveled on to Mjölby to the home of Paul and Kira Spenser. We are looking for a

location for the 2009 Feast of Tabernacles in Sweden.

From Mjölby our journey took us to Gothenburg where we had a Bible Study with a number of individuals on the Sabbath of January 5th.

Our journey ended in Norway where we visited in Oslo, Trondheim and Geilo. We had also wanted to see a few people in Stavanger, but were not able to do that at this time, but hope to do so on future visits.

We find that our spending time with our members and interested *Good News* readers is invaluable. The winter months are dark for so much of the time and it can become lonely when one has few to fellowship with. We are praying for God to call more people to His Church and look to the day when Churches can convene regularly in the Nordic countries.



The Tha Mwey family
with the Kubiks

You can follow our journeys via our blog that can be accessed through the main United Church of God Web site at <http://www.ucg.org/resources/blog.htm>.