



April 2018

Greenland News

Peter, Katharina, Joël, Cora & Leni de Graaf in Greenland



**“I’m going to interview you Thinka, so get ready 😊 “
Okay, but not now?” Yes. “But I’m also working on something
right now.” Exactly, what is it that you are working on?**

“I am working to get the account for INO Tasiilaq in order, because as a small church we also want to have an account. Then we don’t have to keep the offering money in our bedside table any longer. As INO Tasiilaq, we also want to carry out some projects that we need finances for, for example to get a Christian radio station in the village further up north (800 km...). I think it is encouraging to see that the local believers are getting enthusiastic to do something like that and are starting to give money for it”.

And what did you do before that?

“I wrote texts for the website for the mission house that we want to build (www.missionhouse-eastgreenland.com). I’ve been busy with that since Christmas. “



Board for the mission house

Can you tell more about that mission house?

“We have actually been trying to arrange a facility since we live here (2015). And now we finally have a building area and drawings. What we still miss is part of the money. So we are looking for people who want to support the mission house. It would greatly benefit the work if we finally had a location. Then I would not have to move to our bedroom for example (where Leni is already sleeping) when you have an evening counseling session in the livingroom. I really look forward to when the whole house is finished. What I do not look forward to is the building process itself. That will demand a lot from us... “

Do you have any questions for me Thinka?

Yes, do you want to say something about the mission house Peter?

“Mhh, well, I think that we will actually not start building after our furlough, but only next year. We can then also finish the whole building process next summer. It is so difficult to plan things here, because the weather determines everything. And there are also hardly any reliable and professional builders available here. And of course I am not a contractor, but I feel like one right now. I would like to see that differently. I hope God sends someone who can keep an overview of everything and who wants to oversee the building process.”

So are we going on a furlough?

“Yes, Thinka, you know that, haha. June the 10th to August the 11th. And when we arrive back in Tasiilaq on the 12th of August by helicopter, Joël has to go straight to his first day of school. In the furlough we will first go on holiday in Germany for a week and then a week in the Netherlands. Of course we will also

Family News

(Thinka) We actually wanted to interview Joël also. But his conclusion after a number of questions was, “why do you ask me all this and not just let me play?” Playing of course is very important when you are five. Especially if you go to school this summer where you have to sit still... Recently Joël and his best friend were allowed to join half a day at school. He liked it so much that he wanted to go again next day. Only Cora really missed him at the daycare. They have been going to the same group for two weeks (the municipality had suddenly decided that Cora would already go to the next group ...). She was comforted by the fact that Leni would go to the daycare center after the summer, when Joël would go to school for good. We are curious how this new phase will be for us.



Sunday school



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Interactive bible school

schedule mission evenings in both countries. I hope a lot of people come. Am looking forward to meet many friends again.“



What else is there on your mind?

“I am currently thinking very much about how I want to practically fill in the Bible school. I have been teaching for a few years now, which is very good in itself. But I long for more interaction with people. Discovering together who God is. And I believe that God is leading me to something new in that. I am inspired by the book “Miraculous movements” by Jerry Trousdale. I thought the title was poorly chosen...

But the content more than makes up for it. It explains how people come to faith through telling stories from the Bible. The big difference between transferring knowledge and telling Bible stories is that the latter invites more to discover God’s message and do something with it. We dive deeply into a story and the story speaks for itself. I am “practicing” with that and have seen the last couple of times how people are indeed more involved. Greenland has a story-telling culture itself, so this fits in nicely.”

Which stories have you told?

First I told the story in which Jesus speaks about building a house on solid ground. We discovered that obedience is actually the same as the strong fundament. Someone interpreted the story very differently and quickly had to laugh about himself as he saw that this was not the point of the story. People learn to correct themselves. Now I just start with Genesis 1 and it is wonderful to learn that God created the earth in six days. At the question what we learn about God in this story, someone responded: “With God all things are possible!”



Enjoying Greenlandic food

And what are you looking forward to?

“I look forward to receiving a few more visits from some friends from different countries. In May we want to host the course “Pain of the heart” again, for the third time now. The tickets that are necessary for the pastor to come here, are quite expensive. I hope that someone wants to support us in covering the expenses. This course has proved itself to be very valuable and I look forward to what God will do in the course this time.

To everyone who is praying for us and supporting us, thank you very much. We pray that Gods joy will be your strength!

Warm regards and hopefully we meet,

Peter, Thinka, Joël, Cora and Leni



Spring in Tasiilaq

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