



April 2022

GREENLAND NEWS

Peter, Katharina, Joël, Cora & Leni de Graaf

Dear friends and family,

Stories always help to become a part of something. For some it has been quiet from our side for a long time. We hope that in this newsletter you can get a taste of what God is doing in Greenland. This is possible because of your broad support. Thank you for whatever support you give!

When we started using the new building "House of Peace" in January 2021, our prayer was: "Lord, let people be redeemed, delivered and healed here. Let Your love and power manifest!" We had the impression that the house would bless many people and function like an ark. And we see that indeed more people are being touched by God's love.



TESTIMONY

(Peter) Joël's (8 years) class together with another class visited different work places in our village. The "House of Peace" was also on their list to visit because it was Joël's dream job to work just like his father. 30 children with 5 supervisors came to listening to what we do in the "House of Peace". During that presentation, they learned that Jesus can also heal children. At the end we gave an invitation to receive prayer. A teacher then came forward with a girl, who was also sometimes coming to our church. There she had already received prayer, but until then there had been no breakthrough. Since early childhood she had a sugar and lactose allergy. Her stomach would become completely bloated if she ate incorrectly. During this prayer the breakthrough came. In front of everyone, she was touched by the Lord! And since the prayer she can eat whatever she wants. It gives her great joy! God's ways are special.

BIBLE SCHOOL

(Peter) About 20 people come to the Bible school every week. Recently we have been discovering a lot about who we are in Christ. Our old life is over and the new has begun. We are no longer the prodigal son. But now that we are reconciled to God, new life opens up to us. Many deal with shame and therefore easily shut themselves off from others. But we see how people progress step by step with Christ.

There have also been formed 2 small groups, in which the life of God can be shared with each other. That is in line with what we think God is working towards, which is that the life of God is not just enjoyed in the services or Bible school. But that it has a great influence on the daily life in which we together learn to stay in God's love.



NEW LIFE

(Peter) I am reminded of a couple who, after 25 years of marriage, had already signed the divorce papers. He was about to end his life and as a last resource he decided to come to the service where he was deeply touched by the Lord. That evening he even came to visit us at home together with his wife because she could see a deep change in her husband after the service. He was still stunned, and his wife heard the good news of Christ's death and resurrection. She also came to faith and there in our living room they decided to forgive each other. Since then, "I've been enjoying life like I've never done before," says the husband. Together they walked up the mountain some time later, where they worshiped the Lord with outstretched arms and gave thanks for His

goodness. How beautiful when a person returns the love of God so purely!

In March 8 people were baptized. People make the choice to truly belong to Christ, despite opposition from their environment. God's grace is with us and God's love is melting human hearts. Almost every week new people join and we see the kingdom of God expanding. The baptism service was so crowded that 8/9 people could no longer find a seat, while Thinka was already sitting on the floor in front with a group of children. The following week, 20 children were in the children service (in a room of 15m²). You could almost say that things are getting out of hand... We are very aware of our dependence on God in guiding and building up this growing group of young Christians.





SOUP KITCHEN AND SECOND - HAND SALE

(Thinka) In the fall I started a monthly soup kitchen and a second-hand sale that would finance this. These are ideas that have been in my mind for a long time and now the time seemed right. Several times God spoke to my heart through His Word and I was confirmed by God's desire to reach out to those that no one cares about. God wants His house to be full!

I am pleasantly surprised by how the second hand sale is smoothly developing and people (by themselves!) bring clothes and toys that they want to donate. The second hand sale is a blessing for those

who have less to spend and people are generally very happy for the opportunity to buy cheap things.

The soup kitchen took a little longer to get started. But in January I was really touched by a man who showed us his appreciation: "I really needed this this month! This is the first time something like this is offered in town." Two other couples, who during the soup kitchen had a good conversation with Linda (our translator), dared to take the step to come to Bible school afterwards and even attended the baptism service!

FAMILY NEWS

(Thinka) This winter we have been having much more snow than in many years. Our house is completely snowed in so that the kids can easily climb onto the roof and have a lot of fun jumping off into the snow. God takes such great care of us as a family. We have a cozy rental house and the kids live here as if it is the most normal thing in the world. They speak fluently East Greenlandic and have a good time with the other children. But every now and then it also appears that it is not all easy for them. They miss relationships with other adults outside of our family, are saddened by the loss of friends who move away, and feel pressured by those around them. Will you join us in praying for their protection and that they may be rooted in the love of God?

FURLOUGH

(Peter) We have not been to Europe for the past three years. Therefore we are really looking forward to be able to travel this summer. We will be visiting Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland during June and July and would love to encourage you by sharing more about what God is doing here in Greenland. Because we do not have a home church, we would like to respond to invitations to come and tell about the work. If you would like to make use of this option we would love to hear from you.

*A warm greeting from Greenland,
Peter and Thinka*



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