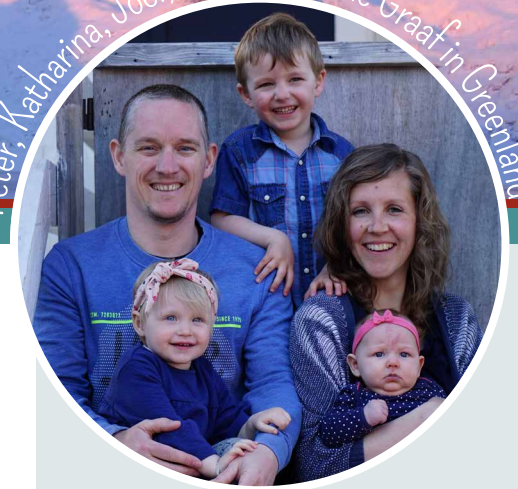




December 2018

# Greenland News

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



Dear friends and mission partners,

December is obviously the holiday month par excellence and in the Netherlands we even have another celebration: “Sinterklaas”. Of course we have “imported” that celebration to Greenland. Cora of 2 years old is a bit afraid to sing for “Klaasje and Piet”, but the prospect of candy in her boot is pulling her over the line. Youth sentiment that warms my heart.

## Family News

(Katharina) “Mom, do you miss dad?” Joël asks. “And dad, do you also miss mom? Well, I miss you too. Then we have to make it cozy and watch a video together and eat popcorn.” What a fantastic idea; especially when it has been bedtime... It’s nice to see how the dynamics in our family keep changing as the kids are growing. On the other hand sometimes my head dazzles when Joël requires creative solutions to his play problems and I simultaneously try to prevent Cora from colouring on the walls while the food is burning. Then I miss contact with other young families. Are our “family dramas” normal? And how do others deal with their busy family life? If you see others in the same situation it is probably easier again to put it into perspective and to enjoy the moment.

## Bibleschool

(Peter) Speaking about warming hearts; we have recently also experienced that in the Bible school. We keep on having Bible school every Friday evening with very basic lessons. We dive into the Bible with joy and expectation, sometimes with the four of us, sometimes with more than 10 people. Lately we see more young people coming, which is an interesting development. One of them had brought a befriended lady. We had never seen her before. She did not go out so often because of her depression, she explained. She had come a few times by now and this time the good news of Jesus hit home. Realizing that Jesus had voluntarily taken up her sins and returned from the dead, she surrendered her life over to Him.



Preparing a preaching

God’s Spirit used the simple Bible lessons to speak deeply to her heart. These are moments that we cherish very much and I realize afresh how God wants to change lives and how strikingly He begins by coming to living inside a person. We hope that she keeps coming and will learn how she can live with Jesus.



After the service

## Homeless in Greenland

(Peter) We have a neighbor who is 18 years old. We do not know him. But one evening he suddenly stood before our door and said, “Help me!” He came in and I wanted to have him out again as soon as possible. I was not home and Thinka told me on the phone that a guy had come for help. I was on the West Coast at a Leadership Conference and Thinka sat with friends in our living room. On the phone and with some translation, it became clear that this guy was drunk and hoped to be able to sleep in our house. His grandfather (also drunk) had become angry with him... The solution was found: he was picked up by an ambulance, after he had received something to eat and could stay in the hospital for the night. A day later I heard that he had said: “I would love to grow up in a family like yours...”. That broke my heart. I would really like to help this guy...



Little artist



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# Greenland News

## Children visiting



We are passionate about how God's love gives people a new life and we also want to show His love in practical ways. We are thinking of buying a tiny house, to temporarily provide a stay for someone when this is essential. That idea was born after a Bible school evening when a young man in tears began to share about his homelessness. The story mentioned above confirmed our idea. I estimate that we can start well with 10,000 Euro. Sometimes there is a small houses for sale that must be completely renovated. We have now 800 Euro to start with. If you want to support this idea, you can do so under project 99. Once we have enough money available, we can keep our eyes open and respond immediately when something comes up for sale. The "housing market" here is very fast and extremely limited.

## Christmas is coming...

(Katharina) It has become winter in Tasiilaq. There is snow and the Christmas decorations are hung up. With its colored houses and the many lights, Tasiilaq looks very cozy! But appearances are deceiving. Behind the colourful houses are people. Almost all of whom are in dark and desperate situations.

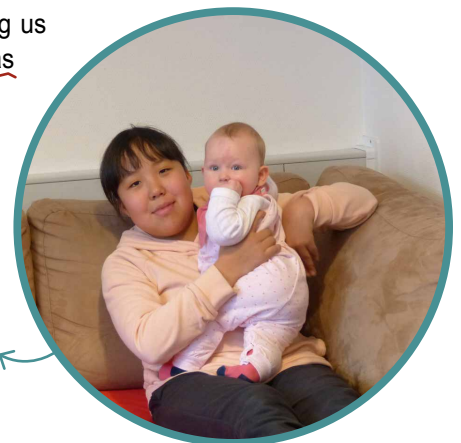
The pregnant woman for example with several children, who was almost put on the street, because the rent had not been paid for several months. Her husband was spending the earned money on drinking ... Or the young man, who asked for prayer for his living situation - he did not have a home for several months already ... Or the teenage girl who goes to school hungry and sleepy because her parents had "partied" again all night at home ... These are just a few of the situations we have encountered recently.

It really touches us because it is about people we know and love. And it brings us into action. Where possible we want to help practically. But we realize that a deep change must take place to find long-term solutions. Only Jesus can touch a person in such a way and fill them with His love that hope is restored again and life can take a new course. And we are longing to see that – that Jesus' light might shine brighter in Tasiilaq and that it may really become Christmas in the colorful houses and the people who live in them.

For four years we have now had the privilege to commit ourselves to making this desire become reality. Without your help this would not have been possible. Thank you for supporting us and the work here in Tasiilaq in different ways! On Christmas we all celebrate that it has become Light, Jesus has come. We wish you a heart-warming Christmas in which this truth will deeply satisfy us.

*Blessed Christmas,*

*Peter, Katharina, Joël, Cora and Leni*



Kamma  
and Leni

### Voor sponsoring:

Globe Mission (in Duitsland; belasting aftrekbaar)

IBAN DE20 5206 0410 0004 0022 53

Onderwerp: 'Project 99 - De Graaf' of 'Project 486 - Zendingshuis'

