

Missionary Highlight



Steve & Barb Swanson – Sweden

As with any home assignment in the United States, the rhythm goes like this: corresponding with ministry partners, gathering stories and photos, traveling and visiting our ministry partners, sharing a meal and stories of God's provision and faithfulness through the last five years in Sweden.

The road trips seem longer because of our time in the United States is shorter this time around. We chose to be gone from ministry in Sweden for a 7-month stay in the United States instead of the normal 12-month stay.

Sensing the need to get back sooner to Sweden and continue going deeper in relationships with our Swedish colleagues and partners at our local congregation, as well as with our refugee friends, is what is driving us during this season of home assignment.

When we left Sweden in May, our Swedish pastor challenged us to pray and dream about what ministry we would like when we return in January 2023. We remember fondly the first conversation with Swedes from our church who asked the question, "What's your strategy?" Our strategy has been, is, and will be, to follow God's leading where He opens the door. What new doors might He be opening for us in this next season!

Prayer Requests:

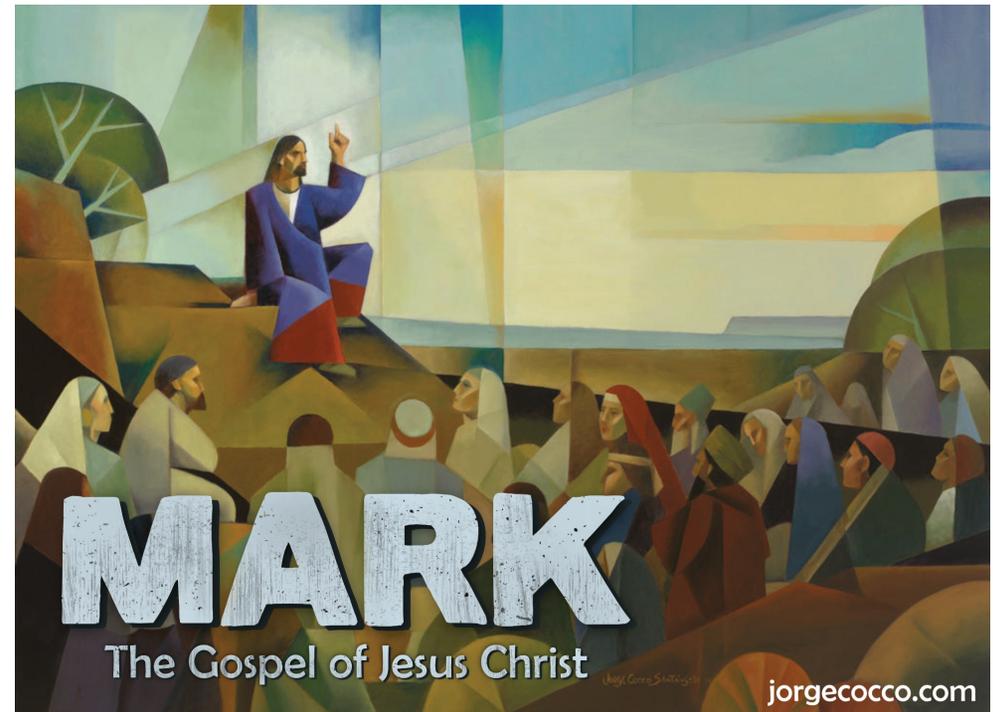
1. For our return to Sweden to follow God's lead into what the next season will bring.
2. For a timely renewal of our work permits from the Swedish Migration Authority.

October 2022	YTD Giving	YTD Expenses
General Fund (Calendar Year)	\$ 200,588	\$ 228,747
Missions Fund (Budget Year)	\$ 48,264	\$ 39,948



November 13, 2022

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Weekly Events & Opportunities

- A Parent's Room (back of the sanctuary) and Nursery (downstairs) are available for **families with young children**.
- All ladies are invited to attend a **bridal shower** for Bailey Bernard who will be married to Luke Jazdewski in March 2023. The shower will be on Saturday, November 26, at 1pm. Bailey is registered at City Drug, Target and Amazon.
- Welcome, Fun & Fellowship is hosting a **fellowship meal following the November 20** worship service. Bring something to share that will be enjoyed alongside Karen's Mac & Cheese!
- **Prayer Gathering** on Mondays at 6:30pm.
- **Operation Christmas Shoebox** –Pick up a shoebox, fill it up with toys & other fun items. Each box contains a brochure with packing instructions, ideas, and a label. Please include \$10/box for shipping, and return to the church by November 20.
- **Upcoming Ministry Opportunities**
 - **Home for the Holidays Parade** – November 25 at 6pm
We need help with...
 - Designing the float
 - Decorating the float
 - Individuals to walk in the parade handing out invitations to the Christmas Eve in the Barn event at Mann's Farm
 - Help disassembling the float
 - **Christmas Eve in the Barn** – December 24 at 4:30pm
 - Assist with parking
 - Decorating the barn
 - Pouring hot chocolate & sweet treats

Contact Lynn Peterson at 324.0508 if you are interested.

Jesus on Religion

Mark 12.28-34

²⁸ And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³² And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. ³³ And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴ And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.