

Prayer update September 2020

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Acts 2:42

Dear friends and prayer partners,

Hope you had a great and restful August.

As we started up our ministries in August we were not sure where things would go. The restrictions of meetings with more than 50 people are still enforced and there are other rules to consider and to follow.

After our initial Zoom service in the beginning of August we decided to slowly start to meet again in person in the city hall in Åkersberga. Since then, we have had two worship services and communion together. It is great meeting up again, but we still have to abide by several restrictions and it is sad not to be able to see everybody. Luckily we are able to broadcast live through Zoom so they who either are sick, or feel insecure to come or those who have elder family members (or visiting them) can watch the whole service from home.

The picture on the top: Chris & Phil setting up the Zoom live broadcast. The picture below is the middle size venue in the city hall in Åkersberga centre that we are renting.

As we are preaching through Acts, we see that the church was also devoted to fellowship (2:42). In our team meeting we talked about what that means in these difficult days and how we should proceed in the upcoming period. As the second wave of Corona-19 is ravaging in some countries in Europe we need to carefully follow the development and in the end we might need to be ready to again return to only Zoom meetings.

On the first service with communion (which we also had to adapt) we had 35 people (with children) and 10 online. The second service had 12 people and over 20 online. As Children started to go back to schools so also the flu started spreading among them and many had to stay home because of that.

So it looks like autumn is going to be an interesting challenge and we have no clear idea how things will develop. We have decided that at least as long as the Covid-19 crisis is here that we will offer both ways to worship. We know many of you are also facing similar circumstances and many elderly struggle with technology and Zoom so we all need patience and wisdom in how we will approach this whole situation.

Praise:

- Thank you for praying for our team meeting. It went very well as we as a church could plan our autumn activities, especially in these stressful times.
- We have had initially two good services in person and the technology worked well to broadcast the services live for those not able to come.

Prayer:

- As we are broadcasting services live we need a new team of people working with technology/social media, please pray for this.
- Our upcoming Hallåvån event. We are planning to try to run a Hallåvån (children-friendly-Halloween) event in the end of October, which is coming up fast. There are many complicated restrictions we need to abide by and we also need to rent a bigger hall to adapt for such events, but we might still need to limit it to 50 people with the team, it's little complicated.
- Pray also for our upcoming bible study groups that are starting up. Here too we will both meet up in person but also on Zoom for those who can't come.

Yours in Christ,

Chris & Lotta and Obi-Wan Kenobi

