



September 2026

GREENLAND NEWS

Peter, Katharina, Joël, Cora & Leni de Graaf

Since mid-July, we have been back in our little home in Tasiilaq, and we certainly have not been sitting still.

LOOKING BACK ON OUR TIME AWAY

(Peter) Our time away always gives us some fresh breathing space, because it allows us to take a little distance from everything. One thing we always wonder about, with a certain amount of anticipation, is what will happen in Tasiilaq while we are away, and whether things will continue at all. We were pleasantly surprised to hear that meetings had continued for several more weeks and that people were still gathering together.

Because I had the opportunity to speak in several churches, something else stood out to me. In almost every case, I sensed a desire for “more of the work of the Holy Spirit.” That makes me ask myself how I can give Him more room. Because, as someone once said, it is foolish to expect different results if we keep doing the same things. Change will have to take place within us, and I think that is exactly what we may be struggling with, perhaps without even realizing it. One question particularly stood out to me, and it sums up the issue quite well: “What if people do not understand what is happening and they leave?”

That question was asked in relation to things that may be unfamiliar to some people in a ministry of healing and deliverance. Well, what if people do leave? But what if I turn the question around? “What if people suddenly start coming precisely because they hear that others are breaking free from addictions and despair through the power and love of God?”

That is what I want to focus on. It is in God’s presence that the deepest wounds can be healed and people can receive hope. That is what we want to focus on. In the Netherlands, Germany and Greenland.



A NEW BUILDING PROJECT

(Peter) When we arrived in Tasiilaq in July, a perhaps slightly too large project was already waiting for us. We need a somewhat larger home as well as a small guest accommodation. God gave us the opportunity to purchase the second half of the semi-detached house. The idea was a “simple” relocation of the dividing wall between the two houses, creating a slightly larger family home and a smaller guest accommodation. But we keep discovering more and more unexpected defects in the house.

Unfortunately, the roof had not been repaired properly while we were away, and although I had prepared myself for setbacks, this one was not easy. Still, God encouraged us, and we were waiting for a carpenter from Germany who was going to come and help us for a month. One week after our arrival, he came – truly a gift from God! We quickly started renovating and greatly enjoyed knocking down walls. But the shower room turned out to be the area that took up most of our time. Years of water damage had to be repaired, and so our focus shifted to that small shower room. The entire bathroom, including the walls and floor – 2.7 m² in total – had to be removed, and we expanded it to 4 m². This has been our main focus so far.

We still need to build three other walls, repair windows, put plasterboard on the walls, lay laminate flooring, paint, install the electrical wiring, replace the kitchen – which is 48 years old – move the oil boiler, install the heating, and then get the furniture in. And we have not even mentioned the planned entrance extension yet. There is still several months of work ahead of us. After that, we will be able to turn our current living space into a pleasant guest accommodation for you! Or for anyone who would like to come and take part in the ministry and who has East Greenland on their heart. We look forward to welcoming more people here so that they can see for themselves what God is doing.



GOD IS BUILDING HIS CHURCH

(Peter) In September, we hope to baptize two more people, just as we did two weeks ago. We baptize them in the local river that flows behind the cemetery. These are very special moments and the beginning of learning to live as a child of God. We long for as many people as possible to learn to live in freedom, truly enjoy our God, and love Him with all their heart.

We ourselves see so little of what is happening, and yet so much is taking place. The two people who were baptized most recently said something very beautiful the other day. They said that sometimes they look at each other and marvel at how suddenly their lives have taken such a different turn. Among other things, this can be seen in the greater love and peace within them, but also in the fact that he, as a hunter, has suddenly received other opportunities for work.

It also touched us that people sincerely and immediately began asking when there would be services again. We resumed them straight away and are enjoying seeing God at work among us.

I do not know whether we will still be able to reach a remote village of only 30 to 40 people by boat. At the moment, it seems that we cannot get there because the necessary means are simply not available. Our friends' boats as well as our own need maintenance, and it takes a great deal of time to get the right parts here. For that reason, we have not yet been able to make the trip to the village, which is about an hour and a half away. But the message is already prepared in my heart!

GOD PROVIDES

(Peter) Coming back once more to our renovation project, it would be something of an understatement to say that there are still plenty of needs ... Anyone who would like to help meet those needs in one way or another is very welcome to contact us.

Looking back on eleven years in Greenland, there is clearly one thing we can say: God has never abandoned us. Far from it! Time and again, challenges arise in the midst of the joy of seeing lives transformed by God's Spirit. Stay blessed!

Warm greetings,
Peter and Thinka



FAMILY NEWS

(Katharina) When we returned to Greenland in July, Joël stayed behind in Germany with his grandparents for another month. It was a special time for him, which he greatly enjoyed despite some setbacks along the way, including a broken finger. Accompanied by his aunt, he returned to Greenland in August, and we were also able to enjoy some time with my sister Hanna.

Just like the carpenter from Germany, she was an enormous help to us during the past month. The kids clearly enjoy it as well when we have visitors who support us so actively and, for a while, become part of our family. It always brings a pleasant breath of fresh air! As a family, we are extremely grateful for the many different people who stand alongside us and make it possible for us to serve the people here, and especially the children who come to our home.