



December 2023

# GREENLAND NEWS

*Peter, Katharina, Joël, Cora & Leni de Graaf*

Dear Family, friends and missionpartners,

## LOOKING BACK

**(Thinka)** The end of the year is a good time to look back. After working here for 9 years, we are happy and grateful to see what God has created. People come into contact with the presence of God, hear good news and also see good news. When I sometimes look around during a service and see all those people standing there **worshipping God with all their hearts**, in a house that wasn't there 4 years ago, it touches me. God is truly building a Church in the midst of a society characterized by death and hopelessness.

And at the same time it was a **difficult year** for us, where we were often discouraged by setbacks. Maybe because after living here for a number of years it hits you even harder when you realize that you still don't know how to behave in order to build a friendship with someone. Or because every attempt so far to involve people more in the work has failed and in the long run it is an unpleasant feeling to be "alone".

How easy it is to give up when there are disappointments. The advantage of hopeless situations is that it drives us **closer to God** again and again. He is the only solution! God wants us to grow in character and becoming anchored in His love. God prunes with the intention that much fruit will be borne.



*Touched by the Love of God*

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*Sunday service*

## FAMILY NEWS

**(Peter)** We would also like to use this moment to thank you for your financial support. I just want to mention it, because the work we do also involves subsistence. God has used people to meet our daily needs, even to this day. It is truly a **blessing for us as a family** that we have never suffered any major financial shortcomings, even though we have been living without a steady source of income for nine years.

In our last update we mentioned that we started praying for a bigger house. Our children are growing up and our rental house, which we have happily lived in for 8 years now, is not growing with us. Now it has been brought to our attention that there might be an opportunity to build a **co-constructed house**. We will continue to pray about this and explore the possibilities.

We plan to go on **furlough** to Europe again in 2024, where we want to visit different places. We will discover how we will practically achieve this, to be gone for about 10 weeks and when we return to Greenland to build our own house. But with God nothing is impossible and adjustment is only possible if there is movement!



*Lehi singing in for school*

## GOD MAKES A NEW BEGINNING

**(Peter)** In recent years we have been able to baptize about 35 people. At the end of November there was a baptism service for 5 people. A young man, in his testimony prior to baptism, spoke of never having learned anything about Jesus. But he came to the service once, received prayer for healing and has had **no pain since**. It is so simple and therefore so powerful. He wants to follow Jesus, whom he has experienced.

Another person who had just been baptized was asked by a gas station employee, "So you became a Christian? How is that?" What a nice question. He could answer that the old life (20 years of alcohol) was over and that now a peace had come into him, such as he had never known. And he invited him to come on Sunday.

Jesus is the Prince of Peace. And how we need Him! Whoever learns to "drink" Him, says goodbye to religious behavior and learns to truly live. We want to see a lot more of that and it is nice to reflect on it at Christmas. God comes close and makes a new beginning. He will one day come to make everything new and has already begun to do so. Renewal is also for you.

We wish you a peaceful Christmas season.  
The Prince of Peace is near!

*Warme greetings,  
Peter en Katharina*

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