

# Children's Ministries

## NEWS FROM THE SWEDISH UNION

Karolina Poland, Children's Ministries Director

### On-Line Bible Competition

This year we have tried something new. We have churches that are very far from each other in Sweden. Therefore it is hard for the kids to meet in one place over a weekend. Because of this we decided to have an on-line Bible competition. We sent out the book of the Bible to study in advance. Then the teams register and we all meet on-line at a special time. We stream a worship and then there is a competition with questions over Kahoot. After that the Youth Department is sponsoring pizzas for the teams.



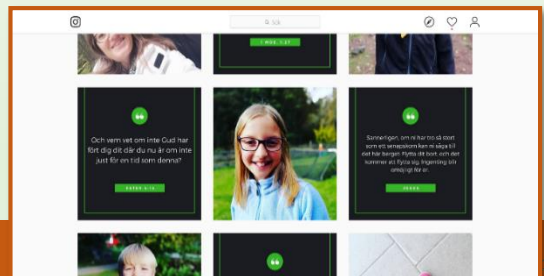
The winning team from Finland

The first time we did this was last January. There were 12 teams competing from 8 different places (3 different countries, when a team from both Finland and Norway joined). The book the children had studied was Esther. This was a success. The kids had studied the Bible. The children in the churches met for this special event. There were also adults that came and cheered the children on. We just had our second competition last Saturday. This time there were 15 teams from 9 different places. It is an easy and fun way to get the children to study the Bible and to have fun together although they are far apart.

### Instagram

The Swedish Children's Ministries department uses Instagram and Facebook to get out information.

Every week there are 1-2 short worship for families. (kristenforalderidag)



### Pod Cast

Three times a week there is a pod cast for children on Hope Channel Sweden. There is one about key verses in the Bible, one about God's promises and one about guessing the Bible character. When it comes to guessing the Bible character the children can send in the correct answer and get a prize every 10th time they have guessed the correct answer.

### Advent calendar

In the last years the Swedish Children's Ministries department have created advent calendars (advent calendars are big things in Sweden). 2018 was short films with random acts of kindness. This year we have filmed short films with children and pastors about the angel Ängla. She likes to challenge children to do kind things to others during the month of December. If you want to look at the advent calendars you can find them at <https://kalenderiadvent.se/>.



### Camps

The family camp in Sweden has been very well attended the past years and it was the same this year. There were 100 children and 50 of them were under the age of 6. This means that there are a lot of very young children in the camp. The theme for this week was: All inclusive. It is a week where the whole family can come



and get filled up physically, mentally and spiritually.

We also offer a camp for children, and this year there were 75 children who met at the camp ground for lots of adventures.

### All Together Wonderful

Karen Holford has written a great book about intergenerational worship. This year during the pastor's meeting we had discussions from the book. The pastors had read the book ahead of time. After the discussions the pastor's were to make a plan on how they would incorporate intergenerational worship in their churches.

### Children's Sabbath

The first Saturday in October we celebrate Children's Sabbath in Sweden. There are quite a few churches that join in this celebration. This year Borås church had a 7 year-old, a 9 year-old and an 11 year-old to preach. Another child had the children's story. It was a great blessing to the whole congregation.



### Young leader

For the first time ever we had a young leader training. The children were 14 years and older. Marianne Dyrud did a great and wonderful job teaching the children about leadership from a Biblical point of view.

It is great to see what the children will do if you give them the opportunity to lead. It is also amazing what a difference it makes to call children leaders.

### Bibeltimman – The Bible Hour

In Sweden we have had a hard time to find good material for tweens. We have therefore started to create our own programme. It is based on the stories from Power Point, but created in a totally different way that is very interactive for the children and easy to use for the teachers. It is totally Bible based where we actually use the stories right out of the Bible. The teacher read out of the Bible while the children colour. After that the children get to fill in the blanks as they go through the Bible text again. After that they get to answer questions about the text that they just read.

There is always something for everyone to do that gets them out of their seats. There is always a suggestion for crafts, a memory verse and something to colour. In every lesson there is something logical for the children to work with. It can be a math problem or a word search. Many children really enjoy this.

The whole lesson is created in such a way that the teacher could print it out and go right into the classroom and teach the lesson. Of course it is always good to be well prepared before you go into the Bible Study.



## Family Pathfinders

One church in Sweden is trying out a new concept of Family Pathfinders. The whole family comes together to have pathfinders. It is very popular and a way to get the whole family out of doors and doing things together. Last time it was rock climbing on the agenda as you can see.



## Mission spotlight



<https://children.adventist.org/special-days>

Please visit the Adventist Mission website <https://m360.tv/children> for more animated mission videos.

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