



Blessed New Year - 2024!



Dear friends,

As 2023 draws to a close, we would like to take a moment to reflect on God's goodness and guidance over the last year. This year has been a very special one for us as it marks 20 years of marriage and ministry! On the 9th of September 2003 Silvia and I married and have been serving together in ministry ever since. Living Water ministry was founded in 2003 and this year we gratefully look back on 20 years of gospel proclamation. What an incredible journey it has been! But we also expectantly look forward to what God has in store for us in the future. We believe the best is yet to come!



During the first months of this year, we created a brand-new Living Water website. With the excellent help of a friend in Canada we were able to gather and digitally package lots of spiritual resources created over the years. This resulted in a beautifully designed and easy to navigate webpage. Not only will it bless you but it's also an evangelistic tool that you can use to share the gospel with others in just a few clicks!



Another exciting project of this past year has been to write an InVerse Sabbath school quarterly for young adults. The General Conference will release this study guide in 2024 (3rd quarterly) and it will be used by young people around the world. Many hours were spent exploring and writing on the parables of Je-

sus. These stories are so transformative and relevant. I am now working on converting this material into a book that we plan on publishing next year in English and Norwegian.

In March we travelled to Copenhagen for a weekend seminar. We were encouraged to meet some of our new friends from an earlier series we held the year before. This time my theme was "Religion – What went wrong?". The entire 4-part series was recorded and can be found on our new Living Water website.

In April I spoke at the inspiration weekend of Matteson Mission school. My theme was on the parables of Jesus. We connected well with the international students, and I was happy to be back at Matteson later in the fall to teach for a week on the prophetic book of Daniel.

In May I travelled with my family to the scenic country of Ireland for a series of evangelistic meetings. As a team we prayed for God's guidance and for Him to open the right doors for us to connect with the very people He knew were open to receive His Word. We often read about divine appointments in the book of Acts, and it is important to remind ourselves that we serve the same God today. God answered our prayers in a way that went beyond what I could have imagined. An entire Pentecostal church group, including their pastor, literally cancelled all their own church plans and programs to make it to every meeting. Especially the Sabbath truth made a profound and deep impact on them. Several have already expressed their desire for change. The pastor of the group is open and searching for answers. Please pray that God will continue to lead these dear people. As they are searching and growing, they are also inspired to share what they are learning. One of the attendees set up his phone and live streamed the presentations to thousands of his followers on social media. When we take a step to share our faith, we will never fully know the ripple effects on this side of eternity.



I believe we are living in very special times and that God is pouring out His Spirit on those in other denominations and churches who are honestly searching for Bible truth. Across secular Europe we can expect an awakening as revival and reformation is kindled in God's people. Jesus Himself said: *"And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd."* (John 10:16).



In June we enjoyed some Spirit filled days at the Baden-Württemberg conference camp meeting in South Germany. I met great people and enjoyed preaching on the theme of Revelation. Christ was lifted up by all the speakers and precious decisions were made.



July was marked by our yearly highlight – Living Water summer camp! On Sabbath we reached our highest number of attendees with more than 500 people on the campgrounds. Our theme this year was "Encounters with Jesus". The sermons were outstanding, the music uplifting, and the fellowship was a foretaste of heaven. The camp ended with a baptism and the story of this lovely couple is like a script taken straight out of the book of Acts. They were searching for Biblical sound messages online and came across the sermons of Lasse Flinker, a preacher from Denmark. After they reached out to him, he started studying the Bible with them online. To his utter surprise he found out they lived in Fyresdal, a tiny village in Norway, but the exact place where Living Water holds its yearly

summer camp! Without me knowing about the above, I invited Lasse to speak at the camp in 2022 and he was able to connect with them in person. A year later, in 2023, they decided to get baptized at the camp meeting. This is what I call a divine appointment!

In the end of September, I travelled to Israel with Bengt, a good friend and pastor colleague. We joined a study tour organized by Pan de Vida and Light Bearers ministry. It was a fascinating experience to take in. Walking where Jesus walked and seeing the places the scriptural stories played out was very special. During my absence Silvia had a car accident. God protected her life, and she was physically unharmed though the car was ruined. It could have ended very differently. We were reminded of the promise *"For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways"* Psalm 91:11. We were again reminded of this precious promise shortly after I left Israel. Only four days later the war broke out between Israel and the Palestinians. It has been heartbreaking to witness the suffering on both sides. We continue to pray for reconciliation and peace.

Besides these travels, we are thankful to have a base in Norway where we enjoy serving our local congregations. I pastor Hønefoss along with a group in Jessheim. Most Sabbaths of the year we are ministering in these places and are happy to be part of what God is doing in the lives of our brothers and sisters in faith. In Hønefoss we are blessed with many families and children. An area we have focused a lot of our efforts is providing upbuilding and inspiring programs and projects for the kids. This includes engaging the young ones in ministering to others. One of the ways we do this is through music. The children enjoy singing for people in the community. We knock on doors, sing, share a small gift, and let God's Spirit work in the lives of people.

Another area of focus in our local churches has been small groups. It is a place where members and people new to the faith are more easily seen, heard, understood, and appreciated. These groups have been such a blessing.



As we have now come to the end of the year and experience the shortest days of the year, we want to take these opportunities to shine a light. Christmas is typically a time in which people are a bit more open to the gospel message. Like last year we will again open our church in Hønefoss on Christmas for all those who are lonely, have no place to go, or are simply looking for a fellowship.



When Jesus came to this world 2000 years ago, we are told there was no place for Him in the inn in Bethlehem. In the same way there is often no place for Him in people's lives today. What keeps us going in ministry is the strong conviction that Jesus wants a place in our lives and that He deserves that central place. Nothing can give us greater joy and purpose than when we open our hearts and minds for Jesus to come in. We continue to pray for more doors to open for us to share the gospel with as many people as possible.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and encouragement as we look forward to what God will do in 2024! May the coming year bring you closer to Jesus.

We wish you a very blessed New Year!

Greetings,

Daniel & Silvia & Elias & Enoch

