

Harvest
Partner
letter
from
Finland
October
2016



Lataamo (Loading Station) at Hameenlinna

I wrote in March that the young adults of the Free Evangelical church started a new ministry – Loading Station – that will empower and give a place for service for young adults at our place. At the moment, these meetings are held once a month in our Link Center. We will see how these meetings develop in the future.

The meetings have continued. Many new people have visited, around 200 people this year. Some of them have stayed and come back every time. The gatherings are like a big family reunion. The greatest thing has



been that God has encountered us mightily. Attendees have mainly been believers, but at least one person has become a new believer because God touched him during the meetings.

What is coming out of this? We are still not sure, but it seems to be more and more like a church, or community of people who want to encounter with God and to live as disciples of Jesus 24/7.

Heli and I are privileged to be a part of the development process. We are also part of the leadership team as mentors and encouragers. What a change and what a great experience!



Links – our small groups

At Link Church, the Church of God of Prophecy in Finland, we have three small groups working at the moment. Groups meet in three different locations, about an hour drive from each other. Links is helping people to stay with Jesus and to grow in Him.

It is so important for Christians to gather together. When we pray for each other, our burdens are lightened and we can give thanks to our Lord Jesus together. I believe that multiplies our thanks.

At the Link meetings, we open up the floor to allow others to share insights and inspirations. That gives a possibility to show and model how to walk with Jesus.

Leadership team

Bishop Endecott wrote in the October 2016 WWM issue, that a leadership team has recently been strengthened and is helping pastor/Overseer Satila. Faithful members of the team are seeking direction on how to reach out more effectively to our nation.

That statement is true. I can also see that God is answering those prayers and efforts in finding direction. One of those answers is that we are getting familiar with and using the Emotionally Healthy Course -material that was developed by Pete Scazzero whom you might remember from our International Assembly. He spoke to us there and I have found his material very helpful. As a team, we started to practice the Sabbath, a break of 24 hours once a week. This is a time to play and pray as Eugene Peterson describes the Sabbath.

I just read, "It always seems impossible until it's done – Nelson Mandela" and that describes our situation well. It just seems to be an impossible task to have an effective local church that is reaching out and influencing the nation.

Keep on remembering us with these impossible situations here!!

We need help

We are satisfied with the present situation. We have our calling together with other Christians. We are trying to fulfill that calling, though it seems to be a bit different from what I have expected it to be.

There is one area where we as a Link Church are not satisfied: reaching new people. Pray for us that we are encouraged by our Lord Jesus to share the Good News. Pray for us that we as human beings are willing to get close enough to the people we could reach. Pray for us that we will stay long enough with these people so that the Gospel can be contagious.

Pray specifically for the youth in Finland. Many of them are lost. They do not know why they exist. They are not sure if there is a purpose for their life.



Yours in Christ Jesus!

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