

Newsletter July 2022 SWEDEN

Dear Friends and Supporters,







Once a month during the Spring and Fall, SB Foundation conducts a worship service at Gustaf Adolfskyrkan (the Church of Gustavus Adolphus) in Stockholm. The final service for the Spring term was held on June 12. Arne Wikström, SB Foundation Board Member and clergyman, gave a homily on the topic of "Vicarious for Christ's Love". At the service, we sang a beautiful new hymn, entitled "Livets mening" ["The Meaning of Life"], written by Gunnar Hafström. In solidarity with Ukraine, all the congregants read Psalm 31 in unison, just like Christians in Ukraine do in prayer every day at 4:00 PM Swedish time. Lena Åkerlund informed us about the work of the SB Foundation. Lala Åkerström, the organist of the Foundation, played the organ and, as the postlude, sang a wonderfully vocalized duet together with her daughter, who has just finished 8th grade in the Adolf Fredrik School of Music in Stockholm. To our great joy – in spite of somewhat uncertain weather predictions –, it turned out to be sunny and beautiful for "kyrkkaffet" [a traditional Swedish gathering for coffee and bake goods following a worship service], arranged outdoors on the church grounds by Lollo Bergquist and Elisabeh Kedland Hofberg. Marianne Kärrman read a poem. Everyone serves willingly without compensation.

Fairly frequently, SB Foundation's donors express gratitude for the information they receive from the Foundation and for the work it performs, as well as for "a word on our life journey" by Arne. Sometimes somewhat unusual things also happen. Lena relayed that in the 1950s she had a schoolteacher and principal who together with his wife supported the work of the SB Foundation since its inception in 1995. When they died, their daughter Anna continued the donations. One day in mid-March, a donation arrived from someone named Olle with the same unusual last name as Anna, so the Foundation discreetly inquired if, by chance, they were related. Anna's response arrived recently and read: Olle is my 11-year-old grandson. We were in [the Swedish province of] Härjedalen during week 11 when Olle suddenly said that he wanted to give money to Ukraine. At the time I suggested the SB Foundation and told him of you [Lena] and my father. Olle thought it all seemed good and "swished" an amount of money. It is, indeed, touching when children feel compassion for others and wish to share of their own savings. One hundred kronor is certainly not a small sum for an eleven-year-old. And it is totally fantastic that during the Foundation's 27-year history, Olle is the fourth-generation donor from the same family!



A warm thank you to Olle and to all others who have supported the Foundation. Greetings from SB Foundation and us on the Board, *Arne, Elisabeth, Gloria, Ivar, Lena, Roger*

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