



## Scandinavian Easter Workshop for Young Families Strengthening Bonds between 2nd gen Families

Kloten, Sweden, April 18 - 22, 2019

*By Steinar Murud*

For Easter weekend, a Scandinavian level family gathering was held in Kloten, Sweden. Young families from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden came together for a long weekend to connect as a community, strengthen family bonds, and enjoy God's Creation together. The days were focused on activities for the children such as baking, crafts, outside games, and walks through the forest. The children ranged from 1.5 to 9 years old so the program was very loose and flexible to accommodate the wide age range.

After the children went to bed, the parents had the opportunity to connect with each other, share their stories, receive support, and relax in each other's company. On one of the nights, we rented a hot tub and traditional Swedish sauna located next to a beautiful lake for the parents to relax in. It was an incredibly revitalizing experience.

For Easter Service, Marea Toresen, gave a children's sermon where she connected the love of God, Jesus, and True Parents to us and introduced the concept of the 5 love languages to help us in our mission as mini messiahs to

love our family and friends. Service ended with a spectacular egg hunt with personalized candy filled eggs for each child. Afterwards, we had a delicious traditional Swedish Easter lunch buffet. The gathering lasted from Thursday evening to Monday morning. It was a wonderful experience for the whole family. The children had lots of fun and many parents commented that it was incredibly relaxing for them. Many thanks to Lilly and David Freeland and Marea and David Toresen for organizing. 11 families (40 people) attended.