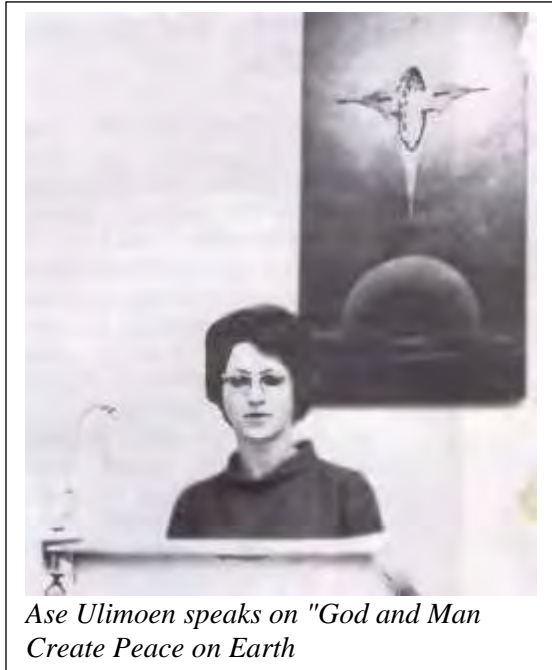


Magazine Story Brings the Unified Family Much Publicity in Iceland

Ase Ulimoen [Pfaender]

October 4, 1973



Through a friend, "The Unified Family" was presented on a whole page in the biggest and nearly the only illustrated Icelandic magazine.

According to national leader Ase Ulimoen, it drew quite a good response.

Around the time when the article came out (October 4), they also placed announcements in one of the most-read newspapers, and received telephone calls and letters from people who wanted more information.

Shortly after all that public relations, the members had the opportunity to borrow the meeting-hall in the house of the Theosophists. Their first official lecture on the Divine Principle was held there on October 18. Both people who knew them from before and some new and very interested people attended. The Unified Family keeps good contact with some of them.

A young man from Switzerland who is going to school in Bris 111, England is living in the Bristol center and working with them. He heard the Principle in Iceland as a tourist just before going back to England.

"We find the spiritual climate here very special," Ase continued. "Nearly all Icelanders are more or less occupied with spiritual questions.

But parallel with this enormous spiritual activity there has long been a political storm around Iceland, mainly because of the struggle in the government between the Communists and the more moderate parties. There are two main problems.

One is the so-called "cold war" against England and the other regards the NATO base here. Iceland has no defense forces or army, and the Communists want to get rid of the base. They also dislike the American 'community' near the Keflavik airport."

These two problems have dominated the newspapers, radio, and television the last few months to such a degree that all the nation has been very upset. The few really active Communists at the university give out their newspapers, one of them called "the Class Struggle." A few days ago one boy was selling newspapers on the street next to another one with a big red flag.

Emotions are strong in Iceland, but the Unified Family hopes and prays that God's influence and love will be much more powerful.

The magazine story:

The Goal of the Unified Family Is a World of Love and Peace (*Vikan* weekly magazine, October 4, 1973)



Anne Brit Kommedal

...In our country there are two Norwegian girls, Ase Ulimoen and Anne Brit Kommedal, who want to inform the Icelanders about their movement. I visited Ase and Anne Brit and asked them about the Unified Family and its work. They say that the main purpose of the movement is to search truth and answer those questions which all religions have left unanswered. The Unified Family thinks that we can fulfill that purpose best through science and through studying mankind's history.

"If the earth shall maintain its existence, mankind must change its attitude to it completely, because if we continue like this, the earth is uninhabitable after half a century.

The reason why the world is like it is today is that man has not done the good deeds he wanted to do.

There is a fight between good and evil, and it is necessary to take away the root of evil. Therefore, we have to know its reasons and origin.

Knowledge is the first condition for a good result. Scientists have come very far in their research on the physical level, and therefore man never had better possibilities to do away with the origin of evil as just now. But man's acts are very much influenced by his spiritual activities, and scientists are also concentrating more and more on the spiritual area. If the scientists succeed in finding the spiritual laws under which we live, it will be much easier to live in harmony with them."

Ase and Anne Brit stressed that the most important thing is that every individual betters his inner self and unifies his personality, which is not often in harmony today.

The members of the movement think that is more important than that the movement become a mass movement, because the movement claims a wide scope and has a high goal.... The goal of the Unified Family is to work for a world of Truth, Peace and Joy with God and His love at the center.