

# CONNECTIONS

Newsletter May/June 2014



## Mark Your CALENDAR

**MAY 16**

North Park Gospel Choir

**MAY 18**

Reel Faith

**JUNE 25**

Reel Faith & Gourmet Hot Dogs

**JUNE 29**

Picnic in the Park

**JUNE 30 - JULY 5**

Summer Camp

**JULY 9**

Barbecue Break Out

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals including the Lord's Supper, and to prayer.

- Acts 2:42



**IMMANUEL CHURCH**  
EGUMENIAKYRKAN IN STOCKHOLM

[www.immanuel.se](http://www.immanuel.se)  
Kungstensgatan 17, Stockholm

# From the Pastors

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we near the summer season, once again we're given the opportunity to take stock of our lives and to examine the ways our God is seeking to renew and transform our lives. Throughout the first part of the summer we will be taking a look at the ways God is seeking to give us a new voice, along with new eyes, ears, hands, and wills that can be used to serve His purposes in our world.

Churches and individual Christians dedicated to pursuing the plans and purposes of God truly find their lives transformed by the experience. As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 5:17, ***“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”*** As God's people living in Stockholm, let's together seek to grow into our new identity in Christ.

Recently, Pastor Doug returned from Luwero, Uganda. We have been working with the Church of Uganda since 1991, first with the building of a primary school in Bukalabi. Then, with the construction of an Agricultural Center, also located in Bukalabi. The ministry of the school is outstanding given the limited resources available to teachers. Yet, they use what they have to provide 370 children the best possible education they can offer. The school for many years now has been ranked #1 in its region for national test scores. The teachers are motivated and the PTA is very active. It's a huge blessing



to see the love the kids have for their school, and to realize we've had the opportunity to play a significant role in helping kids to grow in their life and faith in Uganda.



The infrastructure of the Bukalabi School is now 22 years old. This means some things are wearing out. For example- the roofs of the buildings. They are old and rusting out. Not a problem on a sunny day, but surely a problem throughout the rainy season. For this reason, we will be kicking off a **“RAISE THE ROOF”** campaign this summer to provide new roofs for the Bukalabi School.

The Bukalabi Agricultural Center has now been restarted after 3 years of trying to settle a land dispute. The 15 acres of property now officially belongs to the Church of Uganda. They are currently in the process of replanting, and restoring the center to its former glory. Once completed the center will serve as “a model farm” for local farmers and students to learn new organic farming techniques. It will also serve to improve the skills of farmers who are raising chickens, cows, pigs, and goats.



All of this is to say, that when Churches and individual Christians experience the transformed life in Christ, they find themselves dedicated to being a means of transformation for the sake of others. Our work with Bukalabi, Uganda and Panvel, India are two indicators of this truth. May we continue to grow in our love for God throughout this summer season, that His love may continue to spill over into the lives of others.

If you are with us throughout the summer, please join us for all the activities you will find in this issue of Connections. If you are traveling this summer, know that you go with our love and prayers.

Coming, or going- have a God-blessed summer!

***Your partners in the Gospel,  
Pastors Doug and Jodi***

# Preaching Schedule

May/June 2014

**MAY 18** A Special Message from Phil Yoder  
(Pastors Doug and Jodi at the  
International Pastors Conference)



## The Transformed Life: Letting Christ Transform You from the Inside Out!

Looking for guidance? Wanting to grow closer to God? This next preaching series is intended to help you connect with a God who wants to have a transforming influence on your life. Join us each Sunday at 11am and find yourself challenged, encouraged, and equipped to live life from the inside out.

**MAY 25** **A New Heart!**  
Ezekiel 11:17-21; 36:24-28  
Sermon: Pastor Doug

**JUNE 1** **A New Mind!**  
Romans 12:1-3  
Sermon: Pastor Jodi  
Communion

**JUNE 8** Pentecost Sunday  
**A New Community**  
Act 2:43-47  
Sermon: Pastor Tobias Frelin

**JUNE 15** **A New Voice!**  
James 3:3-12  
Sermon: Pastor Doug

**JUNE 22** **New Hands!**  
Proverbs 6:16-17; Ecclesiastes 10:18;  
Matthew 8:1-4; Luke 18:15-17  
Sermon: Pastor Doug

**JUNE 29** **New Ears!**  
2 Timothy 4:1-5  
Sermon: Pastor Jodi

**JULY 6** **Special Worship Event!**  
The Oakdale Gospel Choir from Chicago, IL  
Sermon: Pastor Darrell Griffin.

## Oakdale Choir Event - July 6<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, 6 July, the combined adult and children's choirs from Oakdale Covenant Church in Chicago, Illinois will be leading us in our worship service. Oakdale is a vibrant African American church on Chicago's south side. Their pastor, Rev. Darrell Griffin is a deeply gifted preacher and he will share in the sermon for this day.

We are excited to welcome this group to Sweden! This is going to be a day of great celebration so come early and plan to be blessed beyond measure!

**NOTE:** This worship service will take place in the sanctuary upstairs.

# The Executive Board of Immanuel International



**Name: Country of Origin**

**Yasin Farhat**, Chairman, Pakistan

**Jen Hofmann**, Secretary, United States

**Fred Sempaya** Uganda

**Steven Downey** United States

**Jacob Chikuhwa** Zimbabwe

**Barbro Lindström** Sweden

**Esther Nyiramugisha** Rwanda

**Degol Kidane** Eritrea

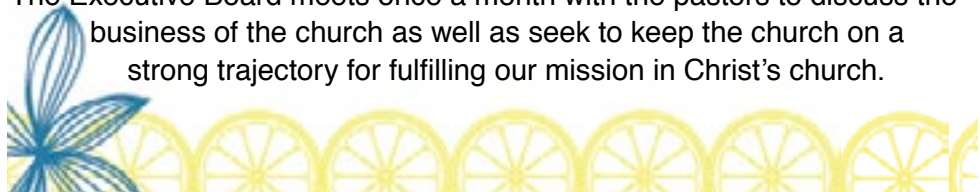
**Sahle Mehari** Eritrea

**Victoria Håkansson** Philippines

**Axel Juhre** Germany

**Sujata Lalitkumar** India

These members are serving on behalf of the congregation. Please feel free to approach them with topics or issues that you would like to discuss. The Executive Board meets once a month with the pastors to discuss the business of the church as well as seek to keep the church on a strong trajectory for fulfilling our mission in Christ's church.



# New Youth Ministry Leaders



*Welcome Ben and Anita Tatlow as our new youth ministry leaders. We are excited to announce that Ben and Anita have agreed to join our leadership team at Immanuel International! They will be giving leadership to our youth ministry program and we could not be more thrilled for this development.*

Having been based in London for the past five years, Ben working in marketing & Anita as a Primary School teacher, they decided last summer to step out and pursue a variety of Christian ministries more intentionally.

They both have a history with Immanuel, coming and going over the past several years. Ben interned here for a couple of summers five years ago. Perhaps you remember his portrayal of Dusty Roads in our Wacky Wonderful Wednesday program! Since arriving a few months ago, they have already been involved in various youth activities as well as the music in the church. They will coordinate the activities for both Club 24 and Digging Deeper as well as give leadership to the summer camp for youth.

Another aspect of their lives as musicians, is writing Christian music under the name 'Salt of the Sound'.

They and we are really excited for them to come onboard and help coordinate the youth ministry at Immanuel International during this time of transition. Please give them a warm welcome as they begin their ministry with us.

## Teaching about Salt and Light

*You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

- Matthew 5:13-16

# Children's Ministry



## Little Lives in Bloom

We always look forward to this time of year as it often brings with it many signs of new growth. God not only continues to make His presence known to us in nature, but has been ever present in our Children's program as well. We have experienced new growth in many ways. The children are growing in stature and faith, and our numbers seem to be exploding with the same intensity of the buds on the trees and flowers in bloom. We are excited to be a part of this wonderful ministry where God works through both our teachers and children, as we grow in faith together.

Our younger children will start out the new term learning about the different aspects of prayer. The children will hear the story of Paul and Silas praying in prison, and the story of Peter's friends praying while Peter was in jail. Kids will learn that we can pray to Jesus anywhere and anytime. The children will learn through hearing the stories of Noah and Jonah that God wants us to obey.



The boys and girls will learn that they can follow Jesus. They will hear stories about Jesus, including Matthew throwing a party for Jesus, Jesus healing a paralytic when the man's friends let him down through the roof, Jesus multiplying a little boy's lunch, and Jesus spending time with His disciples.

To start the new term, our older children will be spending the months of May and June focusing on what it means to live a fruitful life. They will learn about perseverance, and how some things in life take time and extra effort, but how Jesus gives us all the help we need. They will also gain a better understanding of what it means to be zealous for the Lord. ***"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."*** Colossians 3:23. The boys and girls will hear how important it is to have the right priorities in life. They will learn that it is important to give Jesus special priority every day in our life. ***"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."*** Matthew 6:33

The children will also learn that God has given them special gifts and talents, and that they should use these gifts to help build up the body of Christ. We will spend a lesson learning what it means to store up treasures in Heaven, where they will last forever, instead of on earth where they will disappear. The boys and girls will hear how important it is to count your blessings. They will be able to recognize and give thanks for the many blessings they have in Christ Jesus.



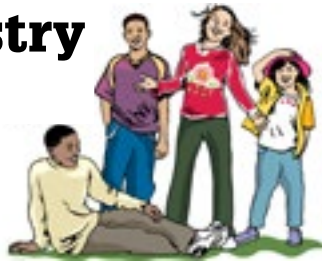
## SPECIAL NOTE:



**At present, we average 80 children between the ages of 2-11 every Sunday. This is something that we are extremely thankful for. Along with those numbers, comes the need for more and more adults/teens who are willing to step in and give of their time in order to best serve our children.**

**We are also blessed with a team of 25 teachers and helpers who serve in ministering to our children each and every week. As summer draws near, we look for an opportunity to give our regular teachers and helpers a well deserved summer break. If you feel as though you are able to step in and fill this need, please contact Geri at: [geri.lindberg@immanelskyrkan.se](mailto:geri.lindberg@immanelskyrkan.se)**

# Youth Ministry



## FAITH BUILDERS and CLUB 24 for ages 12-14

**Faith Builders:** each Sunday during the 11.00 worship service, Faith Builders Sunday School gathers in the youth room to dig into God's Word, share from our lives and have fun! Youth in this group are invited to stay in the service until we finish the praise and worship time. At this time, they are invited to leave the service through the main exit and make their way to the youth room which is located directly behind our sanctuary. Class will finish no later than 12.30.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Final Faith Builders before the summer will be 15<sup>th</sup> June.

**Club 24:** This is a place where our young teenagers can enjoy fun times together while building their relationships with God and others. We usually meet twice a month, but with summer soon here, we will meet up at various times throughout the summer.

## DIGGING DEEPER for ages 15-19

**MAY 16:** North Park Gospel Choir dinner & concert. Come at 17.00 to help with the meal. The concert is at 19.00. (Club 24 youth are welcome as well.)

**MAY 23:** Digging Deeper School Year Finale! 18.00.



### Message for all youth

We'd love to keep you up to date with information about camp meetings and with all the activities we have planned over the summer and into the autumn term. If you don't currently receive the SMS updates, please give Anita or Ben your mobile phone number and you'll be added to the list.

Also, we have a private Immanuel Youth Facebook group with all the information about upcoming events. Speak to Ben or Anita to get added to this!

## Summer schedule - youth specific activities

There will be an exciting programme of activities for the youth over the summer months, both alongside the whole-church events (see pages 22-23) and as special youth events.

**JUNE 30 - JULY 5:** Summer Camp for teens 12-18 at Holsbybrunn (deadline for registration: May 25<sup>th</sup>)

**WEDNESDAY, 9 JULY:** Youth Event at the International Barbecue

**WEDNESDAY, 23 JULY:** Youth Event at the International Barbecue

**FRIDAY, 1 AUGUST:** Swimming, Tubing, Chilling

**WEDNESDAY, 6 AUGUST:** Youth Event at the International Barbecue

If you have any questions about the youth programmes or events, please speak with either Ben Tatlow or Anita Tatlow.

## SUMMER CAMP - at Holsby Brunn, Sweden

Summer Camp is happening **30 June - 5 July**. We welcome all youth ages 12-18 to sign up. This truly is a great highlight of the year for our youth ministry and we hope that your family can save these dates. **COST** is 1,900 kr and 3,100 kr for two children in a family. **DEADLINE** is Sunday, 25 May! See Ben or Anita Tatlow for information and registrations. Financial assistance is also available so please don't miss out because of costs. Speak with any of the pastors regarding the help that is available.



## SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING FOR CAMP



**There will be a special mission offering for camp on Sunday, 25 May!** We will receive a special offering to help with camp expenses. We need support to help students attend as well as to pay for our leaders. Please give to this great ministry! If you would rather give to camp via the internet, please speak with Ben or Anita.



## Music



Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

- Ephesians 5:19

### International Jubilee Choir:

All are welcome to sing in the Immanuel International Jubilee Choir. We gather on Mondays **May 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>** at 18:30 in Kapellet, (the small chapel just inside the main entrance). We

start out with some vocal practices, continue with recent songs and have a pause where we have some fika and prayer time. Once awhile we will participate in the worship service of Immanuel International. If you enjoy singing and are looking for a place to share musical experiences with other people, come join the choir! **May 26<sup>th</sup>** is the last gathering before the summer.



### International Worship Music Team:



The Immanuel International Worship Music Team gathers every Wednesday from 18:30 - 21:00. We start off first at 18:30 in the Church square for a light snack or bring your

own food. At 19:00, we will gather in the Choir room on level K1 and prepare music for the upcoming Sunday. We will also take time to catch up with each other and pray together. If you have experience with church music or if you are comfortable with singing or playing an instrument you are most welcome to contact our Music Director Jacob Molander. **June 18<sup>th</sup> is the last gathering before the summer.**

**For questions and further information,** please contact Jacob Molander: 072-318 36 79 / 08-587 503 00 // [jacob.molander@immanuelskyrkan.se](mailto:jacob.molander@immanuelskyrkan.se)

# Weekly Events

Wondering where you can plug into a smaller group for fellowship and learning? Take a look at these groups that are meeting regularly and find the place where you belong! These groups take a summer break. The dates are listed. Check the August Connections for when the group will resume.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

These groups are open to all women who would like to join. You can drop in anytime. All women are welcome and bring your friends!

**Tuesday Mornings - Tuesday, 20 May** is the **LAST** gathering. **10.00** in the Youth room on K1. We gather at 09.45 for coffee and tea, and start the study at 10.00.  
**Contact Geri Lindberg:** geri.lindberg@immanuelskyrkan.se

## MOMS IN PRAYER

We are a group of moms who meet for one hour every week to intercede on behalf of our children and schools through prayer.

**Tuesday Afternoons - Tuesday, 20 May** is the **LAST** gathering. **12.30** in the Youth room on K1  
**Contacts:** Susan Fries: susanfries@yahoo.com and Erin Person: erin.person@gmail.com

## YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY

This group is geared for students and young professionals in their 20's & 30's

**Tuesday Evenings - Tuesday, 24 June** is the **LAST** gathering. **18.00** in the Youth room on K1  
**Contact Jacques Lombard:** jacques.lombard@se.pwc.com

## EVENING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Tuesdays May 13, 27 and June 10.**

**Tuesday, 10 June** is the **LAST** gathering. 18.30 in the home of Pastor Jodi on Tegnergatan 4.  
**Contact Jodi Fondell:** jodi.fondell@immanuelskyrkan.se

## MEN'S MINISTRY

The Men's Ministry meets every other Tuesday at Pastor Doug's house (one block away from church) on Tegnergatan 4. We meet from 18.30 to 20.00, beginning with a short fika (coffee, tea, and a snack). Then, we focus in on a Bible based discussion that pertains to our lives as men. All men are welcome to join.

**18.30 - 20.00**

May 20<sup>th</sup> is the **LAST** gathering.

**Contact Pastor Doug:** doug.fondell@immanuelskyrkan.se

## MUSIC

### Worship Music Team

This group meets **every Wednesday at 18:30-21.00**. We will work through the music for Sunday service, practice new music, share in prayer and a time of encouragement. **WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE** is the **LAST** gathering for the summer.

### Immanuel International Jubilee Choir

All are welcome to sing in the Immanuel International Jubilee Choir. We'll gather for rehearsal on Mondays - May 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 18.30 in Kapellet, (the small chapel just inside the main entrance). We will work through different songs, new and old, and have a joyful time together. All are welcome!  
**MONDAY, 26 MAY** is the **LAST** gathering for the summer.  
**Contact Jacob Molander:** jacob.molander@immanuelskyrkan.se

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP THROUGH EXERCISE

Any woman can attend who is interested in fellowship through exercise. You do not have to be well trained. All women are welcome to join this gathering.

**Friday Evenings - Friday, 13 June** is the **LAST** gathering for the summer. **18.00** in the small gym on K3  
**Contact Hannah Akuffo:** hannah.akuffo@sida.se



# NORTH PARK GOSPEL CONCERT

May 16 | 19.00 | Immanuel Church



The North Park University Gospel Choir will be giving a concert at Immanuel Church on Friday, 16 May at 19.00. The concert is free of charge but a free-will offering will be taken for the group to help with their expenses.

This is going to be a wonderful night of praise and worship. You won't want to miss hearing this talented group of young people share their gifts with our church! The concert will take place in the main sanctuary upstairs.

As part of our hospitality, we have agreed to host a dinner for the group (about 50 people) prior to the concert. If you would like to be involved in helping with the dinner, (cook, serve, clean up) please contact Anita Tatlow.

This event is also the Digging Deeper and Club 24 event for that week. We encourage all youth to come and help with the dinner and stay for the concert afterward. Arrive at 17.00. The dinner will be held in the Café on level K1.

## Jesus Manifestation

Stockholm 17 May 2014



For those interested, the Jesus Manifestation in Stockholm will take place this spring on Saturday, May 17. The Jesus Manifestation is a city-wide event focused on Jesus and seeks to bring out the essence of the Christian faith. The whole day is a form of worship in many different forms of expression.

### Jesus Manifestation Highlights

- 09.00 – 10.00:** Prayer and Praise at Klara kyrka.
- 13.00 – 14.30:** Prayer walk through Stockholm. This will start in an organized form with a gathering to the left of the large stage in Kungstädgården.
- 14.50 – 17.00:** The main Worship Event will take place in Kungstädgården.

For more information please visit their website (in Swedish):  
<http://www.jesusmanifestationen.se/>





**“Reel” Faith is a Sunday afternoon of exploring meaningful theological themes revealed in film.**

In May, we invite those interested to view *Man of Steel* on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 13.30. The film is rated PG-13 (for ages 13 years old and above). *Man of Steel* is based on the DC Comics character Superman. The film is a reboot of the Superman film series that portrays the character’s origin story, including his moral struggles about saving a world that is not his own. A discussion for adults and teens will follow.



## Staff Vacations

We are grateful for the opportunity that you give us to find our rest in vacation. We appreciate your graciousness in allowing us these extended periods of absence from work as we seek to re-charge in order to remain vibrant in our work and ministries. It is our intention that the ministry continue even in our absence and we are grateful for the way in which you, our congregation, step up to share in making this happen.

- Doug Fondell: 2 June-14 June
- Jodi Fondell: 2 June-28 June
- Stephanie von Ohain: 9 June - 4 July
- Jacob Molander: 23-29 June; 14 July - 17 August
- Geri Lindberg: 6 July - 15 August
- Ben and Anita Tatlow: 7 July - 17 July

# The Barbecue Break Out!



Wednesdays July 9<sup>th</sup>, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup>  
From 17.30 - 20.00  
Immanuel International

Plan to bring something to put on the grill for you, your family, and your friends. In addition, think about bringing a simple side dish to share with others. (*Salad, chips, or a simple dessert*) Our grillmasters will exercise their expertise to cook your food to order. After our grill party, we will have a fun, but meaningful “break out” learning experience. **See pages 22-23 for more information.**



## SUMMER PICNICS IN THE PARK

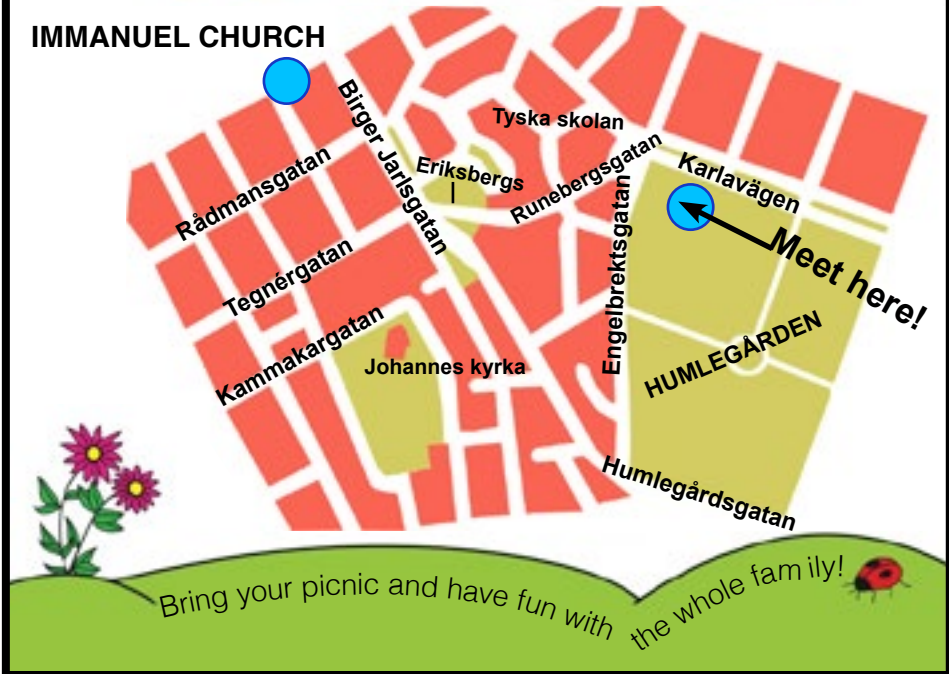


### Sundays after church

29 JUNE  
13 JULY  
27 JULY  
10 AUGUST

Join on these Sundays after church for a picnic in the park. Bring your own lunch, grab a blanket and wander over to Humlegården for a nice afternoon together. We gather in front of the playground that is alongside of Karlavägen. **See pages 22-23 for more details.**

### IMMANUEL CHURCH



Bring your picnic and have fun with the whole family!

# Summer Fun at Immanuel

Our regularly scheduled weekly Bible studies and fellowship events take a summer holiday but our church life goes on. When you are in town, plan to join the fun on these Wednesdays and Sundays as we seek to build up our relationship with God and others. More specific information about the films that will shown on the Reel Faith nights will be available in the Sunday program. The Break Out learning time will be a dynamic time of video, teaching, and small group interaction as we seek to deepen our understanding of the Christian journey. Mark these dates and plan to join us for a great time together as we enjoy the summer months together!



## Wonderful Wednesdays: All events start at 17.30

- JUNE 25** Summer Reel Faith and Gourmet Hot Dog Night: Cost 20kr.
- JULY 9** International Barbeque and Break Out Learning: Faith is a Quest. No cost. Bring your own meat to grill and a dish to share with others.
- JULY 16** Summer Reel Faith and Gourmet Hot Dog Night: Cost 20kr.

- JULY 23** International Barbeque and Break Out Learning: Spirituality is Not Enough. No cost. Bring your own meat to grill and a dish to share with others.
- JULY 30** Summer Reel Faith and Gourmet Hot Dog Night: Cost 20kr.
- AUGUST 6** International Barbeque and Break Out Learning: The Revolution of Love. No cost. Bring your own meat to grill and a dish to share with others.

## Sunday Summer Picnics in Humlegården

- JUNE 29** Bring your own picnic PLUS International Fellowship Kubb Tourney!
- JULY 13** Bring your own picnic PLUS The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Immanuel Cup Football Tourney!
- JULY 27** Bring your own picnic PLUS Cricket for Beginners!
- AUGUST 10** Bring your own picnic PLUS Wacky Back to School Relays!



## Special Events

- JUNE 30-JULY 5** Summer Camp for Teens at Holsbybrunn
- JULY 6** The Oakdale Covenant Church Choir in Worship

