

The Grotkes

Daniel, Holly, Susanna, Ethan, Molly, Gabriel & Else



Norway

March- April 2026

Dear Saints,

These two months marked two anniversaries for us- 7 years for my family in Norway, and 25 years of marriage for Holly and I. Achieving both has been well worth the effort. I will say that I have a tendency to plan a little, then dive into things headfirst with hopes all will be well. Unrealistic zeal and so called “faith” can get one into lots of jams while “hoping for the best and expecting the worst!” Applying “a prudent man forseeth evil and hideth himself” is the wise modus operende of anyone who wants to be successful in life! Thank God we can learn from mistakes, repent, and find the learning/tools to tackle the relationships, ministries, and jobs of life in a more predictable and less haphazard manner! Suffice it to say that no matter the job, finding out you’ve been making do with lousy tools (or none at all) can be frustrating and exasperating. Life can become hope filled and exciting when correct tools and methods are prayerfully applied.

I know we have briefly explained our tax situation in a previous letter, but a little more explanation will clarify our current situation. As you gathered from our last letter, we are taking a Sabbatical from hosting services for a few months. This is to address two simultaneous realities: exhaustion from 7 years ministry alone here, and the financial hole we are digging out of. The summary is that the year we learned we had to report our US income to the tax department in Norway, not only did I have to borrow to pay that amount, I had also not been saving back taxes for the current year. So we have been playing “catch up” every year, in addition to paying off the initial loan. We just finished paying for 2024 taxes, received the amount owed for 2025 in July, and should be saving for ‘26! I have been working and slowly gaining traction with this issue. The Lord has blessed with an exceptional number of good jobs through this summer and fall that I pray will bring us somewhat back on course. So, I am working long weeks for the most part right now. I get to meet new people each week in my trade and am also able to continue getting Norwegian John and Romans into the neighborhoods where we have moved.

We have wonderful news of healing in the lives of one couple who have been with us for 5 years. The wife has struggled with chronic fatigue for many years. We praise the Lord that she has been recovering and gaining strength for over a year now. At long last, God has answered their hopes and prayers that she could have a baby, and they are thrilled! She is due with their boy in September.

Please keep them in prayer, as they are also selling their house and moving this summer. Holly and I were able to get away for two weeks to celebrate our 25th anniversary. It was the first vacation for us in 3 years. We thoroughly enjoyed the time to relax, do some sightseeing and catch up on fellowship over some great food. The kids are all healthy and doing well in their respective responsibilities with school, college, and work. Molly graduates from high school this spring, and we are proud of her dedication and diligence.

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Thank you all for your understanding through this chapter in our lives. We believe we are here in Norway long-term and that we can come back into better ministering this fall and winter. God is faithful and in that, He instituted times and seasons. Thank you for praying and supporting us here.

In Christ Jesus,

Brother Daniel and Family

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