

# DENMARK



JIM DUFFECY

The first visit by OAC to Denmark was around 1951. Jim Duffecy conducted a six-month tour of Europe, which included a visit to Denmark. He worked with the Danish “Youth for Christ” director, Mogens Larsen. The next visits by OAC staff were in 1987, and in 1989, when David Fanstone (UK) and Benjamin Van den Akker (Belgium) did a seminar of gospel illustration and sketchboard in Denmark. Torben Ostermark (the present-day director of Denmark) attended the seminar at Borkop and became excited about what he saw. After talking with David Fanstone, he was invited to join the “Love Europe” congress in Belgium

in 1990, and later join David in London for some training. While in London, Torben met fellow Danes Sigrid and Jorgen Johansen. Together, they trained with David and did open-air meetings in London. David suggested that perhaps this team of Danes could start an OAC work in Denmark. The suggestion was met with skepticism, but the seed was planted and eventually came to fruition.



TORBEN OSTERMARK USING GOSPEL MAGIC AND PREACHING AT AN EVANGELISTIC MEETING IN A CHURCH

When Jorgen Johansen finished his studies in the UK, he went back home to Denmark and held a secular job but at the same time looked for opportunities to start an OAC work in his country. He started full time with OAC in 1994, and the first board meeting for OAC Denmark was held in that year. Torben Ostermark came on staff, as well, in 1995, and he became the National director when Jorgen stepped out of the work in 2000. Denmark served as a



DANIEL MIKKELSEN PREACHING AT THE SKETCHBOARD IN OSLO, NORWAY



TORBEN TELLING A BIBLE STORY AT AN OUTREACH AT NORREBRO IN COPENHAGEN

“springboard” for Hartvig and Kirsten Kloster, who served on Danish staff and then moved on to Norway to establish an OAC branch there in 2005, where Torben has been many times to assist. Lars



TORBEN PREACHING AT A CHURCH SERVICE AT THE GOSPEL IN JESPERHUS FESTIVAL

Kristensen came on staff in 2001 and continued until 2013. Two other men (Ole Christensen and Poul Nielsen) also came on staff, working part-time in Denmark and in Latvia. Daniel Mikkelsen came on staff as a part-time evangelist in 2015. Torben is looking to the future and has great hopes for OAC Denmark. The ministry has been reaching a greater number of Muslim immigrants for Christ than Danes. In most of Europe, the immigrant communities are a prime target for evangelism, as the local population would be what is referred to as “post Christian.” There is always the hope for revival among the European population as God does His work. As Torben puts it, “We are looking forward to what God will do in the future.”



TORBEN MAKING BALLOON ANIMALS AT A CHILDREN'S OUTREACH