

Chapter 27

Norway



Located in the northern part of Europe, Norway is noted for its natural phenomena, particularly the midnight sun and northern lights. In fact, from mid-April through late August, the sun is visible 24 hours a day in the northernmost regions! It is a land of mountains, glaciers, and deep coastal fjords. Oslo, the capital, is a city of green spaces and museums. Preserved ninth century Viking ships are displayed at Oslo's Viking Ship Museum. Bergen, with colorful wooden houses, is the starting point for cruises to the dramatic Sognefjord. Norway is also known for fishing, hiking, and skiing, notably at Lillehammer's Olympic resort.

The conversion of Norway to Christianity started around 1000 AD and was a result of contact with Christian Europe through a combination of trade ties and Viking raids. As of this writing, Norway has a population of almost 5.5 million, the majority claiming membership in the state church (Lutheran). Religious expression, in general, is largely private. Only about five percent attend church or other Christian gatherings on a regular basis. Muslims make up around five percent of the population located in Norway, primarily refugees from Africa and the Middle East. Most of the population lives in the southern



HARTVIG KLOSTER PRESENTING THE GOSPEL AT EGERTORGET, OSLO



REACH OUT POLAND 2024 MISSION TRIP



THE REDEEMER DRAMA AT NATHIONALTHEATERET, OSLO



*HARTVIG KLOSTER SHARING THE GOSPEL
WITH YOUNG BOYS IN ASKIM*



*STEFANIE SALMELID IN CONVERSATION
WITH TWO YOUTHS IN POLAND*



*DAVE GLOVER PRESENTING THE GOSPEL
AT GROENLAND, OSLO DURING
REACH THE CITY OSLO*



*OPEN AIR AT GROENLAND, OSLO,
DURING REACH THE CITY OSLO*

part of the country, with the OAC ministry centered in Askim, near Oslo.

David Fanstone, from OAC England, visited Norway back in the '80s. In 1996, Torben Ostermark, from OAC Denmark, started to visit Norway regularly with the vision of starting a branch in this country. In September 2005, God opened the door, and a branch of OAC was established in this country. Hartvig Kloster, from Denmark, was appointed as national director and continues to minister in this capacity. His wife, Kirsten, is also very involved in the ministry and does much of the administration to keep everything in good order. In 2025, the staff of OAC Norway include one full-time, two part-time, and four associate evangelists. In addition to the ministry within the boundaries of Norway, the work in this country has launched out to establish OAC in Poland. Several trips to Poland have taken place, and good contact has been established with a promising young evangelist (see the chapter on Poland for more details).

Many opportunities for ministry and outreach are taking place for our OAC Norway staff. Almost every week, street meetings are being held in Oslo where the gospel goes forth through the use of sketchboards and gospel object lessons. Regular street meetings take place in Askim, Oslo, Sandefjord, and several other locations. In the summer, they often have crowds of about 30 people listening in each meeting, and good conversations take place afterward. Also during the summer, our staff attend music festivals, often with teams invited by local churches to evangelize. Every July, a five-day campaign called Reach the City is arranged in Oslo. In the cold of winter, they go out two-by-two and talk with people at Oslo Central Station. God has also opened up opportunities in churches and Bible Schools to train and preach. In addition, inspiring videos for social media are being produced. To God be the glory as we serve Him in this part of the world.



TEAM MEMBERS - REACH THE CITY OSLO 2024



MAGNUS HUSØY IN CONVERSATION WITH MUSLIMS



KENNETH ROSENBLAD SINGING WITH KIDS AT A CAMPING SITE IN STAVERN



KIRSTEN & LYDIA KLOSTER SERVING WAFFLES IN ASKIM DURING DECEMBER



HARTVIG KLOSTER DOING A ROPE TRICK IN SANDEFJORD



GUNNAR SALMELID AT GROENLAND, OSLO



GUNNAR SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH TWO BOYS IN ASKIM



HARTVIG KLOSTER ON HIS WAY WITH THE EQUIPMENT TO AN OPEN-AIR MEETING



IT IS A BLESSING TO HAVE FAITHFUL TEAM MEMBERS OUT IN THE OPEN AIR