

THE SCANDINAVIA BRANCH OFFICE OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Holbæk
Denmark



WELCOME



Public witnessing in Copenhagen

“GO, THEREFORE, AND MAKE DISCIPLES”

MATTHEW 28:19

The **Scandinavia branch** supports the work of about **50,000 publishers** in Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

What Work Is Done at a Branch Office?

In some 240 lands, more than eight million Witnesses of Jehovah are preaching the good news of God’s Kingdom in response to the commission that Jesus gave his followers. (Matthew 24:14; 28:19, 20) To organize this work, there are some 85 branch offices worldwide, all serving under the direction of the Governing Body of Jehovah’s Witnesses, located in Warwick, New York, U.S.A.

Branch offices coordinate the Kingdom-preaching work and care for the needs of Jehovah’s Witnesses within a specific geographic area. The Governing Body appoints mature elders to serve as members of a Branch Committee. As representatives of the Governing Body in their assigned territory, Branch Committee members faithfully carry out the direction coming from God’s Word and “the faithful and discreet slave.”—Matthew 24:45-47.

OVERVIEW OF THE KINGDOM WORK IN SCANDINAVIA

- 1891—Charles T. Russell visits Denmark
- 1892—Knud Pederson Hammer preaches in Norway
- 1894—Sophus Winter preaches in Denmark
- 1898—August Lundborg preaches in Sweden
- 1929—Georg Lindal starts preaching in Iceland
- 1935—Astrid Halle and Elna Floor preach in the Faroe Islands
- 1955—Kristen Lauritsen and Arne Hjelm are sent to Greenland as special pioneers
- 2012—The Denmark, Norway, and Sweden branches are merged to form the Scandinavia branch

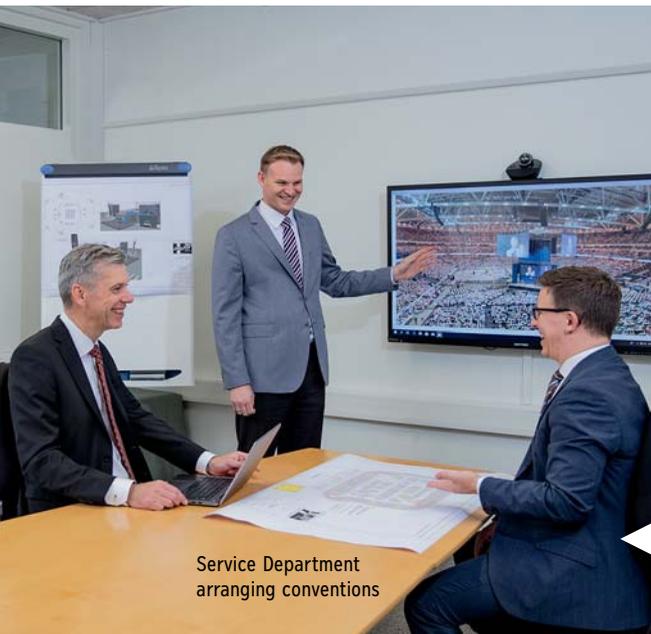


The Scandinavia Branch Committee warmly welcomes you

DIRECTING THE WORK

The branch office supervises the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses in the Scandinavia branch territory in various ways.

The **Service Department** cares for matters related to the preaching work and provides Scriptural guidance regarding congregation activities. It also arranges conventions, assemblies, and theocratic schools. In addition, the Service Department looks after the congregation territory boundaries and works closely with the Local Design/Construction Department to determine where Kingdom Halls and Assembly Halls are needed.



Service Department
arranging conventions

When medical emergencies arise, the branch office provides loving support and direction through the **Hospital Information Department**. This department helps Jehovah's Witnesses to obtain competent medical treatment without blood and strives to promote a spirit of cooperation between doctors and their Witness patients. The work of the elders serving on the Hospital Liaison Committees (HLC) has played a vital role in this effort.



Hospital Information Department



An Icelandic remote translation team

TRANSLATION

Words That Touch the Heart

Bible truths often reach the heart more quickly when people read or hear Bible-based literature in their mother tongue. Therefore, when the need arises for publications to be translated into additional languages, branch offices make their recommendation to the Governing Body.

The **Translation Department** translates into **six spoken languages** and **three sign languages**. Remote translation teams prepare materials and audio/video recordings for the preaching work, meeting and convention programs, our website, jw.org, and various school curriculums.

Remote Translation Offices

The Scandinavia branch oversees **six remote translation offices** (RTO) within its territory. The RTOs are located in countries and areas where the language being translated is spoken. This helps the translators to be immersed in their target language as they share in the preaching work, attend Christian meetings, and engage in daily activities.



A recording session



A sign-language recording session



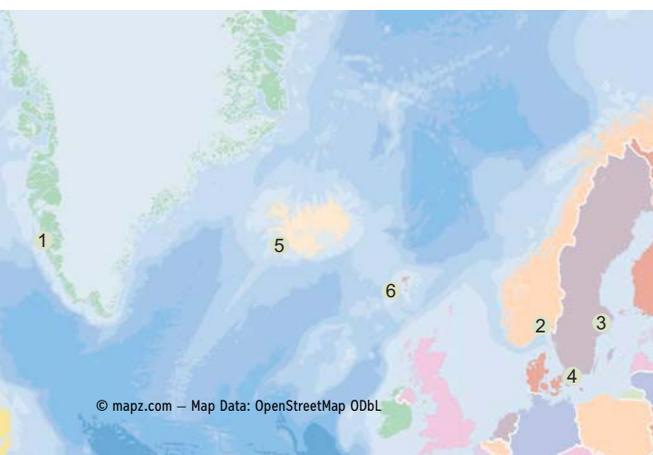
RTO Greenland



RTO Norway



RTO Solluntuna, Sweden



RTOs in the Scandinavia Branch Territory*

1. Nuuk, Greenland (Greenlandic)
2. Ytre Enebakk, Norway (Norwegian)
3. Sollentuna, Sweden (Swedish Sign Language)
4. Malmö, Sweden (Swedish)
5. Reykjavík, Iceland (Icelandic)
6. Tórshavn, Faroe Islands (Faroese)

* The Danish translation team is located at the branch in Holbæk, Denmark



RTO Malmö, Sweden



RTO Iceland



RTO Faroe Islands

FACILITIES LOCATED IN THE SCANDINAVIA BRANCH TERRITORY (AS OF 2019)

- 420 KINGDOM HALLS
- 4 ASSEMBLY HALLS
- 6 REMOTE TRANSLATION OFFICES
- 1 BIBLE SCHOOL FACILITY



CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Building Houses of Worship

The branch office is responsible for approving and overseeing the construction of Kingdom Halls and Assembly Halls and for ensuring that existing halls are being maintained properly. Construction is coordinated through the **Local Design/Construction Department (LDC)**. The LDC develops architectural plans and works with field representatives to schedule projects. Using volunteers to build and maintain facilities results in buildings that are economical, practical, and comfortable.

Using Donated Funds Wisely

In order to get the most value from existing facilities, the LDC arranges for Kingdom Halls to be inspected regularly. This helps to ensure that any safety or maintenance issues are handled promptly. The LDC also provides maintenance training for local congregation members.



BIBLE-BASED INSTRUCTION

Jehovah's Witnesses highly esteem the wisdom found in God's Word, the Bible. That is why they regularly study the Bible—at home, at Christian meetings, and at assemblies and conventions. They agree with the apostle Paul, who summed it up well when he said: "O the depth of God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How unsearchable his judgments are and beyond tracing out his ways are! For 'who has come to know Jehovah's mind, or who has become his adviser?'"—Romans 11:33, 34.



SUPPORT SERVICES

The Scandinavia branch office could not function without the many dedicated brothers and sisters who work in support services. Some members of the family serve in the kitchen and dining room, while others do laundry, hair care, cleaning, housekeeping, sewing, gardening, and driving. Still others maintain the heating, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, and computer systems. But no matter what assignment we receive, it is our pleasure to serve, for we do it out of love for Jehovah God and our brothers and sisters.

We sincerely hope that you have enjoyed your visit to the Scandinavia branch office.



Food Services



Housekeeping



Computer Department

Thank You for Visiting

No doubt it has helped you to become more acquainted with the work we are doing to support the preaching of the good news about God's Kingdom. May your visit encourage you to learn more about our loving Creator and put his Kingdom first in your life.—Matthew 6:33.

Planning a Visit?

Tours are available Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:00 p.m. Additional information is available online at:

JW.ORG > ABOUT US > OFFICES & TOURS



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Would you like to know more about the work at Bethel and how you can support it? See lessons 21 and 22 of the brochure *Who Are Doing Jehovah's Will Today?*

