



15 May 2026

Ahead of the visit from Sweden at the end of November, Rickard Jönsson, Director of Church of Sweden Abroad, responded to Vicar Katja Lin's email regarding what will be discussed and evaluated.

Rickard Jönsson writes:

The intention is that we will jointly develop a FACILITY PROGRAM in order to create a shared, well-considered and anchored understanding of the needs of the congregation's operations before any decisions are made regarding relocation or other measures. The facility program will therefore serve as a strategic foundation.

The basis of the facility program is an OPERATIONAL DESCRIPTION aimed at creating clarity around what the premises are intended to support:

- Overview of the congregation's activities (pastoral, diaconal, social, cultural).
- The scope of activities today and projections for the next 5–10 years.
- Number of employees, volunteers, and visitors.
- Description of services, activities, children's groups, opening hours, etc.
- Need for flexibility (changing activities, collaborations, seasonal variations).

The operations are then broken down into different functional areas in order to determine FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS and FACILITY NEEDS:

Church spaces

- Chapel/church space: capacity, acoustics, technology (streaming, sound), liturgical functions.
- Sacristy.
- Parish/community hall.

Meeting and office functions

- Offices (number of permanent workstations and flexible desks).
- Consultation rooms (e.g. diaconal care, pastoral care).
- Meeting rooms of varying sizes.
- Administrative areas (archives, printer room).

Social spaces

- Café.
- Children's and youth rooms.



Technical and support areas

- Kitchen/kitchenette (simple vs. commercial kitchen standard).
- Storage.
- Cleaning storage and technical spaces.

Each room is listed with:

- Function.
- Minimum area.
- Equipment requirements.
- Special qualities (sound, lighting, location).

LOCATION

- Distance to members and target groups.
- Accessibility by public transport.
- Location in relation to other Swedish/Nordic organisations.
- Visibility within the city (important for new members/travellers).
- Safety and security in the surrounding area.

ACCESSIBILITY

- Elevators, ramps, door widths, toilets.
- Ease of orientation and signage.
- Accessibility for prams and wheelchairs.
- Workplace environment requirements for staff.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Ventilation, cooling/heating.
- Sound insulation.
- IT and AV technology.
- Fire and safety requirements.