



Danmission's Understanding of Mission

Danmission's Understanding of Mission — and our role in it

God has a purpose with His creation. This is made known to us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ which is still preached today through the Holy Spirit. As a missionary organization, it is our task to meet the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed. We therefore base our work on the belief that there is hope, there is forgiveness, and there is life.

The Danish mission society is rooted in 200 years of history that inform our work and our understanding of mission. Danmission's current involvement relates to the motto "Fear not, believe only", coined by founder Bone Falck Rønne for the new missionary society in 1821. History also teaches us to take the words to heart and explain the task in hand with them in mind. Danmission is provided with the capacity to understand the changing times and necessities across the world and to adapt to them in accordance with our foundation and our task.

Danmission's purpose as established in our regulations is "to partake in the mission with preaching and service to all peoples on earth that Jesus Christ calls on his Church to carry out". This continues to be our purpose, and now as before this purpose is interpreted in the light of current theology. Strategies and individual country programmes give practical form to our purpose and understanding of mission.

The Trinity shows that we are created for community in alliance with nature and one another beyond borders and nationalities. In the Gospel of Jesus Christ we see how God acts and defines our mission in life, so that we too may partake in His work for the world. Injustice must be met by acts of love. It is our obligation in Danmission always to strive towards this goal.

There is hope

Belief in Jesus' resurrection from the dead opens the perspective for a future with shared life and joy between God and humankind. Jesus preached in word and deed the hope of the Kingdom of God, and through the Holy Spirit this message is made present and relevant in our times.

Hope contains a border-breaking force. Hope tears down what the past dictates in order to point to what we shall become. Hope empowers us to believe in change, and the Gospel shows us that there are always more options than those that meet the eye. We are therefore called never to despair, but to go out and create change.

Life is not just about avoiding suffering: It has a larger perspective that God opens up for us. The hope of joy in the Kingdom of God gives us the strength and courage to endure adversity, suffering, and death in the here and now. We who have been baptized are reborn to a living hope. Our task in Danmission is therefore to bring hope to the world in word and action and in collaboration with local churches and partners.

There is forgiveness

Forgiveness amongst mankind builds on God's unconditional love and forgiveness to us, such as we see it in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Forgiveness is the gift of love and may neither be demanded nor negotiated: It can only be given. Forgiveness opens up to community and a fair future, such as it is told in the Gospels of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Without forgiveness we are bound to the past with all its conflicts, disappointments and guilt. All over the globe, people need forgiveness and atonement: they need to reconcile with themselves, with one another and with God, to be set free. As humans, we may work with reconciliation so as to reach forgiveness. Forgiveness is a process through which we may meet and listen to each other, and thereby approach one another and obtain understanding, respect and trust. These are all required for us to share a communal future.

Our task in Danmission is to communicate the gospel of forgiveness. We must work for peace, justice and reconciliation wherever there is strife so that people do not get stuck in prejudice and limitations. We must help them turn around and look into the future together.

There is life

In God is life. We believe that God still creates and saves the world in time and space, and that He will continue and complete the Creation. Life is a gift, and God created mankind in His image. We as humans have been handed the responsibility to save life in its diversity and ensure sound relations between nature and human life. So while mankind is part of the Creation, we are also entrusted responsibility for it by the will of God.

The world is one, and we must create community amongst people and safeguard the natural conditions for life. Nature cannot keep up with the exploitation caused by human consumption, and this poses a threat to the sound balances between different people, and between mankind and nature. It has led to climate crisis, poverty, hunger, refugee streams, inequality, polarization and conflicts along ethnic and religious lines.

Our task as Danmission is to contribute to a world with life and coherence in a way that is respectful of the Creation and of each individual.

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