Do you consider coming to Sweden and work as a church musician? Here in Sweden, we are at the constant lookout for competent and educated church musicians who want to join forces with our local church musicians all over the country. In the years to come, some 700 vacancies will be made available. Here is your chance to join in!

Yet, there are a few things you must know before moving to Sweden and starting as a church musician.

- Looking for vacancies? You can find them at the website of the Swedish Church
 Musicians Association 'KMR', in the Newspaper of the Swedish Church 'Kyrkans
 <u>Tidning</u>', and of course on the website of the Swedish Church 'Svenska kyrkan'.
 When browsing these sites, you will find how many musician vacancies there are
 all over the country.
- The easiest way in is by starting as a freelancer, a so-called 'vikarie' (e.g. because a regular musician is on parental leave.)
- The Swedish Higher Education Agency 'Svenska Skolverket' can help you with validating and acknowledging your international education.
- Make sure your diplomas and certificates are translated in English, preferably also in Swedish. Need help? The Swedish Employment Agency 'Svenska Arbetsförmedlingen' offers free of charge help.
- Should you move to Sweden, make sure to get some basics of the Swedish language before you do so. Google around and you will discover many good online courses, some even free of charge.
- Need first-hand information on how it is to work as a foreign church musician in Sweden? Reach out to <u>Ulrike Heider</u> (a German organist with more than 25 years of experience), or to <u>Hans Davidsson</u> (Artistic Director of the Göteborg International Organ Festival and Music Director at Älvsborg Church in Göteborg). They will be more than happy to share their knowledge and experience.

Welcome and good luck. Or as we say in Swedish: Välkommen och lycka till!