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Dear Friends,

**TT – Travelling Together' (25)**

June 2011

We have had some busy days during the past month absolutely jam-packed! **THANK YOU so much for thinking of us!** The safe journey that Hans-Georg made with his two Romanian colleagues, Teo and Valentin, to Lutsk in the Volyn region of the Ukraine via Romania was certainly the **result of your prayers!** The visits to various churches, children's clubs and youth groups, orphanages and homes for drug addicts, old people's homes and a church planting project met with great interest on both sides. There were many serious conversations with pastors and church leaders. We were able to share freely about our missionary experiences: Teo talked about Niger in West Africa where he had worked and Hans-Georg about various other countries. **Many things are happening!** For our next visit in early December they are planning a missionary conference for pastors and the opportunity to teach at a theological training college! Trust has grown and we have made a lot of progress.

### News from the Eisenstadt FORUM

As we are away so much, we are all the more grateful to be working together with **Walter & Esther, John & Liesi and Andreas & Monika. Andriy & Angelika** have also been with us for a few months now. The last weekend in May we had a visit from the youth group from the Evangelical Church in Graz. They had meetings with our young people, took the FORUM meeting on the Sunday morning and helped to give out 5,000 invitations in Eisenstadt and the surrounding area for a **charity concert by the Bob Jones University Choir** from the USA who were our guests at the FORUM on 4<sup>th</sup> June. The Graz youth group even had breakfast with us... We're always amazed at just how many people can fit into our rather small living room! We suddenly found we had 16 hungry young people jostling round the two tables. **The place was heaving!** To cap it all, they were joined by two very surprised Hungarian workmen who had come to fit fly-screens to our windows. Being near Lake Neusiedl, we've had to have these put in place as we are plagued with more midges here in the summer than we ever did in Papua New Guinea! Last year we had an unbelievable invasion of mosquitoes in the middle of the night, and we just couldn't get rid of them! Also our **FORUM house group has started up again**, meeting fortnightly on a Thursday; the first meeting took place in Georg & Paula's basement room. It is moving to see the joy in the five to eight participants as they study God's Word and how much they love the singing – especially after a forced break of two months! **This is really something to GIVE THANKS for! 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June** we are having our **first FORUM family weekend away** in central Burgenland. **PLEASE PRAY** that our church planting team in Eisenstadt may grow together inwardly.

### 'Passed!'

THANK YOU to all of you who prayed for our Annika and an improvement in her school marks! In the meantime we've found out that she will **not have to re-sit any of her exams** before she can start the five-year course at the nursery teacher training college which finishes with a specialised qualification (equivalent to A-levels)

### Events in June...

**1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June:** we drove down south to **Croatia** with our dear Eisenstadt friend Renate and her daughter Conny (Annika's friend). We were visiting Josip & Sofija's church-planting project which is being supported by our Austrian association of churches. Josip originally came from Bosnia, found Jesus in Switzerland and a few years ago planted a small church in Umag, Istria. Missionary work in Croatia is difficult and you need a lot of staying power. For this reason they have been wishing for a long time to have **more full-time workers** to help them! **Would you pray for them?**

**Like to spend a holiday there close to the Adriatic Coast at a reasonable price, just let us know!**

**12<sup>th</sup> June:** We were attending the valedictory service for **Ursula** who was to be sent out by her church in Meidling (Vienna) for **short-term work in Spain.**

**25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June:** visit to Enns, the oldest town in Austria. Ladies' breakfast & an evangelistic evening on Papua New Guinea (with a special PNG-meal!) on Saturday and preaching at the Sunday service.

**PLEASE PRAY** that many will accept invitations and come along.

Our colleagues Rudi & Christine (Swiss) and Rachel (England) are there in the **'Oasis' church planting project.**

**28<sup>th</sup> June-2<sup>nd</sup> July:** our partner mission SIM has invited Hans-Georg to their European leaders' conference in Caderousse, France. It will be about discipleship and support for new missionary movements from an international perspective. It's possible that for the first time a representative will be there from the Ukraine!

**All these events are 'God willing'**

We have received a **dramatic call to prayer from friends in Algeria:** On 5<sup>th</sup> May an official order was made that all Christian meeting places that were not officially approved by the state would be shut down for good. Any contravention would have serious consequences and there would be harsh punishments. Nearly all the churches in Algeria are affected by this. It is estimated that there are about 100,000 Christians in this country. **PLEASE PRAY** that they will have wisdom in this new wave of persecution, that they will lose the spirit of fear and react to the authorities with a spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind (2 Tim 2:7)

Recently someone wrote this in a letter: **"Instead of telling the LORD how big the problem is, tell the problem how big the LORD is!"** Food for thought indeed!

With our warmest greetings from



Hans-Georg & Margret Hoprich with Annika & Manuel

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