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Dear Friends,

TT – Travelling Together’ (46)

April 2013

Easter 2013 is now behind us... The great thing is that the message of the resurrection is not restricted to special feast days. It supports and encourages us – not only on the ‘bright’ days, but also particularly in uncertain times: **“Because I live, you also will live!”** (John 14:19). **“Christ has indeed been raised from the dead!”** (1 Cor. 15:20). For this reason we can stay close to the Lord Jesus, follow HIM, listen to HIM, live with HIM, talk about HIM and not be ashamed! HE is worthy to be loved and praised, and made known!

First FORUM workers’ meeting

In the past month we have been systematically visiting all the FORUM leaders and workers at home. We wanted to get to know them all better, to find out how they see the fellowship and their involvement in it, to find out what their gifts are and how they can use them. All of those who expressed a wish to be actively involved – **twenty-four in all!** – are coming to **our first official FORUM workers’ meeting on 12th April**. We wish to consider how we can move forward in our church planting project. Please pray! We are glad and **really GRATEFUL** that we have **such a highly motivated troop of fellow workers** and we are so excited about the future! **Thank you Lord!**

‘ProChrist’ in Eisenstadt – the outreach event held 3rd–10th March, with a live link from Stuttgart, Germany

Here are the reactions of some of our visitors: One couple wrote: “The evening meetings were a great step forward for us. God is at work in our lives and we are so grateful that He never leaves us in the lurch. Not yesterday, not today and not even tomorrow!” A lady who came from the Lake Neusiedl area sent us an e-mail: “The first ‘ProChrist’ evening stirred up a lot of things in me. I willingly renewed my commitment!” **An immediate effect** of the very busy ‘ProChrist’ week that we have noticed is that we have grown together further in the FORUM and in the house group meetings through working as a team. Also we have welcomed some new visitors to the FORUM. We are in regular contact with some of the ‘ProChrist’ guests. **How lovely it would be for many of them to become part the church of Jesus here in Eisenstadt!**

Workshop: “Funerals and support for mourners”

In the last few years a church fellowship has been established near Vienna’s Schwechat Airport. We have had an invitation from them to hold a workshop on “Funerals and support for mourners” on 6th April. The leaders of some nearby churches have been invited as well. We have been surprised that quite a number have expressed interest in attending. This workshop went really well with a lot of input from the participants. **Praise our Lord for attentive listeners, that we all got on well together and we’re sure that the discussion of the last things of life will have an ongoing effect!**

From Austria out into all the world...

Nadine wrote to us recently from Africa: “I have been in this country for exactly six months, which means that I am half way through. Every day brings its own challenges and I am so grateful that I feel happy here! It is something really special to see the beaming faces of the children. I am allowed to tell Bible stories in the infant classes. As well as the fun and the games I wish that the children would accept the Lord Jesus in their young hearts. **HE is the reason that I am here! When everything else passes, Jesus is still there!**” Very often we are contacted by young Christians seeking advice and support on their way to the mission field. In the next few days we will meet a young couple who would like to go to Asia.

Straight afterwards we will have a visit from E, a young man seeking a place in Africa. R is going to the Philippines, K is going to South America and J is preparing to go to southern Africa. **Throughout the whole world, even in ‘unusual’ countries, there are so many unfilled places... Who will go? Who is willing to be sent??**

Talking of Africa...

19th April has been set for the date of Hans-Georg and Manuel’s departure for Accra, Ghana. Their passports are going round various embassies. 24th–30th April there is a missionary consultation in Abokobi, Ghana, with the leaders from various West African countries and missionary leaders from Europe. Before and after the consultation Hans-Georg and Manuel would like to visit mission stations not only in Ghana, but also in Niger and Benin. This will also mean travelling through Burkina Faso and Togo.

Particular prayer request for the Africa trip are: the arrival in time of the visas for the different countries, protection from tropical diseases and safekeeping on the long journeys, especially by road. They are due back on 12th May.

Further prayer points for April and May

26th–28th Apr.: BEG workers’ forum in Wagrain (south of Salzburg) “In the world but not of the world” (Margret is taking part)

5th May: “BEG Horizons” Service “The church comeback” (the Eisenstadt FORUM is attending)

Mid May: Our fourth grandchild is due (Maria and Benjamin’s baby)

It means so much to us...

...to be standing together with you here in the service of the Lord Jesus! THANK YOU for all your support through prayer and giving, through your unexpected phone calls and encouraging e-mails... Together we are strong and without you we couldn’t be here! We hope that you are encouraged by what God is doing here and elsewhere, as much as we are!

With love,

Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika Hoprich



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