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TT – 'Travelling Together' (78)

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you." (Isaiah 66:13)

Dear Friends,

January 2016

Our verse for 2016 brings a new dimension of comfort into our lives which goes beyond a general "everything will be all right." God sees broken hearts and shattered hopes! He takes the misery and failures of His children and makes them His own concern. Just like a mother he takes on our own personal need. This comparison is unique and describes what is in God's heart in such a way that goes far beyond loving words and deeds: comfort is all-encompassing. As those who have been comforted we regain air to breathe and ground under our feet. In the end it is all about questions such as "what keeps me going?" and "what will carry me through life and death?" **Once again we are starting a new year together with you, THANKFUL for all the help, safekeeping and provision that we have received to date! We rejoice from the bottom of our hearts and we say THANK YOU for continuing to follow our progress. That gives us so much encouragement!**

Also for 2016...

Please let us know how you are getting on! And may we remind you: **Please get in touch with us!** We rejoice over every kind of contact, regardless of whether we already know you or whether it will be the first time that we will be in touch with you personally! If you are interested in a personal visit, or us giving report or a summary of our work or if you would like us to take part in one of your church events, we would be delighted to come! **There is so much more to tell you...**

Still fresh in our minds: "Mission-Net" (Hans-Georg & Manuel)

The 4th European Youth Congress was held in Offenburg, Germany from 28th December to 2nd January. About **2100 young Christians from 49 different countries** came together and more than **90 different Christian organisations** from right across Europe presented their work. We are still 'digesting' all the different valuable contacts and conversations – especially at the SIM information stand that we helped to run. SIM is one of our numerous partner missions which we work with in Austria and beyond. God was clearly at work and we could see how HE was moving among the young people. **We are encouraged** by the hunger of these young people to discover their calling.

On the fringes of the congress there were many **useful conversations with other mission leaders.**

FORUM: Advent Celebration – Club Hut – Christmas Eve Service...

We look back with gratitude over the busy time we have had at the FORUM during December! We were able to welcome many visitors to each of these pre-Christmas events at the Eisenstadt FORUM. **Thank you for praying for us!** In the simple programme a lot of room was given to the essential message of Christmas. Also it was possible to allow time for personal conversations and for nurturing relationships. The beautifully put together **evangelistic calendars** were gratefully accepted. Let's hope that throughout the year in many houses they will be a reminder and an invitation to our FORUM events. For the coming months at our church services we will be going through a new series of sermons on **"Praying Through the Psalms"**.

Invitation to go to Chile...

We were completely surprised when we recently had a letter from our DMG colleagues in Chile, Hans & Carmen Ziefle. Every two years an international missionary conference is held in Santiago. The next one – the third – will be in September. Through their relatively young Chilean missionary organisation "ProVisión" they have given us an invitation to take part. **Hans Ziefle writes, "Our speakers should speak 'from practical experience for practical service'.** The main focus will be on insights into experience with unreached people, with newly set up sending structures and the readiness to dare to do new things" **We would love to take up this challenge** and share our many years of experience to encourage our South American brothers and sisters. If you would like more information, please let us know!

This project has been approved by the DMG and we can therefore officially ask you to help support this. Gifts for this purpose can be sent to the DMG bank account (see below) marked "Missionary Conference Chile, Hoprich".

For a long time now our long-term Austrian missionaries in Brazil and Peru have been asking us, "Do come over and visit us!" It would be lovely if we could combine this with our visit to Chile.

Some dates in January for your particular prayers:

08th Jan.: Emmanuel, a short-term missionary in Kenya is coming to us for **debriefing**

17th Jan.: **Preaching** at the FORUM (Psalm 23)

24th Jan.: Hans-Georg is **preaching** again at the **Grace Church in Vienna** (in English)

28th Jan.: The leaders of the Foreign Missions Team (**TAM**) are meeting in Traun, Upper Austria

God willing, we wish to continue being 'Salt and Light' for our Lord Jesus Christ in this city, in this country and beyond. THANK YOU for supporting us throughout the past year with your thoughts, prayers and gifts! Without your support it would not be possible for us to live here and to shine for the Lord!

SHALOM!



Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika

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