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## TT - 'Travelling Together' (85)

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

*Dear Friends,*

August 2016

In the summer, especially in areas where it is extremely hot, we need something very specific: salt! **“Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other”** (Mark 9 v 50). This is what the Lord Jesus wants to give us this month to help us on our way. In olden times salt was valued as much as gold – today we can buy it in the supermarket for a few pence. There is salt in our bodies, our tears taste of salt and it is in our blood. Salt helps our bodies to take in water. Salt is essential for life. God’s Word and His message are salt. Salt can’t lose its effect, but you can water it down. Jesus warns us against this. The time in Capernaum began with a dispute among the disciples and when Jesus had finished speaking, He called them to peace. In the holiday times ahead we will no doubt meet many different people. Do we want to let them see the ‘salt’ in us? Do we want to share it? **Salt and peace is the seasoning needed for us to get on well together** in our marriages, our family life, our circle of friends, in the village and in the city, at school and at work, between different cultures and nations.

### Many different guests...

In July we had many dear visitors coming to us for a variety of reasons...

- A young **Mum from Swabia** with her baby for a time of sharing and friendship...
- A newly **qualified law student** from Vienna for a personality assessment...
- Two **young friends** from our FORUM Church who are going through difficult times at the moment...
- **David** came to us in our co-worker Michael’s place for an extended prayer time...
- **Mihály** from the nearby town of Sopron, Hungary came. Friendship and links with his church are important to him...
- **F. came with her cousin**, they had a lot of concerns on their mind – we simply listened to them...
- **W. from a nearby town**, someone we’ve known for many years: there are great tensions in the family...
- Our **African friends from Vienna**, Alex & Blessing, are already making plans for another period of missionary work...

### While on the subject of Africa...

We are regularly asked to preach at the international ‘Grace Church’ in Vienna.

Out of the blue we had a request from Chris, a **young man from Vienna with African roots** who attends the Grace Church. He is very well integrated and has even served in the Austrian Army.

With the agreement of his church leaders he would like to be **baptised on 14<sup>th</sup> August** on an island in the River Danube. And also he wishes to be baptised by Hans-Georg who will then preach at the **open-air service to be held at midday**.

### Working well together...

We are currently in contact with three large international missionary societies (often via Skype) with a view to setting up **partnership agreements**. These contracts would make it much easier for us to work together and to extend our cooperation considerably! Austrians have applied for long-term service with each of these missions. We will then be responsible for preparing them and sending them out from Austria. This will enable us to send out more workers on future occasions, e.g. to Japan, and also to Central Asia and in fact to **all the ends of the earth**.

**Now we are praying for further enquiries about placements on the mission field throughout the world.**

### Family celebrations

In the last few weeks there have been a number of birthdays: **Lina Marie** has turned six – and will soon be starting school... – **Benjamin** was 36 – **Annie**, our daughter-in-law celebrated her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday – and our dear **Mother Ludwig** was 88.

### Fire!

The terraced house where David and his family live is being extensively renovated. As the tar outer insulation was being put in place, a wooden board under the eaves began to burn. The fire continued to smoulder unseen and our children only discovered it later. With a lot of effort and only after three hours – a hole had to be made in the kitchen wall – the fire brigade managed to put it out. **We are so grateful to our LORD that it didn’t spread and that no-one was hurt!**

### Please pray with us:

**7<sup>th</sup> Aug.:** Hans-Georg’s preaches at the Eisenstadt FORUM: “The uniqueness of Christian fellowship” (1 Peter 2 v 9–10)

**9<sup>th</sup> Aug.:** Herr & Frau R. are coming to us to seek advice on their future plans...

**10<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> Aug.:** Daniel from the South Tyrol, Italy is on his way to South Asia and is visiting us for his ‘preparation days’

**28<sup>th</sup> Aug.:** We have been invited to preach at a church in South Burgenland

**Pray also in your own countries for your government, so that you may have “peaceful and quiet lives” (see 1 Tim. 2 v 2) and a good environment in which to live out the Gospel and to share it.**

**We send you our greetings from the summer heat of eastern Austria.**

**May you have opportunities to be salt and light in your communities – and may you have joy as you do it!**



*Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika*

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