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TT - 'Travelling Together' (99)

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you." (Ezekiel 36:26)

Dear Friends,

November 2017

Our thought for the month begins with these words from God: **"My dwelling-place will be among them and I will be their God and they will be my people."** (Ezek. 37:27) The whole chapter is a promise to His people – in the midst of their hopelessness! Our Lord can make something out of nothing: Blessing out of curse, happiness out of unhappiness, joy out of mourning. The seemingly impossible becomes possible! In order to achieve this God draws up a sort of 'tenancy agreement' with His people through His prophets: **"I will live among you!"** This means **not just appearing now and then**, or "dropping by". No not just for a visit, **but to dwell with them**: "I will settle in with you and help you renew your lives!" **In Ephesians 3:17** the Apostle Paul prays, **"... that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith..."** Jesus wants to make our hearts into a lovely place that has been made whole. He would like access to this special unseen place in our lives with its world of thoughts and feelings. He has a lot of 'good colour' to bring into my life and He will deal with the 'rubbish'. This is why He invested so much in His death on the cross! **Does Jesus just have 'visiting rights', or does He have 'right of residence' in your heart? What would he like to renew in your heart?**

1st November in Austria...

... is an important holiday here in Austria: **All Saints' Day!** Traditionally many people visit their dead relations in the graveyard on All Saints' Day, they decorated the graves with flowers and light candles and pray for them. In the afternoon there are ceremonies to bless the graves. People spend a lot of money on flower arrangements and candles. The crowds wanting to go to the graveyards are bigger than ever and it **regularly causes traffic jams.**

Hoprich Missionary Visit...

The planning for our visit next April for the **National Conference and 70th Anniversary of the South Sea Evangelical Church** is making progress (we worked with the SSEC from 1985 to 1996). **Kore and Mary Wai** who we supported in the early stages of their faith are responsible, together with others, for the organisation of these major events. Kore was the **first missionary** that our SSEC association of churches sent out. First he was on the **missionary ship 'Doulos'** for a short time, then later he went to the Solomon Islands for two years with the SSEC's sister church. On his return he led the newly set up **SSEC Mission Committee** and later was elected to be the **regional superintendent**. Hans-Georg has happy memories of the **many hours spent on the discipleship course** and times of sharing with Kore before he was called into full-time service and went to study at the, **Christian Leaders Training College CLTC**. Many things have changed in the meantime, but **we can't wait** to meet up again with our brothers and sisters and companions from those times!

Please see below for information on how to send donations.

What is 'Member Care'?

This is something we have very much on our hearts! But what is it? – In short: it involves for example the **support of cross-cultural missionary workers**, providing counselling and advisory discussions via Skype, telephone or face-to-face during a visit, and first aid advice in crises and illness. In the many meetings with our colleagues on many different mission fields and in debriefings the same wish was expressed on many occasions: **"Please visit us again!", "We wish we could have someone to listen to us who is on our side!"** We want to be involved with this valuable and vital work in our final period of service, and we have also experienced much encouragement and help from this ongoing support ministry in the many years of our missionary service. Especially, of course, when we've been given good advice!

Where could this be? Based in Europe? In Africa? Asia?

We've been in contact with some organisations and we would like to know God's way for the years ahead.

This is what we've got planned... (many a times 'unplanned things' also come along!)

05th Nov.: Hans-Georg preached at our Forum Church, Eisenstadt on **"How to deal with disappointments in the church"**

10th/11th Nov.: annual **BEG delegates meeting** for our association of churches at Bad Aussee (near Salzburg)

12th Nov.: Grace Church, Vienna continuation of series of sermons on **"Christians in times of crisis": 'Loneliness'**

18th/19th Nov.: the wedding in Innsbruck of our long-term missionary and visit to our BEG 'Church in the Cinema'

25th/26th Nov.: Margret speaking at a ladies' breakfast in Kapfenberg, Styria and **Hans-Georg is preaching**

27th/28th Nov.: debriefing with a newly married couple from Innsbruck

We wish so much to be useful tools in God's hands!

We wish to thank sincerely all those who make our missionary work possible through prayer and financial support!

You are all a big blessing to us and we wish to be the same for you!

Sincerely yours in His service,



Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika

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