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## TT – ‘Travelling Together’ (60)

“AS FOR ME, IT IS GOOD TO BE NEAR GOD.” (Psalm 73 v 28)

Dear Friends,

July 2014

Our hearts are still full of the good fellowship that we enjoyed during our first **FORUM church holiday**, and so we would like to start the **SIXTIETH** edition of our TT newsletter by saying a very big **THANK YOU!** In mid June we found ourselves with 35 participants (two of whom were in wheelchairs), including a lively group of children, in Poellau in Styria. Our speaker, Christoph Windler, led us through the exciting subject of “**Unity in diversity**”. He encouraged each one of us to actively seek his or her place in the church. It was impressed on us how important it is to have a **vision** so that the church can stay alive. Where there is no vision, there can still be **fellowship, scheduled meetings and events, and administration**, but there is no spiritual life and last of all the administration dies! It put **good tools** into our hands which we should now gradually start to use in our church planting work.

### A ‘meanwhile meal’...

A small group of people who didn’t take part in the holiday faithfully held the house group and even had a communion service. On both occasions a whole lot of new people came along. The house group had to be adapted because a lot of the participants didn’t (yet) know each other! After a round of introductions, so they told us, the group ended up discussing ‘Forgiveness’. On the last Sunday in June this was continued in the service: there were new people there and afterwards no one was in a rush to go home... **ON THE SUBJECT OF HOUSE GROUPS:** because of the rapid growth of the individual groups, we are planning to start a third, or maybe even a fourth group! This will need suitable places in which to meet, and motivated leaders and hosts. **We are so amazed at all these positive developments and we see them as God’s answer to the prayers of many! THANK YOU!**

### “HELP FOR BOSNIA”

The devastating floods in the Balkans have touched us here in Austria, given the historical link with Bosnia which is one of the poorest countries in Europe! In two days over €15,000 was given in answer to our first appeal for donations. Also an eleven–person team of Austrians has quickly come together who will shortly go to Zenica and other places in Bosnia and give practical help with the distribution of aid and start rebuilding work. Everything that these desperate people needs will be bought locally, in order to support their economy, if only in a limited way.

### TAM (‘Team Auslandsmission’ = Foreign Missions Team)

Our Foreign Missions Team, the missionary branch of our association of churches, needs to be strengthened urgently! On 15<sup>th</sup> July we have a visit from an interested couple who have missionary experience. Also we would really like to find someone from among our returned Austrian short– or long–term missionaries who would be willing to commit themselves to this important and valuable work. Our desire is to visit each one of the many returners who are scattered throughout Austria to re–motivate them to get involved in world mission. Especially this year we are aware that the rush of new missionary candidates, alongside our many other tasks, is becoming increasingly hard to manage. **Please pray for suitable workers!**

### FAMILY NEWS

Having finished her third year at the nursery teacher training college, **ANNIKA** has also now passed the theory driving test.

**SEBASTIAN** has found work in a nearby office furniture firm. His big wish is for this job to continue!

**MANUEL** has settled well into his present job, but he is still looking for a fulfilling task in life.

Our oldest grandson **TIMO (7)** will be in his 2<sup>nd</sup> school year in Sept and our youngest, **SAMUEL (1)**, has just learnt to run...

### Calendar dates for July

5<sup>th</sup> JULY: Salzburg ‘Gemeinde im Cubic’ – **valedictory service for Manuela** going to Peru (‘Diospi Suyana’) for three years

6<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> JULY: preparation days at our house for **Esther** and **Manuela** (both going to Peru) and **Anna** (Zimbabwe)

10<sup>th</sup> JULY: visit from a **family of four** who would like to get involved in worldwide missionary work

13<sup>th</sup> JULY: **Hans–Georg is preaching** at the evangelical church at Meidling, Vienna ([www.eg-wien-meidling.at](http://www.eg-wien-meidling.at))

18<sup>th</sup> JULY: **funeral** of the father of our friend Klaus

19<sup>th</sup> JULY: **valedictory service for Anna** in Upper Austria

20<sup>th</sup> JULY: **Margret** is taking the **children’s work** at the FORUM, and **Hans–Georg is preaching**

22<sup>nd</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> JULY: **Preparation days for Martha** (Chile) and **Hanna** (Malawi)

27<sup>th</sup> JULY: as a couple we are taking the **communion service at the FORUM**

29<sup>th</sup> / 30<sup>th</sup> JULY: **Andreas** (back from Tanzania) is coming for **debriefing**

From our hearts we wish you happy, safe and refreshing days of summer sunshine,

Yours with thankful hearts,



*Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika*

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## Jutta's Testimony

### **On 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 I made a decision to follow the Lord Jesus!**

As the youngest of three sisters I was brought up in a respectable family home. My mother was Catholic and my father Protestant.

During my youth and even in the early years of my marriage I had a faith which was impersonal and superficial.

My partnership was marked with disappointment but I stood on the foundation of a genuine love. In spite of that the marriage broke up after 24 years.

My life often felt very empty, in spite of having a wonderful daughter and a family that kept together. I didn't know then what was missing.

In my mid thirties I met a good friend that I hadn't seen for a long time. She told me that she saw angels and communicated with them.

I was fascinated.

I believed I had found the answer to my inner emptiness.

I was in regular contact with this lady and in our close collaboration she passed on her spiritual techniques to me.

The main part was the angels operating over different areas and in different ways.

I experienced this in my everyday life and shared it with many people over the following years.

I was totally unaware that I had fallen into Satan's trap and had got caught up in New Age beliefs.

Alongside my job as an office worker I now used every free moment to 'develop spiritually and mentally'. I was fully convinced that I was linked to divine energy and to Jesus and I trusted my friend completely. Slowly I began to realise that I had become totally dependent on her, and I couldn't make any decisions without her help.

In the end I cut myself off from her.

This area of the occult gave me many affirmations: an 'angel centre', six angel books, many talks, seminars and of course countless angel consultations with 'channelling'.

I acted as an 'angelic messenger for the German-speaking area'.

I did not know that I was already trapped and I saw myself as something special.

I still thought I was called by God to these activities.

My downfall was pre-ordained and it began at the end of 2011.

In the meantime I had got divorced and I had moved house.

My mother died and I cared increasingly for my Dad whom I loved very much.

In October 2011 I fell over in the office and broke my hip.

Shortly after I was back on my feet, my father died.

A few months later I was in a lot of pain and was ill for quite a while.

I became weaker and weaker and slid into depression.

At one point I felt totally empty and I wasn't in my right mind.

It was a time of darkness and anxiety.

On 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 I spoke to a friend on the telephone who had a good relationship with Jesus.

She had never said anything to me about my 'angel work' as she knew I would not listen to her, but during our conversation she begged Jesus to do something.

She then told me about a serious sin which was now in her past.  
Of course she had no idea that this matter had been troubling me for years.

This was the moment of my breakthrough with Jesus: since I broke my hip I had often questioned my 'angel work' and had doubts about it.

I couldn't bring Jesus into this area of my life.

The broken hip was the first sign from Jesus.

The second was a very frightening dream about my sister and the third was this telephone call – this was about me!

I was in the clutches of the Evil One.

And I wasn't living for God but against Him.

When I told my friend that I would now finish my 'angel work', it was the answer to her prayers to Jesus over many years.

She had prayed for me regularly.

Ignorance of God's Word had brought me into this pit, out of which Jesus then brought me in His unending love.

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 I made a decision to follow Jesus.

It brought an unbelievable release.

Having given all my errors and sins over to Him, I could now follow Him.

I had taken the decisive step. I 'spring-cleaned' my life – old habits and thoughts, however, took longer to get rid of.

Then I took the next step: I joined a Christian church.

At the very first church service at the Eisenstadt FORUM I knew that I had 'arrived' and that my search was over.

Here my questions were answered with the help of the Bible.

I was lovingly accepted in this wonderful fellowship.

Although I had passed on so much false teaching, Jesus had kept me from evil consequences such as possession and schizophrenia, although this way of error had led me directly into depression.

But I knew the Lord had pardoned me and is now using me as His instrument.

I am available to Him.

In the meantime I have had many signs and positive confirmations from Jesus.

Nearly every day I am grateful to have an answer or an indication from Him.

Especially in my family and in my circle of friends I find that I am 'sailing against the wind', but with Jesus at my side nothing can now shake me.

I have personally experienced being born again through the grace of our Lord Jesus.

He has saved me and brought me up out of the pit.

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