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TT - 'Travelling Together' (73)

"ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER, JUST AS CHRIST ALSO ACCEPTED US TO THE GLORY OF GOD." (Romans 15 v7)

Dear Friends,

August 2015

We send our greetings from the summer sunshine of Burgenland which at the moment is being explored and enjoyed by many tourists from all over the world. There are two **'mega events'** taking place quite close to us, which bring people here every year from far and wide... One is the **Mörbisch Lakeside Music Festival** (9th Jul-22nd Aug) with its giant stage on Lake Neusiedl. This year a performance of 'A Night in Venice' (Johann Strauss) is on the programme. At the same time - also in the open air - is a performance of Puccini's opera 'Tosca' at the **'Steinbruch'** (an old quarry) at St Margarethen. Round Lake Neusiedl there are many things to see and days out for families, including a Theme Park and a Safari Park.

If you are planning to visit our area, please call in and see us - YOU WOULD BE MORE THAN WELCOME!

Our second FORUM Baptism Service

What a special day **Sunday 5th July** was for us! **Four of our friends** from the Eisenstadt FORUM publically declared their faith in the Lord Jesus in the presence of their families and many guests. Before the actual baptism in the Lake we had a very moving church service with testimonies and songs chosen by the candidates themselves. We even had a special additional testimony from the wife of one of the candidates who had had a fresh experience of God's love. It was very hot down by the Lake itself as one after the other the candidates entered the water and were dipped under while we sang joyfully from the bank. At the end we stood in a circle and prayed together for the newly baptised and blessed them. We stayed there afterwards and had a picnic and enjoyed fellowship together.

It is a matter for prayer for us that we will grow together as a church and live out our Christian life with sincerity! We would therefore like to invite many more from Eisenstadt and the surrounding area to a living relationship with God.

Some are leaving...

Our long-standing co-worker family **John & Liesi Doss and sons Joel and Jonas** will return to the USA at the end of October. We have worked with them since 2007 and we look back with gratitude over a richly filled time during which we have gone through many highs and lows together. Their long-term plan is to continue in church-planting work and they would like to build up their circle of friends and supporters.

This needs a lot of time and patience and we would like to pray with them that their deep wish to come back to Austria may soon be fulfilled!

...and others may be coming

Right from the beginning it was our wish that many Austrian co-workers would get involved with our FORUM. In the meantime **a young Austrian family** has got in touch with us; they would like to use their gifts and abilities in the Lord's service here in Eisenstadt. Having had several years at Bible College and done many periods of practical service, they are now planning to come to us for a week in September. They would like to introduce themselves to the church and to familiarise themselves with our various activities.

For them to be able to work with us, several 'pieces of the puzzle', both large and small, would need to be put in place, which only the LORD can do! Would you pray with us?

We are about to celebrate our 60th birthdays...

God willing, we will both turn 60 this year, Hans-Georg at the end of this month and Margret in December. We would like to have all the family together, and also some friends, for a joint celebration. It was also planned that **Heidi, Hans-Georg's twin sister, and her husband Heinrich** would join us. With a heavy heart they have had to pull out, as **both of them have been given a very serious diagnosis**. This is upsetting and painful for all of us and we are praying for help and for healing for our loved ones!

What we are doing in August...

July and August are the holiday months here in Austria; everything winds down during this time. It certainly gives us more time for nurturing relationships and for inviting guests and people with no church connection to get to know them better. Hans-Georg is preaching on 16th and 23th August at the FORUM. Margret is leading the children's activities on 16th and 30th. We are looking forward to the **visit of an African couple on 6th August** who have been living in Vienna for quite a while and are planning to go to their home country for a short period of service. It is lovely, and so encouraging, that the BEG church that they belong to has declared itself willing to send them out! Esther has recently returned from short-term missionary service in Peru and is visiting us for debriefing 12th-13th August.

We see it as a great privilege to be surrounded by your prayers and through it to have strong spiritual backing! Many THANKS for your tireless intercession, and especially for your financial support!

Wishing you all God's blessing,



Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika

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