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TT – 'Travelling Together' (80)

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

Dear Friends,

March 2016

Holy Week and Easter fall in March this year. During this season may these precious words of the Lord Jesus speak to our hearts: **"As the Father loved me, I also have loved you; abide in my love."** (John 15 v 9) We find the word 'love' over 300 times in the New Testament. This word sums up our Christian faith. God's all-encompassing love in the Lord Jesus is the foundation for every missionary effort. What He said and did in His short time on this earth was to show God's love to mankind. It led to the Cross and to death. It can hardly be believed: Jesus loves us with the love that He is loved with by His heavenly Father. When we accept this love, we know we are loved for ever! And to abide in this love is the command that Jesus gives us. This love motivates and strengthens us, even in difficult circumstances. **How can we just keep it to ourselves? And we THANK YOU for supporting us as we abide in the love of Jesus and pass it on to others!**

A full passport...

There are no blank pages left! The visas for Ghana and Togo have taken up the last available spaces. Which means that the visas actually arrived in time and **we THANK YOU for your faithful prayers!** So Hans-Georg was able to fly out to Togo in West Africa on 2nd March to attend the Leaders Conference at the invitation of our partner mission. Since this small country borders Ghana there was again the opportunity to visit one of former areas where the Basel Mission worked ("Gold Coast"). **Odumase in Kroboland** is the home of our friend of many years King Nene Sakite II. He lives close to the time-honoured Johannes Zimmermann Church founded by Gerlingen Missionary Zimmermann. Hans-Georg originally came from Gerlingen (just outside Stuttgart, S. Germany) and it was St Peter's Lutheran Church in Gerlingen that sent us out to serve here in Austria. Hans-Georg has been taking some services and meetings at the Presbyterian Church in Odumase. Also he has been requested by the Mayor of Gerlingen to give his personal greetings to the King and to present a gift to him.

Current prayer request: For safekeeping on the rather dangerous bus journeys and especially for protection from any recurrence of dengue fever and / or malaria!

Easter at the FORUM

Again we would like to invite many people along to our special Good Friday and Easter Sunday events at the Eisenstadt FORUM Church. Especially on Good Friday many people with no church connection are glad to take up the offer of our **'Reflection on the Passion' with Communion**. On Easter morning we are meeting up before sunrise at a viewing point to praise God together. Then there will be a **church breakfast** before the **Easter Morning Service** at which Hans-Georg will be preaching.

In these times we would be only too glad to reach many with the greatest message of all times...

So many applicants...

As the second half of the school year gets under way, many school leavers are starting to wonder what to do in the summer and afterwards. A whole lot of enquiries are starting to come in about short-term missionary work. The following four are typical: **Daniel from the South Tirol in Italy** is very interested in a country in South Asia and would like to work in a children's home there. **Lisi from Upper Austria** is willing to help look after missionary children anywhere in the world. The son of colleagues from Vorarlberg would like to use his practical skills on the mission field. Then there is **Andreas, a student** who worked for nine months as an English teacher in East Africa during his gap year alongside the **Foreign Missions Team (TAM)**. Now he would like to combine his placement abroad with missionary service. We are **delighted** to support these young people for a short stretch of their path in life. With it, however, we need much wisdom, sensitivity and patience. In the meantime our **Nigerian couple** from Vienna have been sent out by their church to work in their homeland. Only the week before this church had **sent a family out to the Middle East!**

We are amazed at their dedication in supporting world mission – but for them this is nothing new!

Our sending missionary organisation – the DMG (www.DMGint.de) – in numbers...

First and foremost the DMG are people who love the Lord Jesus Christ and carry His love and the good news of the Bible around the world. Here are some figures: In 2015 there were **275 long-term workers** round the world involved in Christian missionary work and humanitarian projects; 64 are single, 103 are married – with 115 children under 18. With five couples only one partner was taken on. 7 missionaries travelled out for the first time in 2015. 37 short-term missionaries went abroad to serve. During the past year there were 33 full-time workers at our headquarters in Buchenauerhof (S. Germany), as well as 14 part-time and short-term staff, as well as 8 young people in an officially recognised alternative to military service. Who will pray with us for our **team of over 370 people throughout the world**, that God will bless us and that through our service people will meet HIM?...

...So that HIS church worldwide will grow – that's what we earnestly wish for.

Yours in HIS service



Warmly, Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika

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ENGLAND: SIM-DMG, acc no 60829838, Barclays Bank West Norwood, London SE27 9DW, Bank code 20-94-67 IBAN: GB14 BARC 2094 6760 8298 38, BIC: BARCGB22, or send cheques to: SIM-UK, The Treasurer, Wetheringsett Manor, Wetheringsett, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 5QX, Please state purpose: "DMG FAM. HOPRICH"

UNITED STATES: Bank transfers: SIM-DMG Account No. 650551381, Bank of America, Charlotte NC 28255, or send cheques to: SIM-USA Receiving department, P.O. Box 7900 Charlotte NC 28241-7900, USA, Please state purpose: "DMG FAM. HOPRICH"