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TT – 'Travelling Together' (87)

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

Dear Friends,

November 2016

A Bible verse for the dark month of November: This gentle reminder from God's Word is like a candle in a dark room! **“We have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.”** (2 Peter 1 v 19) A candle in a dark room? There's barely enough light to read by! We only see the dim outline of things. Colours hardly show. But we can move about and find our way around. We don't need to feel our way. We are not left in the dark. Recently **Timo (9) our oldest grandchild** stayed the night with us; he doesn't like the dark: **“Grandma, please leave the door open, and don't turn the hall light off!”** It is enough to have a little bit of light. It gives reassurance, security and you know where you are. That's precisely how God's Word works in us. We do not yet live in heaven. There are many things that unsettle or worry us, things that overwhelm or put pressure on us. But God's Word helps us find our way around (or even sets us off in a new direction). We read about HIS care and HIS love. We read about God's intervention in hopeless situations. We are encouraged and strengthened. We discover that there is new life in the Lord Jesus. This will only be completely revealed in eternity. **We don't see it yet – but we hear about it – “the word... made more certain”.** HIS Word gives signs, advice, signposts and help. That's why we seek this Light every day and make sure that it doesn't go out. It is so precious!

Back from South America...

On 21st October we landed safely back in Vienna – after four weeks in Chile, Peru and Brazil. First of all we wish to give you our warmest thanks for surrounding us in prayer and for all your support! We particularly want to thank all those who have made this trip possible for us through their giving! **We are still full of amazement and gratitude for everything that we have experienced in these very different countries...** We were in the air for a total of 16 hours between Vienna and Santiago in Chile. Our experiences included: An overwhelming variety of cultures – heart-warming hospitality – meeting many different people and having valuable conversations – linguistic challenges and experiencing God's safekeeping – warm spiritual fellowship – culinary surprises – opportunities for ministry, both planned and unplanned – contrasts in climate: From early autumn in Austria to the mild spring of Chile – dramatic changes in altitude: From sea level to 3,600m in the Peruvian Andes – from the extreme heat (40°C) of the Amazon region of Brazil to 8°C when we landed back at Vienna Schwechat Airport – adapting to various time zones. We have come back greatly enriched by our experiences.

News from the Eisenstadt FORUM Free Church

In the past few months we are amazed at how yet another piece of the jigsaw has been put in place... We are rejoicing in particular over the 'gift' of a new church worker, **David from Graz!** It's an amazing story how he came to us: He had a very promising military career in front of him. During the application process he made it to the top from among many applicants. For reasons he found inexplicable he failed the final medical exam, although he had passed them easily before. Equally inexplicable was his transfer from the Tyrol to Eisenstadt – instead of going to Salzburg as originally planned. It transpired that some good friends had been praying for David. A desire grew in his heart to study **Theology at the 'Evangelical Academy' (EVAK) in Vienna.** Surprisingly quickly he found a small flat in Eisenstadt, right near the railway station, which is a miracle in itself! As well as in our FORUM Church a network of friends built up around David who are helping to finance his studies. David has a good relationship with the young people and as well as his studies at EVAK he has got involved in our work here with joy and enthusiasm. **Through the commitment of the leadership team and the dedication of all the FORUM workers new prospects are opening up, which is an indication for us that we should increasingly pull back from being actively involved in the leadership in order to give our Austrian brothers and sisters room to develop.**

This is where you can help us in prayer during November

3rd Nov.: We've met with **Ed Brown, mission leader of “Care of Creation”**, one of our BEG TAM partner missions.
4th Nov.: D-Stuttgart: **Ladies' outreach evening** with Margret, **6th Nov.:** **Hans-Georg was preaching** at the same church
7th Nov.: Stopping off on the way home at our BEG TAM partner mission the German Indian Pioneer Mission (DIPM)
9th–11th Nov.: **Rafael** is coming for his **preparation days ahead of a short-term missionary placement in the Philippines**
11th–12th Nov.: Hans-Georg is going to the annual **BEG Delegates' Conference in Bad Aussee** (east of Salzburg)
16th Nov.: Our **DMG personnel manager Gerald Häde** is coming to Eisenstadt to visit us
18th–20th Nov.: Meetings and visits in Reutte, Tyrol: **Ladies' Breakfast:** Margret is speaking on “The main thing is to be healthy...isn't it?” – **Hans-Georg is preaching** at the “Ausserfern Free Evangelical Church” near Reutte

We would love to have your news, either with your prayer requests or to hear how things are going.

Thank you for all your prayers and for all your financial support for our work here in Austria and beyond!

Wishing you much blessing and joy in your everyday lives,



Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika

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