

H.-G. & M. Hoprich & Family
Jacob Rauschenfels-Gasse 8/10
A-7000 Eisenstadt
AUSTRIA

Mobile / WhatsApp: +43-664-5544021
Tel.: +43-2682-76021

e-mail: Hans-Georg@Hoprich.at
SKYPE ID: HansMaggiHoprich
Internet: <www.DMGint.de/index-EN.html>
<www.BEG.or.at>

<www.FaceBook.com/HansGeorgMargret.Hoprich>
<www.Johannes-Rebmann-Stiftung.de/EN/missionaries/HOPRICH.html>

TT - 'Travelling Together' (89)

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

Dear Friends,

January 2017

As we wish you a Happy New Year we would like to share this verse for with you January: **"Because you say so, I will let down the nets!" (Luke 5:5)** – Simon Peter, an experienced fisherman, doubted the Lord Jesus for a moment, "This man doesn't have a clue about fishing and yet he is asking us to go back out on the lake and fish in broad daylight! We've been out fishing all night and we haven't caught a thing. And now there's this challenge from the Man of Galilee, who we've only known for a short time... Yes, he can talk convincingly about God and has even done miracles – but what does he know about fishing?" We may have known Jesus for a long time and have experienced many things as we've walked with Him, or we have heard others talking about it. But we often don't trust that even today Jesus cares about our personal concerns and needs. Should I pray when I can't find my mislaid keys? Should I bother God with side issues such as a change of job? Shouldn't that be up to me? Hasn't God got more important things to do? From Simon Peter we should learn this for the New Year: We should expect ANYTHING from Jesus: **"Because you say so, I will dare to do it!"**

Let us pour out our hearts before the Lord Jesus, fully trusting HIM, and HE will fill many 'nets' with miracles.

We are so grateful for all the support, safekeeping and provision for us! And we certainly don't take it for granted! We are always amazed at your unbelievable faithfulness and dedication in your support for us! From the bottom of our hearts we rejoice and we thank you all for continuing to travel with us. That's so encouraging for us! To all who have been in touch with us recently, we thank you so much!

Also for 2017...

Please tell us how you are getting on! A reminder: **Please get in touch!** We **do welcome every contact**. If you are interested in us coming to you to give a (brief) report on our work or to ask us to take part in a church event, we would love to do this! Please give us plenty of notice so that we can plan it properly. **There is so much more to tell you...**

Family news...

ANNIKA (nearly 20) has found a place as a nursery school teacher in Frauenkirchen on the other side of Lake Neusiedl. She **feels really blessed to be there**, the staff are a nice team to be with and there is a good working atmosphere. She comes home for the weekends, also to attend the **FORUM youth group** that meets on Saturday evenings.

MANUEL (29) is not having an easy time at the moment. He was unwell for quite a long time. Now he is looking for suitable employment. He is **in need** of new confidence, joy and strength, and **in particular your prayers!**

DAVID & CLAUDIA, TIMO (9) and LINA (6): Things are going well on the whole for them. Timo will finish Elementary School this year and Lina started school 6 months ago. However, the family have been affected by the unusually **high number of deaths** in their area last year, even in their immediate circle of friends!

SEBASTIAN & ANNIE and MIRIAM (20 months) are involved in the music group at our FORUM Church and making people welcome. Annie's relations from Vienna came to them on Christmas Eve. Sebastian continued our family tradition of singing, reading the Christmas story and praying together before opening all the Christmas presents. Unfortunately he lost his job in December and he would be glad to have some **support in prayer as he looks for new full time work!**

BENJAMIN & MARIA, LENNY (7) and SAMMY (3) are juggling their family life between Benjamin's job as a diver and Maria's teaching training.

Lenny is in his second year at the Elementary School and Sammy is happy at nursery school.

Thanksgiving and prayer requests for January 2017

You prayed for our outreach events in Advent, at Christmas and at New Year: **Many thanks!** Our **FORUM stall** at the Eisenstadt Christmas Market on 11th Dec. was **well attended**. The Pocket Bibles that we offered people were very gladly received and we were able to give away all the evangelistic calendars. Our first ever **New Year's Eve service** and the party which followed to see in the New Year were very much enjoyed. **We had a great time together...**

Margret had an appointment for mid-January for a 'D. and C.' But **early on New Year's Day she was taken into hospital** to have the procedure done as an emergency case. Thank God, there were **no complications**.

S. & H., a young couple from different national backgrounds, have asked Hans-Georg to conduct their wedding. At the end of December we began a **marriage preparation course** with them in German and English. We need a lot of wisdom and sensitivity! Please could you also pray for our many **planned visits and people coming to see us**.

At the close of the Christmas season we would like to give you this particular blessing:

May the amazement of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the enthusiasm of the shepherds, the patience of the wise men and the peace of Jesus be yours this New Year!

Yours with many thanks,



Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika

DMG interpersonal e.V., Buchenauerhof 2, D-74889 Sinsheim, www.dmgint.de/about-us.html

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