

# TT – Travelling Together (120)

„Seek peace and pursue it!“ (Psalm 34:14)

The Family Hoprich Newsletter | September 2019

“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” (Mt. 16:26).

We don't use language like this anymore... But this isn't the reason that many people think the Bible is no longer relevant. Our world is changing rapidly. Trains and computers are getting ever faster, the rate of innovation is increasing and the whole of human knowledge appears to be only a few clicks of a mouse away. We have to make a huge effort not to miss anything. But where is that leading? In order not to get left behind, physically and mentally, I have to know what really counts in life. The statement “I don't know where I'm going, but I'm all for getting there faster!” is not much use as a motto for life. The Lord Jesus invites us to change from the hypothetical realm of our wishes and pipe dreams into something more matter of fact: **“Watch out that you don't lose everything!”** HE says, and that's something very up to date. To really live as Jesus meant it is not to live quicker and quicker and have more than other people. **Genuine and eternal life cannot be bought!** No one can earn it for themselves. God gives it to us. But to actually find it and receive it, that's something we can only do if we make it available to HIM. To follow Jesus is risky! **But whoever lives their life with HIM for God and for others is a real person – body and soul!**

## The Big Day...

David & Annika's Big Day on 24<sup>th</sup> Aug. is now behind us! But it was simply wonderful, with many precious moments – **unforgettable!** Everything worked out so well... the venue – the weather – the family photo shoot in the park in the hot sunshine – the big gathering of wedding guests – the songs provided by our Forum Church worship band – David's Dad leading the service – Annika's Dad's wedding address – **the moving vows that the young couple had written themselves** – the prayer of blessing given by the parents and witnesses – a surprise song and roses presented by Annika's nursery school class in Kleinhoflein (near Eisenstadt) after the wedding ceremony at the Esterhazy Palace – the 'Agape Reception' under the pillars at the back of the Palace – and finally the joyful celebration by the wedding party which went on into the early hours, with many personal contributions, musical items, recollections and testimonies reflecting **God's story** in the lives of the Happy Couple. If you wish, we can send you a selection of the best of the wedding photos. **Please let us know!**

## The empty nest...

In the weeks and months before the wedding our flat was a hive of activity! On the day after the wedding Annika finally moved all her things out of her room and into her new home in Eisenstadt, lovingly prepared by David... And now we have an 'empty nest' – **for the first time in 39 years!** That's something that will take a lot of getting used to... On the other hand, our many guests no longer have to sleep in our office, next to the computer and the big copier – we now have an extra room we can use!

## Finland!

Four days after the Big Day we were on board the plane from Vienna to Helsinki via Riga (Latvia). Together with our PIEU-Leader Michael Wagner we were there for the consultations in preparation for a partnership agreement between the **Finnish Lutheran Mission (SEKL) and Pioneers Europe (PIEU)**. The mission leader Mika Tuovinen and his wife Anne gave us a warm welcome and provided an insight into the history and current situation of SEKL. We were impressed by the way they carefully prepare their future missionaries, their well-grounded theological training and the conscientious support given by their fellow workers out on the mission field. **We also got to know Anu, the first Finnish candidate who is about to go out with PIEU to Bosnia.** Our task will be to take care of her while she's there. In the days after the consultations we explored southern Finland, from Helsinki to Turku / Åbo. It was very unusual for us to see the vast, almost uninhabited countryside with fields, forests, little hidden villages and farms – also the cautious way they drive and the countless speed cameras! Whoever loves solitude and being close to nature will love the wonderful Baltic Sea coastline with its many offshore islands. With its calm friendly capital city and its quiet inhabitants you will be in your element in Finland!

## “DMG interpersonal e.V” is and will remain our sending Mission!

We've had a number of queries about this and we would like to make it very clear: **We are 'on loan' from the DMG to Pioneers Europe (PIEU)**. Since we are living in Austria and we have an Austrian employer and follow EU regulations, we are still employed through our local (Austrian) Association of Churches (BEG), but we are now working across borders. If you have any questions, we would be glad to help!

## The Balkans – Vienna – Tirol...

**13<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> Sept.:** We were in **Croatia and Bosnia** to visit two of our PIEU co-worker families who are reaching out to their own communities. They have asked us for consultation, advice & evaluation. We were only too happy to oblige!

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.:** Hans-Georg is **preaching** at Grace Church, Vienna

**27<sup>th</sup>–29<sup>th</sup> Sept.:** In Innsbruck in connection with our **emergency counselling work. Preaching at the FEG Church.**

## Closing thoughts and thanks

**Many thanks for your interest in our activities and for all your support! May the LORD give you joy, strength and health in your everyday lives and may He bless you abundantly!**

Yours in His service,

*Hans-Georg & Margret*

## „Prayercorner“

### Praise God for...

- Eternal life, for free!
- A much blessed wedding
- Good consultations: SEKL, Finland
- You – our faithful 'team members'

### Please pray for...

- Early days of marriage: D & A
- Our co-workers in the Balkans
- Preaching in Vienna & Innsbruck
- Our relationship with Jesus

### What are you occupied with?

### What would you like us to pray for?

## Contact



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Thank you for receiving our prayer letter

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