

TT – Travelling Together (123)

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

The Family Hoprich Newsletter | December 2019

“Let those who walk in the dark, who have no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on their God.” Isaiah 50:10 – The dark days of winter can really get you down! It can make our lives seem dark when we face difficult situations – unemployment, relationship crises, sickness or even bereavement. In situations like these we should put our trust in the name of God. God’s name offers a guarantee. But why? So that we can carry on walking, and carry on living, even when it’s dark! What it says here **is amazing**, “Who **walk** in darkness...” –

“**Walking**” is a basis of faith. And God walks with us! **Our God is the One who walks alongside us**. Through the wilderness, through the darkness and certainly when we can’t see the way ahead. Isaiah reminds the people, then and now, of this simple experience: Don’t just stand there and allow yourselves **to be tied down** by suffering! Trust in God! Even when others determine what happens to you... When your circumstances in life are difficult... When there are no quick solutions... That’s when it really counts: you can walk on in the darkness with God. **The Lord Jesus knows His way around** in the dark; He has experienced bereavement, death and separation from God. Whoever follows HIM will **no longer wander in the darkness**, but will have the light of life Jn 8:12.

When we came back from Holland...

...from the Pioneers Orientation Course we wanted to make special effort to use the weeks coming up to Christmas to invite people from our area of Eisenstadt to come to us... for coffee... for an evening meal... simply to get to know them better: **“Nurturing relationships”**. **M & A**, a highly educated, kind couple from the Middle East came to see us; they are **new to our Forum Church**. We listened to them and we were touched by their story: they grew up in the capital in well-respected families as nominal Muslims, always with an unfulfilled longing in their hearts. A year ago they both became **followers of Jesus** through work colleagues in their homeland, after which they were constantly watched by the secret police. Having been warned by friends, they abandoned their well-paid jobs and fled from their beloved homeland. It cost them a small fortune to pay ‘people smugglers’ to get them and their intimidated family out. After experiencing many dangers, they ended up here in the Austrian reception camp at Traiskirchen near Vienna. There they met Christians who look out for people like them. It soon became clear that they would be accommodated first of all in Eisenstadt. As has happened previously, our friends in Traiskirchen told us they would be coming. And so we were able to welcome M & A. We were surprised at how good their English was! **What is more:** since then they haven’t **missed a single church service!** We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas with them.

We’ve been delayed...

...with our **December TT newsletter!** There are always unexpected things which disrupt our carefully planned arrangements. Having had a very encouraging evening of fellowship with both V. and L. from our Forum, we wanted to invite F. for a pizza... We had arranged to babysit for little Miriam... Our Filipino friends Mars & Nida in Vienna had given us an invite for a traditional meal... The next day we were supposed to be helping with the Red Cross charity stall at the Christmas market in at Forchtenstein Castle, Burgenland, (we’re emergency counsellors with the Red Cross)... We were already looking forward to the first Forum church service in our **new premises** and spending some time afterwards with Annika and David... **Then everything changed!** We got an urgent message from Margret’s sister, “How soon can you get here?” **Margret’s Mother (91)** had been taken into hospital following a fall in the night in her apartment (sheltered accommodation) in Herrenberg (nr Stuttgart, S. Germany). She was fitted with a pacemaker and it became clear that she would now need **24-hour care**. A place for her had to be found quickly and her apartment had to be emptied. At short notice we drove to Swabia to lend a hand and to spend some time with our elderly Mother...

Do you still remember our “Birth of Twins”? (see TT–111, Dec. 2018)

Almost exactly a year ago we were there when **Klaus & Gabi** invited Jesus into their lives. Gabi recently celebrated her 65th birthday. Through her sister–in–law we heard that Gabi had talked about a **big breakthrough** for both of them at that time. They are reading the Bible together and seeing **encouraging answers to prayer**. The doctor is very pleased with Klaus’s health. Yes, the LORD has done great things and is still doing them!

We are so **infinitely grateful!**

The week before Christmas

We will have a visit from a **married couple** who are **our fellow workers**, who have been expelled from the country where they were serving. Their request: **Debriefing, advice, new perspectives for the future**. We would be grateful for your **support in prayer!**

A big THANK YOU!

For faithfully standing with us as the year draws to a close!

You have been a big blessing to us!

May we grasp afresh during this Advent season that God is revealed in the Lord Jesus Christ!

How lovely to be able to share this joy with others!

Happy Christmas and may God’s hand of blessing be over you in the New Year!

Hans–Georg & Margret

„Prayercorner“

Praise God for...

- Jesus, the Light of Life
- God’s provision in the past year
- The growth of Klaus & Gabi
- You – our faithful ‘team members’

Please pray for...

- M & A to settle in and to adjust
- Debriefing with our co-workers
- Margret’s Mother & sister
- Manuel’s recovery process

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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