

TT – Travelling Together (128)

„I believe. Help my unbelief!” Mark 9:24

The Family Hoprich Newsletter | May 2020

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as good stewards of God’s grace in its various forms!” 1 Peter 4:10 – Every single person has gifts and abilities! This is how the grace of God shows itself. HE hasn’t given one single gift to everyone. There’s an amazing range. **God is so creative!** Gifts that we have ‘received’ cannot be earned or acquired. God gives them to us out of HIS love and grace, so that we can use them in the community: **“Serve others!”** Not just when we feel like it, but constantly. Peter appeals to everyone. Everyone can and has something to contribute! There is no one who can’t do anything or should just rest on what they can do. Peter emphasizes we are only the **stewards of these gifts**. God has given us **gifts to use for others** and we should act responsibly, and be wise and sensible in how we use them, so that they will bear fruit (**Mt 25:14–30**). Some people don’t find out by themselves the gifts that God has given them. Sometimes we are able to help people **discover** their gifting and **develop** it. Jesus did that so well! HE could see into people’s hearts. Through God’s Spirit that can also happen with us! Something else: Are we ready to accept the gifts of others even if they are not fully developed? We wish you every joy as you discover your gifts and use them!

Easing of the ‘Lockdown’

Many churches in Austria are starting a **‘new reality’** as from **Sunday 17th May**. That’s when the ban on gatherings is being lifted. Church services will restart – but under strict conditions as to the number of people gathered and the size of the meeting room. Since we can’t meet these conditions, we will continue with our internet services over the next few months – like many churches around the world – possibly until the complete lifting of all restrictions. Since the start of the Coronavirus crisis, talks and reflections on a wide range of subjects have been sent out regularly via WhatsApp. What delights about is that anyone can contribute! What a range of encouraging messages, often from brothers and sisters from our local Forum Church who would rather be the ‘quiet ones’! Recently Hans–Georg gave his very first live–stream sermon. Our young co–workers have set up a **mini studio** in the **‘Cup of Joy’ building** and the sermons are being live-streamed from there via Facebook to the homes of people from our congregation and anyone else who wishes to join us.

Future engagements...

Hans–Georg had been invited to give a sermon via the telephone to the brothers and sisters at a church in Nuremberg on 17th May. This was done from our home office using the mobile phone! We were happy for our friends to listen in.

A preaching engagement at the **Grace Church in Vienna** (<https://de.gracechurch.at>) had been planned some time ago. This will take place via live–streaming on **Sunday 24th May**. Only a small proportion of the congregation will be actually present, and they will have to let the church leaders know in advance!

We are delighted that various church fellowships are finding new creative ways of providing spiritual food for their congregations. The wonderful side effect of this is that a number of people who are seeking are unexpectedly latching on... We’re hoping that our various friends can ‘meet us in Cyberspace’!

“The Unfinished Task”

Can we share something with you that we always find **very moving**...? There’s good news and bad news.

The good news: For the first time in history, there are followers of Jesus in every country in the world!

The bad news: there are about 16,000 ethnic groups throughout the world and 7,000 of them, about 1.3 billion people, have never met a Christian or heard the Gospel in a way or a language they can understand! **They are living as if Jesus had never been born...**

The **good thing** is: There are more than 5 million Christian churches in the world and about 700,000 intercultural co-workers. **However:** most of them are working in countries and in ethnic groups, which have already been reached with the **Good News!** If all churches in the world sent at least 10% of their co–workers into ministry among the unreached – just imagine the **difference** that would make!

Then there are the **migrants**, which God has sent into our communities in recent years. Many of them come from these unreached groups and we don’t need to go abroad as they are living in our midst! Wouldn’t it be helpful if we could learn what we could do to win them for Jesus? With God’s help, it would be possible **in our generation** to complete Jesus’s Great Commission! **Are you with us?**

Let’s make every effort and rise afresh to this challenge so that Jesus can return to set up HIS kingdom of peace!

Our heartfelt THANKS!

We are aware that many of you are going through difficult times! We are all the more thankful that in spite of everything you are still investing in our ministry here and throughout the world!

Please let us know if you have any specific prayer requests so we can pray for you!

It’s a huge blessing to be in partnership with you, to know that you are standing with us!

“You know that your labor in the LORD is not in vain!”

Yours in HIS service,

Hans–Georg & Margret

‘Prayercorner’

Praise God for...

- God’s grace & creativity
- New ways to keep church life going
- Christians in every country on earth
- You – our faithful ‘team members’

Please pray for...

- The care of workers worldwide
- Margret’s check–up scan (25/05)
- Our children & their families
- Workers for the ‘Unreached’

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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