

# TT – Travelling Together (141)

„Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” Luke 6,36

The Family Hoprich Newsletter | June 2021



**“We must obey God rather than men!” (Acts 5:29)** – They wanted to silence Peter and John! “Be quiet and stop talking about this Jesus – otherwise there will be consequences!” That was what they were threatened with. What is wiser? It was clear to them: “We will **not be silenced.**” Our obedience to the state and its authorities has a limit. And this is where God and belief in HIM have to be actively pursued. Down through the ages men and women have professed their faith in God, talked about HIM and have acted

according to HIS commandments and defended them passionately – whether it pleased others or not. They remind us that this is where resistance and a clear word are needed. Today more than ever. Even when it requires courage: **to give ear once again to the will of God** – through our words and our behaviour. The will of man proclaims itself so loudly these days that the will of God can barely be heard. “Who am I listening to?” “Who do I belong to?” “Who do I obey?” What am I ready to give up or to lose in order to follow the Lord Jesus? To obey God, to listen to God – that will have consequences. God doesn’t want ‘blind’ obedience from us, but an obedience that is based on trust.

## News from Papua New Guinea

Out of the blue, we recently had the following personal message from Kialo from Biella, where we used to serve on the island of New Britain. **Rev. Kialo is the Mission Secretary** of the church in the island region. “We haven’t forgotten you: quite the opposite – you are still very much in our hearts and in our memories... We are amazed at God’s faithfulness! At the moment, there is a generational change-taking place in the leadership of the Church. Not that this wouldn’t be without problems... But in the **Kol and Meng**, churches the fire of the Gospel is blazing intensely and they are working day and night to bring the Good News to their fellow tribespeople! What we started together back then is continuing unhindered. Hans-Georg, you set us an example in two things which are necessary and which you always impressed upon us: “Tromwe lek – soim pes” – **“Get your feet moving and show your face!”** – At last we are in a position to hold the national and regional conferences, from 19<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July. The Coronavirus has prevented us from doing this up till now... **Bishop Kore Wai** has had a stroke, brought on by his severe diabetes. He is paralysed down one side and may have to give up his position. A new election is to be held. Please pray for Kore and for a suitable successor. We are also planning to send out a missionary from our Church to Australia. He will work among the Aborigines. In this matter, too there have been many delays because of the virus. On the final day of your visit in May 2018, you gave me all your **notes on world mission**. That meant such a lot to me and since then they have been an enormous help to me in my task as Mission Secretary of the **South Sea Evangelical Church (SSEC)**.”

## Spotlights – around the world

We get some really surprising **requests for advice from different continents**. A missionary family from **Guatemala** are being unexpectedly expelled from the country where they are serving... Where can they go? Where are opportunities for them to find somewhere to live and continue serving? **S., a vicar from W. Africa**, (Presbyt. Church) is writing the thesis for his doctorate in Holland. He has a specific question: How can the people from his country be mobilised here in **Europe for World Mission**? A young **theologian** from a European country has questioned his previously held theological position. How and where can he carry on working as a missionary with his newly gained understanding, preferably here in **Austria**? **We got to know H.** through a lengthy conversation on Zoom. She was overwhelmed by the loneliness, which she feels in the African country where she is serving and by the huge spiritual battles, which confront her, and she wept uncontrollably. We were able to pray with her. Her thank you message really moved us: **“You looked, you listened, you discerned my situation!”** Our **PI Member Care** colleagues from **Australia** have asked us to get in touch with a newly married couple from different cultural backgrounds. They’d met during a missionary campaign in S. Asia and they are now living in Europe. **M.,** our good friend from **S. America** asked us: Where in Germany might there be missionary opportunities for an experienced economist – possibly with **PI**?

## Update – Eisenstadt Forum Church

Our church had been meeting in a technology centre, but the building was soon taken over to be used as a Covid testing centre. We can’t meet there for the foreseeable future. Initially we started to meet at the “Cup of Joy” building in the city centre, as a very small group and under strict guidelines. When the rules were relaxed, we started looking for a way forward. Until we find our own premises, we have joined up provisionally with **another Free Church for Sunday morning worship**. It is in a lovely area not far away.

## Family News

Margret’s nephew is getting married soon in Germany! At last, **after 18 long months**, we will be able to see our relations again in person, and also visit Margret’s elderly **Mother Ludwig (93)** in the care home! Will she still recognise us? A dear friend has made it possible for us to have **some time off** – after the wedding we will be staying **on a farm...**

**Knowing that you are alongside us is a constant source of encouragement!  
Many heartfelt THANKS!**

**Yours in HIS service, Hans-Georg & Margret**

## Prayercorner

### Praise God for...

- Brave & vital witnesses
- Fire in the hearts of the Kol & Meng.
- Contacts around the world
- You: Our Mission Team

### Please pray for...

- Healing for Bishop Kore, successor
- H. in a lonely post in Africa
- Meeting place for “Forum Church”
- Visits & time off in Germany

### 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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