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## Dear Friends.

## TT - Travelling Together' (36)

May 2012

The view over Eisenstadt into the green Wulka Valley with its patchwork quilt of glowing yellow rapeseed fields, on into Hungary – bordered to the west by the Rosalia Mountains and the foothills of the Schneeberg range – and to the east by the gentle hills round Lake Neusiedl – the whole expanse of the landscape. The view from our little balcony more than makes up for the restrictions of our flat... We are just **SO THANKFUL** that we can enjoy it so much at this glorious time of year and we can share our joy with you and with our many visitors!

## Time for a 'view' back over the busy weeks of April...

- The marriage preparation course with M. & S. is enjoyable and is making good progress, mutual trust is growing!
- God gave us the most beautiful weather for the **first public FORUM children's activity afternoon** in the park behind the Esterhazy Palace! Seven children came along and joined in enthusiastically with the singing, games and craft activities and listened attentively as Margret told them the story 'The Little Heart' (by Susanne Margreiter). We will continue to have these activity afternoons on Saturdays during the warmer months...
- FORUM house groups: Recently when we met for the first time in Trausdorf, the question came up spontaneously: "Is homosexuality really a sin?" and soon we were in the middle of looking at what it says in God's Word about this hotly debated subject. The Bible study which Hans–Georg had prepared on the resurrection was postponed to the last week in April. At that meeting three new people came along! We rejoice over this special opportunity to build trust and being able to bring to the Lord together the personal prayer requests of the people attending. This is so valuable!
- Our visit to the former nursery of our little grandson Lenni ('Little Rainbow World') in Unterwaltersdorf (Lower Austria) to tell them about Papua New Guinea and to show our pictures was great fun, certainly for the children. The next day the nursery leader sent us the following Facebook message: "Hello you two! I want to say thank you so much for your presentation yesterday!! Today we sang your Pidgin–English song twice ('Jisas laikim olgeta' = 'Jesus loves everybody'). Thank you and lots of love…" Now we are trusting that our personal testimony in word and song will continue to have an effect!
- Margret reports: "The two ladies' breakfast meetings in Upper Austria (Sierning and Freistadt) were both attended by over 150 women for Austria that is quite a crowd! They all listened carefully and I had great freedom in sharing the Gospel through the topic for the day. Again we got to know many new dear committed people who are serving the Lord Jesus faithfully in their corner of Austria. So lovely and so encouraging! Hans—Georg was my 'chauffeur' and helped with the book stall and the technical side (video projector, laptop, etc.) which really isn't my thing! This meant I was free to concentrate on my talk. ALSO: early on Saturday morning I lost my voice completely! We prayed earnestly together on the journey to Freistadt and God was SO merciful and gave me my voice back for the talk! THANK YOU, Lord Jesus!
- In the latest **counselling session** with a couple that we have got to know we went deeper into the causes of their difficulties. We **need your prayers especially** for this, so that reconciliation and healing can take place.

## The 'view' looking ahead... Events and prayer requests for May:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May: Retreat concerning our 'Eisenstadt FORUM' church planting project.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May: Marriage preparation course with M. & S.
- 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> May: Our association of churches (BEG) had been celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Kufstein (Tyrol). It has been a source of encouragement for the leaders and for the participants travelling on this good path of fellowship. Our area of responsibility was Foreign Missions and we gave a short report.

**The same weekend** our other sending church in Leichlingen (Rhineland) was holding its **40**<sup>th</sup> **anniversary** with the dedication of new church meeting rooms. Such a shame that we couldn't be there...!

- 10<sup>th</sup> May: Consultations with the Association of Evangelical Missions in Austria over the possible formation of an 'Austrian Missionary Fellowship', modelled on the DMG (Germany). We need wisdom and God's leading...
- 11<sup>th</sup> May: Hans-Georg was meeting a deaf Austrian/Thai couple who have applied for a one-year placement in Thailand.
- 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May: Visit from an Austrian missionary who is working with mus.lim.s. Please pray for a fruitful time of fellowship.
- 16<sup>th</sup> May: Conducting yet another funeral in a village near Eisenstadt the daughter of the deceased holds on to Buddhist beliefs PLEASE PRAY!
- 17<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> May: Family holiday for the Eisenstadt FORUM. We are excited: 'new' FORUM guests may be coming along...
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Marriage counselling
- 24<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup> May: Travelling to Gerlingen (S. Germany) to meet with Hans–Georg's sisters, having to make decisions in connection with the death of their mother (fall of last year).

PLEASE don't forget to pray for our short and long term missionaries – those on the field and those in preparation! These were just a few insights into our life – what we've done and what we've got coming up...

We THANK YOU for your prayers, your phone calls, e-mails and for all your practical support for our work! It is always a joy to us to hear about your journey with the Lord Jesus and we wish you much encouragement!



HIS blessings and best Regards,

Hans-Georg, Margret & Annika Hoprich

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