

Rundbrief

Berichte und Austausch über Missionsarbeit (Apg. 14,27 / 2. Thess. 3,1)

Trier, March 2024,

"But if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives freely to all and reproaches nothing, and it will be given to him."

(James 1:5)

Dear brothers and sisters,

we need wisdom again and again. How glad we can be that we have the source of wisdom in our Lord Jesus and His Word!

We would like to get back to you with some messages.

First of all, something private: We are so grateful that we were able to go on vacation for a week two weeks ago. After my illness last year and Anita's illness in the past few months, we were fit enough to fly away and that was so good! Praise the Lord for that. And... on 23.3.24 we will celebrate our golden wedding anniversary – if the Lord wants it and we are still alive. That's an experience!

Trier

What gives us so much joy is that the assembly continues to grow here locally. What a blessing! Sometimes it's even a little difficult to keep track of everything...

From January 28th to February 3rd, we had the "HisStory" exhibition in our premises. It is an exhibition about the influence of Christianity on world history. In itself, this is a very interesting topic. A good book on the subject is:

"How Christianity Changed the World" – Alvin J. Schmidt.

The number of visitors was modest. Nevertheless, there were always conversations: on the street and in our premises. It was a pity that more school classes didn't come. But it is what it is. The presentations on the topic were relatively well attended and that was just nice.



Ethiopia

The Emmaus Work:

Last year, 180,749 Emmaus courses were distributed in this country, of which 178,150 rates were corrected. We have 205 Bible centers there and 16,267 students received a first diploma, 17,891 a second diploma and 2,115 a third diploma. I know it's just numbers. But there's a lot of spiritual energy behind those numbers. We thank God for every course that has been taken and hope that the courses will have an impact in people's lives.

Unfortunately, there were much fewer than in previous years (about 40,000). When I asked Degefa why this was the case, he told me that it was because of the political situation in the country, which is getting worse and worse, and it is becoming more and more dangerous on the streets. Zecharias Erdolo, our employee of the 1 Euroschule, told us the same thing. Isn't that terrible?

Silas Porten gave me the following link with a video about the developments and the current situation in Ethiopia:



<https://youtu.be/NShrKHu2aN0?si=CgUV8VsLP8WIVuuh>

I find this so sad. For the past 20 years, we have always been able to travel around the country without worrying, but in the last three years it has become and continues to be more and more difficult.

Nevertheless, we hope to hold our annual employee conference there in Addis Ababa in October.

The 1 Euroschool::

This work has been going well for some time under our new board. Last week, Zecharias Erdolo (the director of the school) told me on the phone that things are going well at the school. What bothers him is that he can't travel there at the moment: it's too dangerous. He

was kidnapped last year. Here in Germany, we are working diligently to ensure that we get more and more sponsors for the children.

For more information see: <https://www.1euro-international.de/patenschaft/>

Egypt

From **the 18th to the 29th of April**, Eduard Sudermann and I hope to travel to Egypt to see how the work is going there. *Michael Krampulz*, who is taking care of the work with me in the North African countries, also hopes to be there for a few days, mainly so that he and Pastor Ayman can get to know each other.

We will have our annual conference in Giza, where about 50 of our staff will meet. And otherwise, there are quite a few diploma awards in the country. It is always gratifying to meet the employees in person.



Provinces where we have students.

Sudan

From April 1 to 10, Pastor Ayman and Isaaq hope to travel to South Sudan to see how the work is progressing. There seems to be a lot going on there, but it's not easy to get information. Unfortunately, the Sudanese have not yet been brought up to pass on information on a regular basis. Ayman and Isaaq will try to work on this weak point. And we will try to accompany them on their journey and, if possible, share information on WhatsApp on a daily basis.



Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco

Working in these countries is difficult. On the one hand, because they are Muslim countries, and on the other hand, because, as our employees say, they do not have a reading culture. It's different in Egypt. There is a lot of reading among Christians. Nevertheless, 312 courses were distributed and corrected in these countries last year.

We are still looking for a reliable employee for Tunisia. Perhaps it is possible to renew contact with Ahmed Mtibaa.

Well, a warm greeting and thank you for your interest!

A warm greeting from Mertesdorf, your,

Wim and Anita Hoddenbagh