

Newsletter May 2015

Dear brothers and sisters,

Grandmother Valentina from the Ukraine visited us this spring again. We first did not know whether she was going to come to Switzerland at all since she has had some health problems in recent months. Last time when she stayed with us for a month in August, it was the month of my mother's death. From July 10 to July 20 we are expecting sixteen young people from Ohio for a project week. In the month of May we worked some more on the details for their coming and in their being engaged in a full week of activity. To be able to pray for the week that lies ahead of us, we are giving you an idea in this newsletter of how the youth will be serving in Thun.



Valentina and Lena who are standing near the castle Schadau. In the background behind the calm lake are the lower regions of the alps.

The Ohio Team and The Outreach Project in July



The Ohio Team who is talking to some church members

We basically have three parts in our project week. First, the youth will sing Christian songs in elderly residences and elderly homes in English and in German. They will also sing in the streets of Thun on three occasions as a whole group and be split up in two groups. I and a few members of the church will pass out some handouts in the streets near the choir. We also have handouts to hang on information boards in the area to announce two other activities (English conversation and children's events).

that will be strongly involved in the project week

English conversation. Third, there will be children's events on three days where the youth will act out Bible stories. We chose the river Zulg with a large riverbed in which only a small river makes its way through it. The children will have an experience with water and learn some stories that deal with water. Fourth, we have a work project in which our young people from Ohio will be doing some manual work anywhere they might be needed. In addition, the youth will have times of fellowship with the church and they will be doing activities with our young people and their friends. As we are preparing for the project week, we want people in church to be involved, too, so that we reach out to people as a

Second, people can sign up for a one on one

community.

Mixed News

We started studying 1. Thessalonians in our class on Wednesday evening at the end of April and will finish this study before the youth from Ohio will arrive. In our search for an assembly place, we visited a center that is used for physical exercise. Courses for pregnant women, children, and many other courses are conducted in that center. We could use the two large rooms for Sunday if we wanted. For right now we will be able to stay in the elderly residence which gives us some more time to be talking about the options that we have. We have been told that we could stay on the sixth floor of the residence until the end of the year 2015.

Prayers

- For the project week with youth from Ohio that starts July 10 and ends July 20
- On the continual search of a worship place
- Thanking God that he took my mother home to be eternally with him relieving her from much pain and suffering that she otherwise would have had in months to come
- Recovery process of Marcel and my brother who both underwent surgery
- Additional financial support of \$500 beginning with 2016 or earlier
- Teklosien and Elsa with Ufoita and Yann (also two of their children still in Eritrea)
- Lucia, 72, and Elfriede, 86, who are dealing with all kinds of health problems
- Rösli, 87, who attends the Sunday morning assembly as a regular visitor
- Pregnancies of Regina and Angelica who will give birth in August or September
- Our small children: Robin, Ilja, Elena, Jeanette, Joline, Sarah, Julia, Eliane, and Vanessa
- Anna having her first baby – that through ongoing life she may seek God more deeply
- Young people from church members that do not attend church anymore: Anna, Mathias, Benjamin, Rahel.
- The visitors and the people that the church is in contact with
- Strengthening our confession of Christ in the world

Any Funds Can Be Sent to Our Overseeing Congregation:

Park Avenue Church of Christ
5295 Park Avenue
Memphis, TN 38119

Grace and Peace,

Ivan + Lena

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