

Dear friends & partners,

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and a great start to the New Year.

Fostering Relationships

Even though we were mainly sick over Christmas & New Years, we feel we were still blessed with a good start to the year. We were able to further foster the relationships with our neighbours & people coming to our bible study. Because of the opportunity to invite our friends from across the street over for a Pizza night, they also ended up attending the bible study for the first time. What was even more encouraging about this, was that they actively participated & seemed very interested. We were able to share the gospel clearly, several times. Now we pray that God works in their hearts.

Totalization Agreement/International Laws

A friend in ministry made us aware of "Totalisation Agreements" – something that effects many missionaries and now us too. In short Germany's agreement has a rule, that would require us to stay 12 months in the US, to stay in the Social Security. Since Katie is Norwegian & we could only acquire a 6-month visa for now, we are forced to look for a way into the German system, to keep ourselves in line with the laws. As of right now this means, we are looking to find a mission's agency that is headquartered in the US but also has offices here in Germany. This will allow us to continue Church Planting without having to leave the country for 12 months.

Upcoming time in the States to raise financial partnership

After some specific time of discernment & prayer, we evaluated what God was laying on our hearts with the situation described above. With an opportunity to be at a missions conference in March, we decided to come back to the US for a time to raise further financial partnership. We will be maximizing the time & will aim for 90 days but no longer than 180 days. At this particular time, we are also going to see how God leads us in search of a missions agency.

Plans and Prayer

We have our Bible study currently on a bi-weekly schedule & are still looking for facilities. There is an excellent venue that we are praying about, check our social media for details. **Please join us in praying that: 1. We can get a core team together, 2. Acquire a facility 3. Start public services that we can advertise.** This could take several years or maybe only months, however we know that everything will be in God's hands and His perfect timing.

Thanks so much for your prayers and support!

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Justin & Katie
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