

May Ministry

Newsletter

Hi, Rachel!

I don't know about where you are, but in Germany, we have officially welcomed the summer weather! Germans, like most Europeans, don't see the need for AC like Americans do, so I have to adjust accordingly. I have prepped my home for its first summer, complete with blackout curtains and bug screens so that I can throw the windows open in the early hours to let in the fresh air, then close everything up for most of the day to keep out the heat. It's a science that I haven't entirely mastered yet, but I hope to soon before July! 😊

What God Has Been Teaching Me

There is a feeling I have been trying to figure out for a while now. A beautiful feeling of fullness and contentedness that I will get at random times. Sometimes I get it when I am sending emails, sometimes it is when I am making cookies for neighbors, or a blanket for a friend's newborn. Sometimes it comes when I am sitting with others or having a one-on-one conversation, or even just on a walk on my own. I have debated where this is coming from or what the pattern is. I'm not always doing anything terribly exciting; in

fact, I'm usually not. It's a feeling that I have often craved and have gone long seasons without. These last few months, though, I have felt it more. Why?

After many conversations with God and with others, I believe this is a feeling we get when we operate within our calling.

This realization has been such a reassurance as I continue to settle into my ministry. While life is full of radical moments, the rest of the time in between can feel mundane. But life with God should be anything but mundane! I am challenged to consider how beautiful the little, day-to-day things can be when they are within the life God has chosen for us. God gives each of us a calling that— no matter how against the current of the world it goes— we are commanded to follow.

1 Corinthians 7:17 "Only let each person lead the life the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches."

I can't help but think about how much more a plant fruits when it's in its correct environment.

How much more fruitful our lives are when we live within the life God has called us to! Is this why I am feeling this fullness with things that I did even before my ministry began? I think so.

My prayer for you today is clarity in your calling and that God will fill your life with fruitfulness.

Local Ministry

My sweet little house church is maybe not so little anymore! When we started last year, we had 7 individuals on a day when everyone could come. Now, despite sending out one

member to start another house church (woo hoo!), we have 11 adults and 6 children! On a Sunday that we have everyone there, it is delightfully chaotic, and the joy of the gospel that fills the room is unmistakable!



Photos from house church!

As you pray for our church, I would ask for prayers in particular for J. This woman in our church was able to gather what she needed for herself, her two toddlers, and her unborn child to leave her abusive husband in December. The baby was born in March, and our church has done what we can to come around her in support. She was able to join us for church last week, and while she feels their little family is doing well, she also shared the difficulty of postpartum that is paired with the difficulty of now being a single mother and recovering from the abuse she and her children endured.

One of the ways our church is coming around her is we are covering the cost for a housekeeper to come and help take care of her home now that the assistance the hospital provided with the newborn has lapsed. If you would like to help us support J in this way, I would ask you to join us in prayer and consider making a donation towards meals and a housekeeper for this family. *(Be sure to add a note in your donation that it is for J's family)*

Make a donation

Europe Wide Ministry

So far this year, I have helped to host two small conferences for our leadership teams and am prepping for a large one in the Fall. These have been delightfully challenging (in that they have been the hardest part of my job but the most enjoyable) as I have learned how to work with many people in different countries to ensure meetings go smoothly and are productive. While they involve a lot of nitty-gritty vision casting and strategic planning, which is cool to be a part of, my favorite part is the opportunity to surround our missionaries with support.

Our first conference was in Rome, Italy. The second was in Riga, Latvia. These locations were chosen in part due to the team of missionaries there. We pray over what teams we haven't seen in a while or who may need encouragement. We take half a day each trip to spend time with these teams, get to know them more, share a meal, and pray over them. What a blessing it was to hear about the couple of women engaging in sport ministry in Rome, and the few workers sharing the hope of the Lord by first providing the hope that prosthetic limbs provide to those in need of them in Riga.

Language Acquisition

I have reached the halfway point in my language studies! While it doesn't always feel that way, the little milestones are reassuring. I have successfully given directions to a stranger in German and held short conversations with children about their day or favorite things. My German/English mix is becoming more frequent in church, which feels like an improvement from refusing to speak German unless I know how to formulate my entire thought or sentence.

I am taking advantage of the slow summer months and filling them with an accelerated language course (for reference, I typically have class 2 hours a day twice a week. This class is 5 hours a day, four days a week 😊). I eagerly anticipate the start of that course in late June and pray I can stretch the language muscles that have slowly been developing.

Trying Something New!

I think we should try something new! As most things have been over here, it has been more difficult than anticipated to find the best ways to engage and support my ministry team from across the ocean. I am pushing to find a rhythm for emails, but I have had a few people recommend a WhatsApp chat as well! I have prayed over this for a couple of months and am hopeful it will be a way I can more easily send some quick prayer requests, updates, photos, etc. This won't replace these newsletters, but will supplement them. Let's try it out!

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Updates

Prayer Requests

Thank you so much for your prayers. I feel them and they are so appreciated. Over the next couple of weeks, here are my biggest praises and prayer requests:

- **Prayer:** For J and her family as she recovers from postpartum and adjusts to being a single mother. Prayers as well for our church that God continues to show us the best way to come around her in love.
- **Praise:** Thank God for new believers coming to our church!
- **Prayer:** For continued language learning.
- **Praise:** For two conferences going well and for the ministries all throughout Europe!

Thank you for your continued support! If there are any ways I can encourage you, pray for you, or any questions you have for me, please don't hesitate to reach out. As you support me, I hope to be a support for you.

Till next time, *tschüss!*

Emily Anderson

This updates up-to-date photo features my friend, Kara, when we celebrated my birthday in April!





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My service in Europe is not possible without the financial partners called to be a part of my work, and it is an honor to have people join in this special way! While I am currently able to serve full-time, my ministry is not fully funded, and my visa requires that I be fully funded if I am to continue serving in Germany beyond 2028. I would encourage you to pray if God would have you be a part of filling this need with either monthly donations or a special gift.

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