



LUKE 24:5-6

We greet you warmly with the Eastern Orthodox greeting: "Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!" In these days, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, which strengthens us with enduring hope (for more see 1 Corinthians 15). What a joyous time.

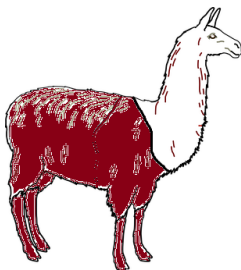
There is hope: hope for forgiveness, hope of a new and rich life with God our Father, hope everlasting.

In the last couple of weeks and months there were many encounters and impressions with various people in various settings, so that we can only share some of the highlights.

Tickets are booked – Departure

We were allowed to book our flight tickets!

Though our most recent account shows coverage for "only" **63%** of our actual cost, we have pledges for 70% so far which is the German marking point for being allowed to leave the country. Yes, we are departing in August. We thank each one of you who has made that possible!!!



You are more than welcome to help us fill out the entire lama.

Personally, our goal has been to reach more than 80% of our costs before we leave, since this is the next marking point once we leave for the second term.



We are also grateful for all those giving one-time donations. There are certain costs occurring sporadically which need to be paid as well. For example, this month we had additional costs for flight tickets and medical bills (several vaccinations for the entire family).

Our ministry at this moment takes us to **many places in Germany**. But there is one highlight Ben is looking forward to in a special way: Chicago! As you might remember we were part of the body of First Evangelical Free Church for six years while studying in the US. Now we are thrilled to see that First Free is partnering with us. Thus, Ben will be in Chicago from May 30th till June 5th.

Education and training

Being involved in theological education implies never to stop learning. But to live is to learn, as the saying goes. This year Ben had two opportunities to enjoy continuing education. Once he was able to visit Marburg (see picture in the header). There was a meeting of New Testament

Why do you seek
the living among
the dead?
He is not here,
but has risen.

Christ is risen! He
is risen indeed!



scholars in which he participated. He also had the opportunity to sit in as a guest student at a doctoral class. The class was on **“Theological Education as Adult Education”** taught by a wonderful American professor – Shirl Schiffman.



This was a very helpful learning situation – especially considering being a teacher in Peru. [For First Free folks: in the picture, there is a German missionary from Peru whose house serves the Carreras as a shelter right now].

Teaching

At our church in Germany (FeG Darmstadt) we had a course in which Ben participated as a teacher. The course serves as an **introduction to the Christian faith**. Ben really enjoys looking at the foundations of our faith and communicating them to others.

Another teaching opportunity was at our annual small group leader meeting. Here Ben taught on **„How to Interpret Scripture“**.

Vaccinations

Recently Daniela and Ben got their last round of shots. Now it is time for the children to get theirs.

Some of these vaccinations are easy on the body. But some of them are quite rough. Our arms were hurting for a couple of days after we got our shots. Yet, we are thankful for the good and solid medical provision.

Family Vacation

As we won't be able to have another major vacation with Ben's family, we took advantage of our spring break to do so for the last time. Together – 8 adults and 5

children – we went to a small village in the Black Forrest where we stayed in a beautiful house with a large garden.



All of us, and especially the kids, enjoyed the time together – time of relaxation and time of sports and fun.

Church Service with Völkers

On the 12th of February, we had a special church service. On this day **Markus und Monika Völker (missionaries in Peru)** visited us.



They shared about their – and our future – ministry in Peru and explained really well why theological education is so important. We had a potluck including a Q&A session right after.

Thank you for your partnership and prayers!

Greetings from Darmstadt,

Ben & Daniela
Joel, Timothy und Jason

Prayer

Praise:

- Booked tickets
- Blessed church service and luncheon on 02/12
- We already know our mentors in Peru
- New tenant that we can sell most of our things to

Request:

- Preparation for many teaching engagements
- That the boys will do fine with the vaccinations
- That the support pledged will come in

Contact



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