

May 20 to 26

Senior Citizens' Work

**Neither by power, nor by strength, but by my spirit, says the Lord of heavenly forces.
(Zechariah 4,6 CEB)**

Thanks to the heavenly whirlwind

If only it was that easy. What a gap between theory and practice! Of course we believe that the Holy Spirit is capable of anything and can make the impossible possible. For example, getting the faltering work going again to build the second temple in Jerusalem. Re-motivating and re-energising the tired workers and their families. Just like that. With the power of the Holy Spirit, the heavenly whirlwind. But experience shows us it often doesn't work like that. No church has ever been built if we sit back and wait for the Holy Spirit to blow across the building site. It still needs people to be inspired by the heavenly whirlwind and to convert it into human activity, in a kind of secret collaboration between human and holy strength, human and Holy Spirit. In the church today we tend to expect a great deal from human thought processes and creativity. Some-

times we even expect this to provide the answers to all our problems. When we find ourselves stuck in this mindset yet again, we ought to remember God's clear instructions. Without His Holy Spirit, all human thought, planning and organisation, all effort and production will be just a waste of time. We'd be no different from any other business enterprise. More than ever before, we need the Spirit of Pentecost to blow its heavenly whirlwind across all the construction sites of our lives.

Ulrike Burkhardt-Kibitzki

Contact: ulrike.burkhardt-kibitzki@emk.de
Translation: Jacqueline Rohmann

WE GIVE THANKS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, MEN AND WOMEN,

- who have lived exemplary lives for decades in devoted loyalty to the church community.
- who make every sacrifice in modest devotion to their faith without becoming careworn
- who are willing to learn and accept changes even in their old age.
- who accompany and support new developments with both criticism and composure
- who remain open-minded for the next generations.

WE ARE PRAYING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, MEN AND WOMEN,

- who are always willing to take on voluntary roles.
- who gladly listen to children and youngsters.
- who accept their lives from the hands of God despite all difficulties.
- who take care of the very elderly and the dying and accompany them on their final journey

Senior Citizens' Work

In an ageing society, the work with senior citizens is gaining more and more importance. We want to see the capabilities, experience and wisdom of older people bearing fruit in today's church and world. Those of advancing years are highly valued partners in building the Kingdom of God. They make an indispensable contribution as those who are called by Jesus Christ.

The Senior Citizens' Work is part of the EmK's education programme.

Contact:

Senior Citizens' Secretary
Ulrike Burkhardt-Kibitzki
ulrike.burkhardt-kibitzki@emk.de

More information on
www.emk-bildungswerk.de