

October 7 to 13

International and Migrant Ministries

**Heal, O Lord, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved; For you are my praise.
(Jeremiah 17:14)**

An Uncomfortable Hope Maker

Jeremiah was a prophet. A prophet's job is to tell us things we do not necessarily want to hear. A prophet's job is to make us uncomfortable. In the stories and prayers of Jeremiah, we read about trauma, disaster, and survival. Jeremiah's prophecy is the product of troubled times. The walls of Jerusalem fell in 587 BCE. Life in the land had been severely disrupted. Economic life was destroyed. And daily lives were severely altered. The people of Judah had undergone a disaster. They lost physical infrastructure. Their political, economic, and religious leadership was gone. Their survival as a community was in serious doubt.

Amidst the tragedy, Jeremiah shows us a prophet who is merciful. Jeremiah is the symbol of the suffering people. The people who are taken captive.

Dragged from their land. And deprived from their temple. They are beaten and imprisoned. And like Jeremiah, they cry out to God in anger and pain. Jeremiah's life paints a picture of overwhelming loss and suffering. And...it also points toward hope. Hope to help the community move toward the future as God's beloved community.

Brothers and sisters, where do we point to? Do we point towards a community of hope? How do we express hope to our brothers and sisters who have experienced overwhelming loss and suffering? Jeremiah was a prophet. A prophet who is still telling us things we do not necessarily want to hear. A prophet who is still making us uncomfortable. A prophet who is pointing us towards hope.

Yvonne Agduyeng, Global Fellow Mission
Contact: coordinator@emk.de

WE GIVE THANKS FOR

- persistent, patient, and prophetic work of churches and organizations helping refugees.
- church leaders and others who continue to struggle for justice, human rights and dignity for all people.

WE PRAY FOR

- children and youth who are traumatized by violence and flee to other lands.
- continued pursuit of peace in war-torn countries.
- greater respect for the human rights of all, especially vulnerable populations.
- Christians to have the courage to live out the liberating gospel.

International and Migrant Ministries

The central focus of Migrant and International Ministries is outreach to and development of international and migrant United Methodist ministries in Germany. This covers asylum seekers, migrants, students, undocumented workers, residents with foreign backgrounds, and military personnel and their families.

Contact:

International and
Migrant Ministries
Dielmannstraße 26
60599 Frankfurt am Main

Phone: 069 242521-112
Email: coordinator@emk.de

Web: www.unitedmethodist.de
Web: www.emk.de/internationalegemeinden