

January 21 to 27

International and Migrant Ministries

The LORD will shine upon you. God's glory will appear over you.
(Jesaja 60:2 CEB)

Cheerfulness within grasp

"Arise and shine!" The daily morning wakeup call reaching beyond memory from the mouths of both of my grandmother and my mother.

There were many days when I had not felt like getting out of bed to face what I knew would be the heavy challenges and shadows of the day. How can I even try to maintain Christian standards of character and behavior in an environment that didn't care or that was often strongly opposed to such ideas? There were also times of dread knowing that I would not be capable in many of the tasks of the day or to be able to face the broken relationships in my life.

At the time I did not yet know the source of this ancient exhortation (Isaiah 60), yet something in these words, and the cheerful way they were delivered to a child, somehow were words that brought hope, providing courage and peace, even in the darkest times of my life. I was able to quickly spring from bed and cloth myself also with this cheerfulness and joy for the new day and those ahead. Yes something new is coming, and even already is within grasp.

"Arise and shine! The Lord's Glory has shone upon you", like a catechism, at 6:30 am today is my call as I wake my own.

George Miller
Contact: coordinator@emk.de

I GIVE THANKS

- That as Christians we can have a sense of meaning in this crazy world which the society finds to be "wasteful" or nonsense.
- That even when it seems that Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away, when truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter, we shall be known by our love. Love which allows and demands a place of forgiveness and reconciliation in the Christian walk while maintaining a standard of righteousness and justice.

IT IS MY PRAYER

- That we can see even through our own dark side and shadows, our calling to be in ministry.
- That when the uncertainty, fear and doubt visit, we will be able to draw from the teachings of the Scripture which becomes a part of our everyday life.
- We can encourage one another to "rise and shine" as we can have confidence in God's promise to send a Redeemer.
- That His spirit that is upon us and the words that He has put in our mouths shall never depart from us.

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
Rev. George Miller
Dielmannstraße 26
60599 Frankfurt am Main

Phone: 069 242521-112
E-Mail: coordinator@emk.de

www.unitedmethodist.de
www.emk.de/internationalegemeinden