

April 1 to 7

Evangelism Work

Christ said: "I was dead, but look! Now I'm alive for ever and always. I have the keys of Death and the Grave". (Revelation 1: 18 NRSV)

Revolutionary Hope.

John is the author of the revelations contained in the last book of the Bible. The end of the first century was a difficult time for Christians. Under various emperors of the mighty Roman Empire they were persecuted. Even John, on account of his faith, was banished to live in exile on the island of Patmos. It was there, whilst in captivity, that Jesus appeared to him and surprised him with this wonderful Easter message: "Jesus is alive! He holds the keys of death and Hell." The persecuted prisoner, John, heard these liberating words and, in writing them down, was able to pass them on to the persecuted Christians throughout the region. The radical message of resurrection and new life breaks every chain, and lets the prisoner breathe out with revolutionary hope. Then, as it is now.

Letters out of captivity or dire situations often have a great impact on their readers. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther King or Nelson Mandela are good examples from recent history. What John writes here reached the still young Christian community, during a difficult time: "Jesus is alive! From eternity to eternity. He holds the keys of death and Hell." This message changes everything. In the knowledge of this revolutionary hope, Christians have taken the liberating message of the Gospel out into the world.

Easter happens today, where people hear this message and share it with others.

Barry Sloan, leader of the Evangelism Work

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I give thanks

- for the many friends, prayer partners & donors who help to carry the burden and who make our work in evangelism possible
- for the many resources & aids which enable us to carry out a creative, professional and reliable work across Europe
- that many people – who would otherwise never enter a church – come to hear the message of God's love through our tent mission.

I pray

- for the co-workers of the tent mission in Laichingen and their families. For a good working atmosphere in the new team
- that churches find new impetus through the 40 day campaign "Frühling in der Kirche" (Spring in the Church)
- for the preparations and planning of the tent mission season, which begins in May.

Evangelism Work

Passing on the good news of God's love in new and relevant ways – this is how the Evangelism Work is supporting our churches. Main emphasis: evangelizing (Barry Sloan), church planting (Eberhard Schilling) and congregational development (Anne Detjen). With the tents & vehicles of the Tent Mission (led by Hans-Martin Kienle) the work is supporting churches throughout Europe in various evangelistic campaigns. Central & regional training plus counselling is also on offer.

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