

April 22 to 28

Children's Work of the Central Conference

So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived! (2 Corinthians 5, 17 CEB)

Complete makeover instead of cosmetic repairs

"This special experience keeps me going all year!" These are the words a woman in our church said after this year's Easter Vigil. For this woman, spending the early hours of Easter morning in the presence of God, lighting the Easter candle at the Easter fire, becoming fully aware of new life in Christ through baptism renewal and then joining her brothers and sisters in Christ to receive bread and wine at the Lord's Supper were all very special moments and symbols to help her understand once again that life is different since Easter and that Christ reaches out to us to renew our lives.

Maybe no-one else has experienced quite so profoundly as Paul, the writer of the letter to the Cor-

inthians, how life is completely changed by encountering the risen Christ. A persecutor of Christians becomes a devoted follower of Christ! Paul is the best example of how being closely connected with Jesus results in a complete makeover of our lives rather than just a few cosmetic repairs. God makes a new creature, a new creation! With new certainty that God loves me! With new standards that apply to my life from now on! With new goals that give direction to my life! And with new hope that fills my life - even beyond the grave! And while I certainly am still not perfect, it is my faith in Jesus that constantly creates new space for change.

Tanja Lübben

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I am thankful

- for the European Methodist Festival "Staunen!" from 9 to 13 May in Cuxhaven.
- for around 80 children from Germany and neighbouring European countries who will be coming to the European festival with their parents or grandparents.
- for a committed, motivated team on site that is working to make this an appealing, shared experience inspired by God.
- for all the possibilities that will arise during this time to bear international witness to our unity in Christ.

I pray

- for all the ongoing preparations in this last critical phase before the start of the festival.
- for an atmosphere filled with the spirit of God during the festival with rich blessings in all shared activities.
- for protection and safety for everyone as they come to the festival and throughout the whole event.

Children's Work of the Central Conference

The desire of the Methodist Children's Work is to bring children to Jesus Christ, and so there to remain with him. We want to support young adults in their personal growth and to strengthen the rights of children in both church and society. We want to create safe spaces in our churches for children and we take a stand in order to safeguard the wellbeing of all boys and girls. In our church, children meet people who share with them their living faith in Jesus Christ.

Contact:

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