



Ich bete für meine Kirche 2018

May 27 to June 2

Hamburg District

**Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of heavenly forces! All the earth is filled with God's glory.
(Isaiah 6,3 CEB)**

You are just amazing!

The theme song for the "Staunen!" festival is still running through my head, with "You are just amazing" repeated several times in the chorus. Yes, we were truly amazed from 9 to 13 May in Cuxhaven, where we shared joyful worship songs, faith experiences, testimonies and witness, community and fellowship, questions, issues and challenges. And all in the context of God's presence. Returning home to our everyday lives, we feel strengthened and encouraged with new impetus and inspiration.

Trinity Sunday marks the end of the series of major festivals in the church year. They span an arch from Advent to Pentecost, reminding us every year how God revealed himself to us in Jesus Christ, sending us the Holy Spirit to reassure us with his presence. Actually, it's a shame that Trinity Sunday pales into insignificance by comparison. It invites us to be amazed, prayerful and grateful as we look at this broad arch that encompasses the world and our

life in all its facets. It is followed by a phase of "ordinary time." To prevent our faith from losing vibrancy in the face of everyday stress and routines, it is important to pause now and then and to consciously step into the presence of God. If we take time to be amazed at His work, to be grateful for His love and to honour Him for His grace, this will expand our vision and fill us with new strength. What are your reasons to be amazed and grateful today?

Irene Kraft

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I GIVE THANKS

- for the "Staunen!" festival with more than 800 Methodists from all over Europe and for sharing good fellowship across generations and national frontiers.
- that God, to whom all glory belongs, turns to us people in love and sets our feet in a broad place.

I PRAY

- for encouragement and strength for people who are so stressed that they find it hard to be amazed and grateful.
- that God will call young people to serve as pastors in the North Germany Conference of our Methodist Church.
- for the East Germany Annual Conference meeting from 31 May to 3 June in Schneeberg.

Hamburg District

The Hamburg District covers the federal states of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, Bremen, and Lower Saxony and has two churches in North Rhine-Westphalia.

The district has 27 circuits with 33 churches, including four Ghanaian churches and an international English-speaking church, with altogether around 2,800 confessing members.

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