

April 7 to 13

Children's Work of the Central Conference

The Human One didn't come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people. (Matthew 20,(25-)28 CEB)

Worth living for

What a vision of life together: not enhancing your own advantage, your own position or special tribute, but being considerate, putting your own interests on the back burner and showing humility - the courage to serve.

Current developments in our world put this in sharp contrast with the current trends to "me first", nationalism and marginalisation.

How can our world have any hope for the future? Even business and industry seem to realise that unabated growth and an inconsiderate quest for profit are not viable in the long term. What's needed is an alternative concept for how people can live together. After all, we know how much need and suffering is caused when individuals strive for supremacy.

The text from Matthew's Gospel describes how the disciples live together and their very human desire

to be something special. The answer Jesus gives is to serve - to serve each other. He is the role model: he wants to serve, not be served. Jesus follows this path to its final consequence in his death on the cross so that we can have a future in liberation.

He gives his disciples the task not to raise themselves above each other but to serve each other instead. They will probably have found that just as difficult in those days as it is for us today. After all, who wants to be a servant to others?!

But this other view of life together, of being committed to each other and to the community, this is worth living for, and this is what brings about change.

Madelaine Strassburg

Contact: madelaine.strassburg@emk.de
Translation: Jacqueline Rohmann

I give thanks

- for the riches that children bring into our churches.
- for the many talents that people have.
- for the many people working in our church who focus on the needs of children and make every effort to ensure that children feel at home and have an opportunity to hear about, discover and experience faith.
- for the love behind all this commitment.

I pray

- that in the life of our churches, children are seen as partners from whom adults can learn something.
- that the decline in the number of children does not cause frustration.
- that new paths may be found for children to be involved.
- that our churches may be a role model for showing appreciation to children and for how young and old can live together in society at large.
- that we may learn to take a step back and realise that we don't lose anything in doing so.

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:

Tanja Lübben
Westdorf 105
26579 Baltrum

info@emk-kinderwerk.de