

August 4 to 10

Children's Work

So now you are no longer strangers and aliens. Rather, you are fellow citizens with God's people, and you belong to God's household. (Ephesians 2:19 CEB)

"Make yourself at home!" - This is what we say to our guests when we want them to feel free and to relax. There are no particular rules which you have to follow, you can just behave as you would do at home.

To feel at home is a good feeling. Home is the place where I can just hang out, where I can lounge about on the sofa, walk around in jogging trousers, or help myself from the fridge when I feel like it.!

God would also like us to feel at home. We belong to God's household. He makes everything available to us that belongs to him. He shares everything with us. He gives us the space to be ourselves. He wants to be our refuge and a place of safety. Yes, and we can also help ourselves from the fridge. The Bible is full of refreshing and nourishing words! Help yourself! We can lay claim to the promises and assurances

which we read in it for ourselves. That is the privilege of the resident!

Do I consciously live like this? Do I always take the time to sit down with God on the sofa, to lean on him and to tell him about my experiences, hopes and dreams?

Maren Herrendörfer

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Translation: Chris Woodhead

I give thanks

- for the children in our families and churches; for their enthusiasm and energy; for their laughter and astonishment for things
- for committed people who through their work with children and families, bring so much love into our churches; in children's services, youth groups, family services, with the Children's Bible Week, with camping retreats and the Scouts, to name but some

I pray

- for a broad view and a big heart for children and their families, as well as for their needs
- for ideas in our churches as to how we can reach young people and their families again
- for the children, that they get to know Jesus personally; in faith and trust to grow in him, and that they have people to be their companions on this journey

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 secure spaces in our churches for children, and to take a stand in order to protect the wellbeing of all boys and girls. Together, we want to be a church for all God's children.

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