

May 12 to 18

Hamburg District

**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)**

A different kind of support

In our Repair-Café recently, a lady brought in a vacuum cleaner, which looked like it had been made during the time of Methuselah. The helpful young student who was there, asked her suspiciously what the problem was. „It’s too loud“, the lady replied. This was confirmed once it was plugged in: the noise it made drowned out all conversation. An older gentleman, who was more familiar with this model, quickly detected what was wrong. On taking the appliance apart, it became clear that a small lump had got into the fan, and had bent one of the fan-blades. This caused the blade to hit the outer casing.

It’s also true of our lives, that some small thing can repeatedly have an unpleasant and visible effect on us. Then we have need of someone who will stand by us and help us to deal with the problem. This support makes a difference, and this is the support which Christ offers to us. He wants

to be our companion, to change us for the better, to improve the quality of our lives – and that for all to see. He wants to transform us from within, and not just once, but every day anew.

And how was it with the vacuum cleaner? Well, after a successful repair job, it wasn’t like new, but it was quiet. For the lady, however, it was now too quiet!

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I GIVE THANKS

- for the many people who day-in, day-out offer their services in our churches – often unnoticed
- for our friends who accompany us on our way, making it the more precious
- for our church, in which people of all nations may find Christ.

I PRAY

- for changes that take place in us, and in which the work of God can be seen by others
- for the counsellors among us who are repeatedly confronted by the burdens of others, and try to help where they can
- for the Superintendents, that they may teach us and lead us in wisdom

Hamburg District

The Hamburg District of the United Methodist Church encompasses the federal states of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, Bremen, Lower Saxony and 2 congregations in North Rhine Westphalia. There are 27 circuits in the district with 33 churches and around 2800 confessing members.

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