Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

# Ich bete für meine Kirche 2014

**23 to 29 March**

**Referat für diakonische und gesellschaftspolitische Verantwortung**

**He finally sat down under a solitary broom bush. He longed for his own death...Then suddenly a messenger (an angel) tapped him and said to him: "Get up! Eat something!"**
(1 King 19,4-5 CEB)

## Angels without Wings

I'm finished! I've had it! I wished, I were dead! Elijah's "life"-feeling felt like an unbearable burden, and death seemed relief. Many people have known similar situations: Illness, death, broken relationships, destruction of nature, violence, terror, war – all these can become killers of hopes.

The biblical text has only one single explanation for the encouragement which pulled Elijah out of his desperate desire to die: "An angel came from God."

Angels "need not be persons with wings" as the poet Rudolf Otto Wiemer wrote. Spring flowers like crocus, forsythia or magnolia blossoms can be angels for us and revive the joy of living in us. Our successful abstinence from alcohol or sweets during the first ten days of Lent can be an angel for someone. When a stress situation in our family, in our neighborhood, in the community or between nations does not escalate but is – or at least seems to be – turned to sensible negotiations: these are also signs of God's angels in action.
Angels walk with us on our ways even on ways which seem to be leading us into nowhere. Angels open our eyes for new perspectives showing us new ways of "life".

*Hans Martin Renno*

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## I GIVE THANKS

- For spring and the new flowering of nature.
- For people who are friendly and appreciate me.
- For people I find trustworthy.
- For people who share mourning and pain and also joy with me.
- For people who enjoy giving help to those who are in need.

## MY PRAYER IS

- That the peace negotiations for Syria will be maintained with much patience.
- That the suffering of the Syrians will soon come to an end, and they will gain new hope and courage.
- For the people in the Ukraine that right and justice will return to them – and no further violence will occur.
- For those responsible in politics and economy throughout the earth, that they will focus on those men and women who are affected by their decisions.

The workspace „diaconal and society political responsibilities" will encourage to form and change ourselves and our society towards the kingdom of God as propagated by Jesus. Our church stands up for the underprivileged, for justice, for peace, and for the protection of creation.

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