Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

Ich bete für meine Kirche 2014

27 April – 3 May — Children's Ministry (Kinderwerk)

But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength; they will fly up on wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired; they will walk and not be weary.
(Isaiah 40,31 CEB)

A help against discouragement

"Thank you, I'm fine." Is it true? Despite some negative developments in our country, we can say we are fine. We have good supplies, work and income possibilities, housing and safety, and yet, we are not totally fine. Many people are depressed or suffer from burnout. Many are mistreated. Even in biblical times young people were found to be tired and listless, and they failed and stumbled (Isaiah 40,30).

What is the situation of young persons, of children and youngsters in our society which confronts them with extremely high demands of efficiency and success as the most important requirements for their lives? They are also exhausted, tired, and may fail and stumble. The prophet encourages them and us with his words: "Look up at the sky and consider: who created these?" (Isaiah 40,28). And his answer comes quite naturally: "The LORD is the everlasting God, the creator."

That encourages us to take a break. We can think about it. The everlasting God has created everything, he continues to look after this earth. I am called out of my lethargy, and I will rely on God. He gives me wings and makes me fly. And I want to help children and youths to find their way to this encouragement and pass this hope on to them. I want children and youths to know and learn: The only thing that counts is God's love and compassion for us.

Damaris Hecker

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I give thanks

- For children in our congregations, kindergartens, and open centers for children and youths.
- For the many co-workers who care for children throughout the year and tell them about God's love.
- For all who prepare and organize KIKO's and mini KIKO's.
- For all who help on Conference Sundays by caring for the children at these conferences by providing meals and other necessities.

It is my prayer

- For the Annual Conference to give sufficient attention to subjects and problems concerning children among the great number of other topics.
- For the Conference Sundays that sufficient co-workers will be found for the KIKOs and that children and co-workers will have a happy and fulfilling day.
- For the many offers during vacations such as children's bible weeks, summer camp and tent camps. For instance the Anniversary Camp of the Wesley Scouts at Rothmannstal in the beginning of August.

The UMC Children's Ministry wants to guide children to Jesus Christ and stay with them. We want to help the young to develop their personality. We want to support children's rights in church and in society. We want to provide areas of safety for children in our congregations and our church. We support the protection of child welfare of girls and boys. We want to be "a church of all God's children" together with them.

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