Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

Ich bete für meine Kirche 2014

5 to 11 October **Evangelism Mission (Evangelisationswerk)**

Through Jesus, then, let us continually offer up to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the tribute of lips which acknowledge his name, and never forget to show kindness and to share what you have with others. (Hebrews 13,15-16 NEB)

The Rip off Machine

Some days ago while shopping, I witnessed an unpleasant scene. Standing in line at the checkout a customer started a loud argument with the cashier. When turning in bottles at the return machine he has accidentally pressed the wrong button, and his few Euros of return money had gone to the "Tafel" (low price outlet for low income persons). Now he wanted that money back, but the cashier said that she could not do that. Some others in the line tried to calm him with friendly words, but he got even more exited and finally yelled that he did not have money for donations, and set put up such a rip off machine was nothing but a dirty trick.

The incident made me think. Why am I willing to sacrifice? What motivates me to do good? The author of the letter to the Hebrews states two motivations to make a sacrifice. Some people may not like the word "sacrifice", but its meaning in this case is. Gratefulness and an inner conviction are my reasons for making a sacrifice. I give to God what God deserves. I praise him and say in my words that he is the center of my life. That has dethroned false idols – a wholesome effect. I have become more open for my neighbors, because I have understood: It is more blessed – makes me happier – to give than to receive. My life becomes richer and happier when I can make a gift. It is a tremendous privilege to have so much to give – words, deeds, and money. Training in that capacity is really worthwhile for me. And it is a joy for God.

Eberhard Schilling

I give thanks

- Because the Tent Mission had a good season this year, and many not church-related people could learn about God at our events and activities.
- For the many friends, praying persons, and givers supporting the evangelism mission of our church.
- For the many resources and means which help us to work creatively, professionally and reliably throughout Europe.

It is my prayer

- For Reverent Anne Detjen, who will succeed Christian Elle as secretary for the missionary work in congregations by 1 October.
- For male and female volunteers at the tent mission in Laichingen, who will complete the interior decoration of the new administration building.
- For the realization of the resolutions at the latest central synod to initiate the founding of new congregations and to look for turn-around projects.

The Evangelisationswerk assists our congregations in proclaiming the Good News of God's love. The main emphasis is on evangelism (Barry Sloan), founding of congregations (Eberhard Schilling, reactivation of congregations (Anne Detjen). With tents and the EmK/UMC tent mission mobile (leader Hans-Martin Kienle) congregations all over Europe are assisted by the Evangelism Mission in their different evangelism activities. Central and regional workshops and consultations are offered.

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