Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

Ich bete für meine Kirche 2014

November 16 to 22 **Mission for senior men and women (Senioren)**

We all must appear before Christ in court so that each person can be paid back for the things that were done while in the body, whether they were good or bad. (2 Corinthians 5,10 NEB)

Victory over disaster

Paul Baum, Albert Geiger, Ernst Fischer – three names, men who were killed in action during the first few months of Worldwar I in 1914. Two died in France, the third one in Galicia. The names of those who were killed and those who were reported as missing World War I and World War II – 32 names - are written on a memory tablet in our church, the Jubilaeumskirche, in Winnenden. The three men named above were young; they were probably married and had children, parents. Their early senseless death must have caused their families indescribable pain and sorrow.

There is no difference today. Wars have come near to us again this summer. Pictures from Ukraine and Syria have been shocking us. How can these acts of violence be stopped?

On Memorial Day / Volkstrauertag / we not only remember those who lost their lives in past wars. It is again more important than ever to work towards peace and to make it the main topic in public and in our churches on that day. Elderly people are the ones who have lived through the horror and terror of that past war. Many of them are still suffering from traumatic experiences during their childhood. How can they cope with that? The idea that Christ will provide comprehensive justice, and that no evil will go unpunished may be a healing thought. Christ's judgment does not mean simple retaliation, it means final and complete confrontation with all evil and then the final victory of justice. Christ is the Author and Finisher of this hope. That is a special comfort on Memorial Day.

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I give thanks

- For the message of peace of the Gospel addressed to all who work actively for peace, and act as peacemakers.
- For all who care therapeutically and spiritually for people with war traumata.
- For all persons in civil or military organizations who are actively trying to bring lasting peace into areas of conflict.
- For all who try to solve conflicts and estrangements in families and congregations.

I am praying

- For all who are threatened by war, ousting, torture, and rape, and especially for the weakest: children and old persons.
- For peace in Ukraine and the Middle East.
- For all whose life and wellbeing has been damaged by conflicts.

Senior Citizens (Senioren)

The number of elderly persons in our society and in our church is growing which makes our mission for them more and more important. We encourage seniors to enrich our world and our church with their knowlege, experiences, and wisdom. The elderly and the very old are most valuable partners for building the kingdom of God. They can make indispensable contributions because they have been specially commissioned by Jesus Christ.

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