Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

Ich bete für meine Kirche 2014

December 7 to 13 — UMC World Mission (Weltmission)

**Now when these things begin to happen,
stand up straight and raise your heads because your redemption is near.**
(Luke 21,28)

We are constantly surrounded by signs. In the city they tell me where to find important places and locations. In the streets they are not only pointing out the directions but also tell me, what is permitted and what is forbidden. However, not long ago on the auto rout I learned how fast you can read those signs incorrectly or forget them altogether. I knew about the construction site at the intersection, but I had not gone in that direction for some time. And therefore, I misread the sign that would have lead me the right way. When I noticed that I sold have made a turn to the right, I was already on the wrong track. Because of the restrictions inside the construction site I could only continue straight ahead and had to make a long detour.

In the same way, we often misinterpret or overlook the signs, which Jesus refers to in our text. He talks about difficult signs which can seem threatening to us. And there are plenty of them in or world today: Ebola, IS, and wars here and there may be sufficient examples. But more important is the encouragement Jesus gives us I his words. He is our rescue. That means for me: I belong to God, no matter what may happen. God is always with me and protects me now and in the future. And that encouragement makes me quiet and relaxed, even if I should overlook a sign once in a while and move temporarily into the wrong direction.

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I GIVE THANKS

- For the faithfulness of our co-workers travelling and moving about in various countries of Africa.
- For the doctors, nurses and medical assistants who have willingly gone to Western Africa to help fight against Ebola.
- For the generous financial support from many friends of World Mission which we receive especially in these difficult times.

MY PRAYER IS

- For the people in Western Africa who are affected by the Ebola crisis in various ways. May measures for the control of the virus soon be successful, and may the economic situation there be improved.

The UMC World Mission in Germany is responsible for the international cooperation of churches. It functions in close conectioin with the Methodist Mission Works in Europe and the USA.

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