Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

Ich bete für meine Kirche 2014

December 14 to 20 **Jugendwerk/Youth Mission**

Now when John had in prison about the things Jesus was doing, he sent word by his disciples to Jesus asking: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"
(Mathew 11,2-3)

Doubtless love

It must have been a wonderful friendship between Jesus and John. Jesus fest, what John was for him: A "precursor", a messenger who prepared the way for a greater one – without envy, without petty jealousies, "without falsity" as doves are said to be. Jesus felt that John understood God's purpose. God is not decoration but foundation of life. As decoration God would be constantly disputable in the sense of asking: "Should I?, Should I not?" I have no discussions with myself: God is my salvation, whatever may happen to me. And that's it!

And yet, John has his hours of doubt, as we hear. We all have them. We cannot outgrow our own doubts. And why should we? Doubt is the propellant of all evaluative thinking. When John finally has to ask his friend: "Are you the one? Are you really the one?" Then he expects a clear answer. And he gets this answer. An answer which all doubting people get: "Go, and tell John what you see and hear: Those who were blind can see. Those who were crippled are walking. People with skin diseases are cleansed, Those who are deaf now hear. Those who are dead are raised up. The poor have good news proclaimed to them. Happy are those who don't stumble and fall because of me."

The answer says: Not the doubt makes you happy, as necessary as it may be. Overcoming your doubts and not feel irritated by me will not make you happy. Happiness will be for you, if you love God regardless of all doubts. Love is without doubt.

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I GIVE THANKS

- For young people who bring new ideas and unconventional questions to our congregations.
- For all volunteers who spend their free time with much love and enthusiasm for teenagers and youths.
- For all adults who try to treat children, teens and young people as equals.

MY PRAYER IS

- For all young people in our society who are searching for reliable answers to their questions about faith, and are hoping for successful relationships.
- For all young people whose future seems to be without chances in our society.
- For an honest and successful togetherness of young and old in our church.

The UMC in Germany has organized a Mission for Youth and Children in each conference area. These missions cooperate as Child Mission and Youth Mission in the Zentralkonferenz (ZK)/Central Conference in Germany. The ZK acts for the concerns of teenagers and young persons of our congregations in denominational and political youth organizations in Germany. It provides educational materials and seminaries for co-workers and organizes mayor events for our youth like the bi-annual youth event / Bundesjugendtreffen (BUJU) on Pentecost.

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