

Germany

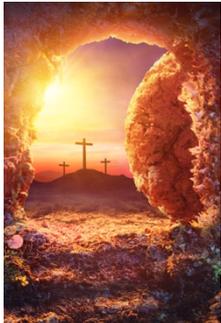
Missionary Seth Richards

May 2021

How can I, except some man should guide me? Acts 8:31

Dear Pastor and Church,

The Lord's Supper and Easter Sunday Services



Jesus Lives! Our Savior Lives! Praise the Lord! Even though Germany is still in their third COVID lockdown phase, we were able to hold the Lord's supper and Easter services without any issues. Most of the church members attended the Lord's supper despite the COVID lockdown. Praise the Lord! Traditionally, many Germans will attend Christmas and Easter 'church' services (usually state 'church' services – either Catholic or Lutheran) as this is a part of their tradition. We therefore typically have many visitors for these events; however, given the current COVID lockdown, we did not have as large a turnout of visitors as we have seen in the past. However, praise the Lord for the visitors we did have on Easter Sunday! Please pray that these visitors will take what they heard and accept Christ as their savior before it is too late. Thank you.

Outreach Events and Staff Retreat

Praise the Lord for being able to continue to hold outreach events despite the current lockdown. It seems that some people are seeking more fellowship because they feel very isolated and alone during these difficult times. Our outreach events have been a real encouragement and the Christian fellowship has strengthened the core members to continue the good fight. We were able to hold several outreach events these past two months; however, one of my favorites was our church brunch. Not only do I enjoy great food but more importantly the fellowship amongst the church members and visitors was such a breath of fresh air. Being able to break bread and enjoy great fellowship is something that has really been an extra encouragement to our people, in addition to the services. Please pray that we will be able to reach more lost for Christ through these events as well. Thank you. Another great event these past two months was our staff retreat. Being able to travel to Dresden for a few days to take some time off was a great break for the church staff. Praise the Lord that this too was possible during the current COVID lockdown.

Second Generation Missionary

Planting Churches in Germany Since 2000 - First Furlough

I have been on the field in Germany since 2000. After working under my father, Missionary Bill Richards, for 6 years in Metzingen, I planted my first work in Ingolstadt Germany in 2006. Although I have been a missionary for over 20 years, I have never been able to take a furlough as I have not had anyone who could look over the work here in Germany during my absence. Now that Missionary Fernando Padilla is working with me here in Ingolstadt, I am able to take my very first furlough as he will be able to look over the work while I am reporting to churches. The current plan is for me to be on furlough between October, 2021 through May 2022. I am currently in the process of scheduling preaching engagements for this time period. If you would like to have me in for one of your services in order to preach and report on the work here in Germany, please send me an email (Seth4Germany@Gmail.com) as I would like to start making travel plans sooner rather than later. Of course, given the current global COVID situation, I might have to postpone my furlough plans until a later time; however, until I know that travel is not possible during these times, I would like to start scheduling meetings in the expectation that things will re-open this upcoming fall and spring. Please pray for much wisdom and protection regarding my furlough plans. Thank you.

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March

April

Pastor Joe Dickinson