

Issue 7, May 2010

In Focus...

Visit with Miriam Brown



The Women's Bible study was delighted to welcome Miriam to their Wednesday afternoon meeting. The months she has been away in Helsinki, Finland, slipped away as we shared together.

Miriam is kept busy in Helsinki with her studies (beginning her Masters in Performing Arts on French Horn) and a seasonal contract with the Turku Philharmonic Orchestra playing second horn. The Orchestra is on holiday for the summer after a successful spring season. Miriam has been asked to continue with them for the autumn season beginning at the end of August. Miriam has been living in Helsinki and commuting by bus to Turku (168 miles away). Because of remaining with the Orchestra, she is now looking at living in Turku for a few days and Helsinki the other days for her study. On her way to Salzburg, Miriam spent a few days in Berlin with her mum and dad who are on leave from their missionary work in Papua New Guinea. It was great to see her once more and she was sorry that she had to leave on the Saturday and could not meet with all at SICC and she sends her love and greetings to everyone. Miriam is struggling to find a church family in Helsinki so let us remember her in our prayers.

Inspiring words

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

Mother Teresa

SICC CALENDER

Weekly Events

- Sunday: **Worship** at 11am
followed by coffee time
- Wednesday: **Women's Bible Study**, 2.30 pm,
Strubergasse 49/5/12
- Thursday: **„Sacred Space“ Lunch**, 1 pm,
at the Mozarteum Cafe

Events in May and June

- Tuesday: **Bible Study**, 7.30pm,
Strubergasse 49/5/12
- Sunday: **Bible Study** after coffee in the
Gemeindesaal
- Sunday May 30th: Tanzabend** with Sandra
and Jim in the Gemeindesaal from 5 to 8pm
- June 18th: Benefit Concert**
- June 20th: Sommerfest** with Christuskirche

Life at SICC

Don't forget that during May the Benevolence Committee is collecting food for the Wärmestube: a place where the homeless, unemployed and others can receive a free hot meal and care. Please contribute with nudels, soups, toothpaste, soap, tinned food or financial help. All will be very welcomed.



Lyman Bliss penned these words as he pondered the Parable of the Good Samaritan after one of our Bible studies recently:

Echoes of our Lives

*We all stand on the edge of a great abyss we could call our lives
Looking over the other side, we can see our ultimate demise.*

*Our lives consist of all our calls across one of those distant divides.
And come back to us as echoes of what we have made of our lives.*

Thank you Lyman for this thoughtful poem.



ECUMENICAL NEWS

Munich Thousands of people at a church convention in Munich have applauded the first female leader of Germany's Protestants, who stood down after a drink-driving offence in February. "God turns towards people even when they are not the people that he had hoped, dreamed and imagined them to be when he created them," Margot Kässmann told 6000 people on 13 May at the Ecumenical Kirchentag, or church convention, taking place in the Bavarian capital. It was Kässmann's first major public appearance since she resigned. Four months after being elected head of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD), the umbrella for 24 million Protestants, Kässmann, then the Lutheran bishop of Hanover, resigned from all her leadership posts after police caught her driving when she was over the legal limit of alcohol and had jumped a red traffic light.



Jottings from the Pastor's Desk

The Three Frogs

This is a story told about three frogs that somehow ended up in a vat of creamy milk. They took a wrong jump on the road!

"What will we do?" they cried to each other. "Keep paddling" one yelled. "Just keep paddling". So the three frogs just kept paddling and paddling and paddling.



And so it came to pass, that one exhausted frog said, "I can't keep this up" and gradually sank to the bottom of the vat.

Shortly after a second frog croaked and sank down to join his mate. But the third frog took a deeper breath and kept paddling, paddling, paddling. Time passed, as it does and suddenly the very

tired frog noticed paddling in was and he could through the was that the frog the vat and with



what he was getting quite firm climb and hop substance. And so it reached the side of one great jumped hopped over the side of the vat and went on his way.

The motto: keep paddling and you will reach your goal. Or to put it another way 'when the going gets tough, the tough get going.'

You may feel swamped and want to give up and drop like a frog to the bottom of the vat. But hang in there and keep on keeping on and you will get to your goal

Keep paddling and remember the words of Psalm 121: "I will lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from: it comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth." In all the circumstances of your life no matter what they are or how big they are: God is with you. Just as you keep on keeping on in your circumstance so God keeps on keeping on with you.

God bless,

Glynthea