

Issue 4, April 2010

In Focus...

Celebrating Easter



Agape Meal with Patricia, Lynne, Ingrid, Lyman

On Maundy Thursday evening a small group gathered to join in an Agape meal featuring some food from biblical times, dates, figs, nuts, honey, pomegranates, grapes. We participated in communion as we shared food with one another and listened once more to the Story of Agape/Love in the Crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. There were 83 present including visitors New Zealand, USA, UK, Canada, Germany and Islands off Iceland when SICC gathered on Easter Sunday to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, the Risen Lord.



Easter Sunday listening as the visitors introduce themselves

Inspiring words

"The only kind of dignity which is genuine is that which is not diminished by the indifference of others"

Dag Hammarskjold
(UN Secretary-General, 1953-61)

SICC CALENDER

Sunday: **Worship** at 11am followed by Coffee time

Wednesday: **Women's Bible Study**, 2.30 pm,
Strubergasse 49/5/12

Thursday: **Sacred Space**, 1 pm, hospitality
lunch at the Mozarteum Cafe

SICC COMING EVENTS

Sunday April 11th: Vision Sunday „Being Church in 2010“- with luncheon and discussion during the afternoon

Saturday April 17th: Student Breakfast
9.30am at Strubergasse 49/5/12

Sunday April 18th: Service with Christuskirche – Live Television Worship
Sunday May 30th: Tanzabend in the Gemeindesaal

Sunday and Tuesday evenings in May:
Bible Study on the Parables

Cries of ‘beetle’ filled the air during “A Beetle Drive” held March 14 in the Gemeindesaal. Those who attended had a great time throwing the dice and drawing beetles based on the number on the dice. If you haven’t been to one, come to the next one and find out exactly what happens!



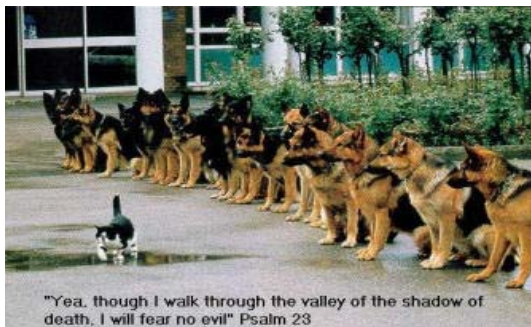
Winner with the most beetles: Claudia (centre back) with Teemu, Mandy and Essie who received prizes for runners up and lowest number of beetles drawn

The Lenten six weeks Bible Study ended last week. On Sunday after church and Tuesday evening we explored 'the last week of Jesus in the four Gospels'. We averaged 15 per week between the two groups.

Last night of Study:
Patricia, Stan, Andreas,
Wolfgang and Lyman



When the going gets tough, remember this:



"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" Psalm 23

ECUMENICAL NEWS

European churches join 'keep Sunday free of work' campaign

More than 70 organizations including churches, trade unions as well as civil society groups have met in the European Parliament in Brussels for the first European Conference on a work-free Sunday. More than 400 conference participants on 24 March launched an appeal to the heads of States and of governments who were meeting in the European Council. They are calling for a Sunday free of work for all European citizens. "The protection of a work-free Sunday is of paramount importance for workers' health, for the reconciliation of work and family life as well as for the life of civil society as a whole," they said in a statement released by the Conference of European Churches.



*Jottings from the Pastor's
Desk*

As we celebrate Easter, this story is worth considering:

The Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris was celebrating Mass with two priest-friends in the great Cathedral of Notre Dame in the French capital. In his sermon, the Cardinal mentioned a true story.

Three teenage lads agreed for a laugh, they would go into a church, and go to the priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation ("Confession"). The three lads agreed that each would make up a list of sins to mention. So the first lad went in, and said: "Father, I've robbed a bank." The second lad went in and said: "I've killed somebody." When it was the turn of the third lad he tried not to laugh and said: "I've robbed a bank and killed somebody."

The priest knowing, of course, what was happening said to the third lad: "For your penance I want you to go and stand in front of the big crucifix in church, and I want you to say some words that I'll give you. Say them three times, and say them in a loud voice." And so the lad came out of the confessional and laughed with his friends and went to the front and stood before the large crucifix - they were still laughing at what had happened. And then the lad repeated - still for a laugh - the words he'd been told to say: "Jesus, you died for me, and I don't give a damn." The second time, he said the words a little more loudly. The third time he found himself saying the words more slowly, and something he couldn't explain happened within, and he discovered that the words became a question to himself: "Jesus, you died for me, and I don't give a damn (?)"

The Cardinal continued. He said to the people in the cathedral: "I told you this because it is a true story. How do I know? Those two lads from years ago are sitting with me now - they are the two priests who are celebrating Mass with me. And I also know this is true because I am that third boy. I was the one who spoke before the crucifix."

God bless,

Glynthea