



Evangelical Luke Community



NEWSLETTER MAY 2024

Dear Readers,

In this newsletter we would like to describe results of our change process. Our community has become small. Now we see our task in prayer, and in living in our place in the shalom of Jesus. We are very grateful to you for continuing to support us in prayer.

Where is the peace of God in our world? The wars are increasing and, despite all the agreements, are becoming more and more cruel.

In John 14:27, Jesus says to His disciples, "*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, I give to you. Do not let your heart be disturbed and do not despair.*"

Jesus leaves peace to his disciples. This is his legacy to his successors. So how do we deal with our heritage? Are we going to receive it? We can also reject an inheritance. And when we take it, how do we deal with this legacy? Is it a valuable asset for us, or do we ignore it most of the time? Is Jesus' peace a precious commodity that we integrate into our lives, that we reach out to again and again, and that we invest work in?

The peace of God, unlike the peace that the world gives, is not simply the absence of war. Shalom means health, wholeness, integrity.

When Jesus returns, he will provide peace. But through our prayers, through our practical actions, and with the opportunities that each and every one of us has, we can advance Jesus' shalom in our environment. This is Jesus' gift to us, so that we may not become discouraged and our hearts may not be upset. This, in turn, is our gift to the world.

–It's that simple. And yet so difficult.

Meditative dancing as an encounter with God – an offer by Sr Margrit



In meditative dance, we have the opportunity to experience God in a different way. Through the movements, we come into a "flow" where we can be addressed on another level of our being, or bring a request to God.

It may be that a moment arises when someone is touched: by a movement, the music or a passage of text. We are allowed to take this experience with us into our everyday lives. I am happy to be able to dance with you and praise God at the same time!

"Dance in his honor, and beat the rhythm on the tambourine! Play the harp for him!" (Psalm 149:3)



Pilgrimage "on the doorstep" – praying with your feet

We are expanding our range of pilgrimages. This year we offer 5 dates of different lengths. We also want to appeal to people who can't walk quite as far. Therefore, our trails have a length of about 15 or 6 km. We are pleased that the surrounding parishes are happy to open their rooms to us. It is especially important to us that we begin our journeys with devotion. We place ourselves under God's protection and ask for His blessing.

Photo: Hilde Credo



Changes in the "Tent of Encounter"



Finally, after a long search and much prayer, God heard us: we were able to re-equip our "Tent of Encounter": 24 chairs and 11 tables.

Or expenses increased in recent years, and our donations are decreasing. So we are happy that we were able to get these beautiful chairs and tables as a donation. All we had to do was pick them up from Hamburg.

With the active support of our friends, we were also able to renovate the kitchen at a very low cost. We are happy that the house "Tent" with its kitchen has already been used by friends for their parties. Anyone who is looking for a place for their celebration is welcome to contact us.

Hanna and Jörg report on their celebration:

We have been connected to the Lukas community for years. From time to time we take part in the divine services in the "Tent of Encounter". From the very beginning, we were captivated by the warm, light-flooded and open atmosphere of this room. Sitting down in any place, feeling peace and leaving the world outside are the sensations we associate with Belau.

We wanted to use this room for a big birthday. Since Hanna was planning to celebrate her 75th birthday with the church choir from Schnega and with the sisters of the community, the "Tent of Encounter" was prepared accordingly. Of course, there was a cold and warm buffet with plenty of cake. All guests and we will keep that day in very good memory. We will certainly find the good fellowship in the Belauer "Tent" on other occasions as well. Thanks to the sisters and thank God!

Hanna and Jörg Ehreke

Photo: Jörg Ehreke



**We thank you sincerely
for any support, be it active, financial or by prayer!**

**With kind regards from Belau,
the sisters of the Ev. Luke Community**

Belau 11, 29468 Bergen/Dumme
Tel. 05845 9697103 (AB)
E-mail: info@ev-lukas-communitaet.de
www.ev-lukas-communitaet.de

Donation account:
Fürsorge- u. Vermögenstreuhand GmbH
der Evang. Luke Community
IBAN: DE 50 5206 0410 0005 0084 76
BIC: GENODEF1EK1