



Regensburg, Bavaria Germany

Winter has come, and Christmas is in the air! The fire is lit most days, and we enjoy a quieter pace. Virginia recently received a glowing report from her teacher for both academics and behavior. Thomas is asking more questions about God's plan of salvation and is getting tall! Mason celebrated his 3rd birthday and is officially a "big kid." We were hit by the flu recently but are all healthy again. The kids enjoy each other's company for the most part, but sometimes a different indoor activity is in order-IKEA!!

New Building:

On October 29 we held our first service in our new church meeting place. We spent the whole summer renovating the place. We tore down walls, built new ones, painted, replaced flooring, and installed doors and carpet. We are so thankful for all the churches who financially supported these renovations. We have already held several events in the new place, and our whole church is thrilled about the space!

Special Events:

We hosted a "Fall Festival" this year focusing on the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's nailing of the 95 Theses and triumph of grace over works!

For our "Thanksgiving Fest" church family, friends, and several visitors enjoyed a traditional American Thanksgiving dinner (including cranberry sauce in the shape of a can). Two of our neighbors visited our church for the first time and a teammate of Todd's brought his family. Our evening included a time of giving thanks in which some church people shared their salvation stories.

On December 10, we held our first nursing home outreach. The children performed a Christmas play, Bob Radank shared the true meaning of Christmas, and our church family sang and passed out church calendars to the residents. The staff was so impressed, we were given permission to come back for Easter. What a blessing! We would love to regularly minister to the elderly.

December 15 was our ladies' outreach to the women of the "Red Light" district, and December 16 was our annual outdoor Christmas book table at a local shopping center. We experienced many open hearts this Christmas season.

Upcoming plans:

Several regular church people will be going through a "baptism course." Simply put-- God is incredibly blessing our church. New members, excited Christians, and steady visitors all mean more opportunities to share Christ! Please pray that our people learn and grow. In the Spring of 2018 we will host a BBQ/basketball outreach in conjunction with a missionary near Lake Constance (German/Austrian border). We did a smaller version of this earlier in the year with moderate attendance and would like to expand. Please pray for wisdom on how to proceed.

Our own annual BBQ Fest has become an anticipated event in our community (after only two years) in that we have been invited to the city planning meeting for festivals in our town--amazing! We praise God for opportunities to share the Gospel in our community.

A short furlough is scheduled from mid July to mid September 2018. If you are interested in a meeting, please contact us via email.

In Christ,
Todd, Kim, Virginia, Thomas, & Mason Lapato