



Regensburg, Bavaria Germany

The locals are complaining about the "heat wave"-- 80s and slightly humid. I don't know what they would do in our native Virginia! Our Virginia is finishing up her second school year well. Thomas and Mason are growing like weeds and attempting to boldly speak German with neighborhood friends. We spend a lot of time outside: parks, bikes, playing at the lake, strawberry picking, and climbing our cherry tree.

BBQ Fest:

For the third year in a row our church hosted a BBQ festival outreach in our community. I smoked the meat (over 160 lbs.) for this event over the course of four days. The first year (2016) we held the event, we were amazed at the turnout. Last year even more came, so this year we spent months planning and preparing games, prizes, crafts, face paint, a bounce house for the children, corn hole for the adults, and much more at no cost to the public. We estimate well over a hundred people filtered through during the four hours. The forecast predicted thunderstorms during our event, but our location remained dry. No doubt we experienced a miracle that day.

We set up a book table where people could help themselves to free Gospel literature and evangelistic material. A fellow German pastor came and preached the Gospel to the crowd, and one of our own shared his testimony. Everyone present heard the Gospel twice!

A missions team from Jersey Shore, PA came to help this year. They passed out fliers (in the rain), organized supplies, laminated hundreds of placemats, constructed games, posted signs, built barriers, erected tents, and worked like machines to clean up the aftermath! Several from our church family decided they need to come EVERY year for BBQ Fest. *Thank you!! You were such a blessing!*

This year we added a fundraising element to our BBQ festival. We sold Italian Gelato from a local vendor and offered a true American experience-- a S'mores pit! (Bavarians do not know what S'mores are, so it was amusing to watch them figure it out.) Half of all the money that we collected plus any direct donations (over \$400) was designated for the Soroti Orphanage Assistant Project (SOAP), a BIM! missionary lead orphanage in Uganda, Africa. Next year's BBQ Fest is already planned for June 8, 2019. Mark your calendars!

BBQ and Basketball on the Austrian border:

In April I smoked about 20 pounds of pulled pork for another evangelistic outreach in Leutkirch, Germany, a town near the Austrian border where missionaries Dan and Deana Brown serve. About 30 men participated in a basketball tournament and enjoyed a free BBQ lunch. Each person received a Gospel tract and a personal invitation to church.

Bregenz, Austria:

Todd makes regular trips to Bregenz, Austria to pass out fliers in an effort to create interest in a Bible study. Austria needs the Gospel and although it takes time, more Bible believing churches can be started.

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

sent by


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