

Community newsletter February/March/April 2023



Experiences and impulses:

In the last few days I have had the chance to think about the 2024 annual motto with others.



That broadened my perspective significantly. My first look at the new annual slogan was filled with enthusiasm. I read it as an inner guide that helps me to orient myself more clearly towards love in everyday situations and questions. "Great!" I thought.

Then I learned from others that we can also read this word as an (excessive) demand. Reading it as a demand to do everything out of love is discouraging. I can understand.

That got me thinking. Paul, who wrote this sentence at the end of his first letter to the Corinthians, had his reasons. He knew the Corinthians and he knew himself. He says of himself that he does not do the good that he wants to do (Rm 7:19). But Paul also sees that the church in Corinth is in the process of dismantling itself if they do not do the great things they can and do out of love (1 Cor 13).

What I notice about myself is that doing something with love makes a huge difference. It is much easier for the other person to accept my actions if I do what I do out of love. And I experience that when I do something out of love, my actions come very easily. This applies to things that I enjoy doing, but also to things that I find difficult. I can learn to love doing these activities too. This is a blessing for me because I save all the energy that I would otherwise need to overcome my inner resistance. A blessing!

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But I still have the (over)demand thing in the back of my mind. How do I do what I love when there isn't enough? Love arises in relationships: with people, with God. Where I lack love, I lack loving relationships. The great thing is: God is always available to me with his unconditional love. God loves me through other people, but also directly. This is what I want to keep looking for this year with the annual motto.

And that's why I'm so happy about this annual motto. It helps me because love frees me more and more. Love is a child of freedom and vice versa (Gal 5:13). Let us not read this annual motto as a demand, but as an invitation to live in love and the freedom that grows from it.

Birthdays

February: 08.02. Thomas Deiß, February 11th Edelgard Lasser, February 16th Pahanmi Senapathige, February 20th Viola Suchanecki-Kobabe,

March: 11.03. Regine Stoltze, March 19th Silas Suchanecki, March 24th Angelika Zettelmeier, March 28th Jonas Stolze, March 30th Jens Letzig,

April: 02.04. Jan Schmidt, April 3rd Kevin Duda, April 6th Tamara Miloserdovs, April 7th Ricarda Akkermann, April 15th Rosemarie Letzig, April 18th Karin Stoltze, April 29th Volker Huhn.



Photo: pixaby

Church services

every Sunday 10:30

special church service for people with dementia every 2nd Wednesday of odd weeks of the month at 3:30 p.m. followed by coffee

04.02.	Family service with lunch included
11.02.	
14.02.	3:30 p.m. special service
02/21	With communion
02/28	3:30 p.m. special service
01.03.	3 p.m. service for the World Day of Prayer for Women/All
03.03.	Bring along lunch
10.03.	
March 17th	With communion from 2 p.m. creative market
03/24	
03/27	3:30 p.m. special service 3 p.m.
03/29	Good Friday
31.03.	Easter
07.04	Family service with lunch Children helping children

Municipality of Recklinghausen Limperstraße 34, 45667 Recklinghausen Tel.: 02361 482898

FHomepage: <https://www.atlas.emk.de/emk-recklinghausen/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/emkrecklinghausen> acebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EmkRecklinghausen>

Account: Sparkasse VestDE65 4265 0150 0030 0431 78

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April 14th	Singing day in Bochum
April 21st	With communion
April 24th	3:30 p.m. special service
April 28th	

Important appointments

Prayer circle via WhatsApp (every Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. collect requests and then pray)

Women's circle: Tuesdays fortnightly in even calendar weeks 3:30 p.m.

Multi-generational meeting every Thursday from 3:30 p.m.
- Sports and games – cooking together – getting creative

WomensCorner (each at 6 p.m. Further information Leila Akkermann)

09.02. to eat out

08.03. Things worth knowing about the World Day of Prayer from Palestine April

12th. Women of the Bible



Church cleaning March 23rd from 10 a.m. Cleaning and tidying up in a happy community is a special experience. Warm invitation to everyone. Anyone who prefers to get involved in the garden is also welcome. Info: Leila Akkermann

New to the community

Daniele Kotys

Dear Daniele, we are pleased that you want to live and shape the community with us. We look forward to seeing how God wants to enrich and bless us through you.

Welcome.



Ich freue mich, gemeinsam mit meinen lieben Brüdern und Schwestern in Christus Gemeinschaft mit Gott zu haben.

Danielle

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Farewell from the community

Andrea and Thomas Deiß said goodbye to our community at the end of the year. You have looked for a community close to where you live.

We wish both of them all the best and God's blessing on their future journey, combined with a heartfelt thank you for everything they have contributed in the years in which they have been with us.

World Day of Prayer 2024

On the first Friday in March, women in over 150 countries stand up and symbolically join hands in prayer around the globe. **In our community we celebrate the World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1, 2024 at 3 p.m.** For this year he comes from Palestine. Under the motto "... through the bond of peace" we are committed to peace and an encounter on equal terms. The

Geographical country Palestine is considered the cradle of Christianity. This time the WGT is about one

"Journey through the land where Jesus lived and taught," as the service liturgy says. A journey that takes us to a country with a long tradition and great cultural, ethnic and religious diversity, but also with serious conflicts that the people there have been suffering from for a long time. Christians are a numerical religious minority in Palestine. The longing for peace in this region is great
– with all the people there.

This great longing becomes very clear in the service. Our aim is to listen in solidarity to the voices of Palestinian Christians: "Pray informedly – act prayerfully," is the WGT motto. The World Day of Prayer promotes tolerance, reconciliation and dialogue - prayer as an active contribution to peaceful conflict resolution.

You can find a lot of information at the following link:

<https://weltgebetstag.de/aktueller-wgt/palaestina/>

Text from the World Day of Prayer flyer. Karola Kreutzenbeck



Creative market

Our first creative market (back then under the name Basar) was a complete success for the community and also for the traders who took the trouble to set up a stand and present their works. The offer was diverse and colorful and the customers rewarded this with numerous purchases.

Due to the positive feedback, we are entering the second round of the creative market. At the March 17, 2024 at 2 p.m. We are opening our doors again to all people who are looking for a little something for Easter or are looking for a gift or two. Registrations and preparations are already underway and we are looking forward to many great stands.

If you would like to contribute something to the creative food or craft market, please contact Ricarda Akkermann.



Children help children

For the new project **Children help children** no material is available yet. It will definitely be another great project that will help children gain a more hopeful future. On April 7th we can experience more about this and collect information for the project.

To sing



Singing day in Bochum – come sing with us

with Christoph Zschunke, who can convey enthusiastic and inspiring singing to people.

Everyone who likes to sing is invited to the singing day on April 14th. to take part in Bochum. Non-singers are then invited to experience what the singers have worked on in just a few hours during a musical service at 5 p.m.

EmK Bochum Alleestr.48

Start for the singers at 10 a.m. 30 euros including meals. Registration: joerg.mathern@emk.de

Simon Ufer lebt seit Oktober 2023 Südafrika, um das »Project Pick Six« zu entwickeln.



Simon Ufer hat im Rahmen seines Studiums die Suchthilfeeinrichtung »Come Back Mission« in Südafrika kennengelernt. Dabei entstand die Idee, suchtgefährdete junge Menschen für Flag Football – eine Körperkontakt-freie Variante des American Football – zu begeistern. Nun ist er zurückgekehrt, um die Idee mit einem Team vor Ort umzusetzen.

Simon Ufer während eines Trainings



»Bei Project Pick Six habe ich die Möglichkeit, meine zwei großen Leidenschaften, Soziale Arbeit und Flag Football, miteinander zu verbinden. Unsere Arbeit mit den Kindern beschränkt sich nicht auf das Spielfeld, sondern findet vor allem außerhalb des Platzes statt. Mit einem Fokus auf Bildung wollen wir ein nachhaltiges und ganzheitliches Unterstützungssystem für Kinder aus einem von Armut, Kriminalität und Drogen geprägten Stadtteil etablieren.

Die EmK-Weltmission stellt Ihnen ihre Mitarbeitenden vor.

weltmission@emk.de • www.emkweltmission.de

Spendenkonto: Ev. Bank eG • IBAN: DE65 5206 0410 0000 4017 73 • Stichwort: G5221

Editorial staff:

Annegret Deiß: Layout

Ricarda Akkermann, Karola Kreutzenbeck, Regine Stoltze: Texts

Photos: private/pixaby

Shipping: Rosemarie Letzig