



The Byers Family

Church Planting in Europe

AUG 2011

Working with the U.S. Military and German Nationals

Dear Christians,

The month of August seems like a blur in the rear view mirror. We navigated through so many ministry opportunities, and family difficulties, it seemed like an obstacle course.

With our van tires past the wear limits, First Baptist Church of Newfield in New Jersey used their VBS penny parade to raise enough money to keep us on the road. As soon as that money comes in, we plan to purchase tires just in time for the fall weather change.

We thank God that where sickness abounded, grace did much more abound. A few weeks ago, we canceled church services for the first time since we started. Five of our children were projectile vomiting throughout the house, and to top that off; our washing machine quit working. A German couple graciously provided money for the repairs. The kids are all well, and we are so thankful for that!

I managed to develop some sort of asthma in August. First it was an infection in the lungs, and then I could hardly preach (or talk) for 3 weeks. Another trip to the doctor, and she prescribed an inhaler. My brother, sister, and daughter all have asthma, but I have never suffered from it until now.

Starting last month, we began helping a Baptist German church in Nürnberg. They don't have a pastor, and needed some help with pulpit supply and council. The Lord has greatly blessed in granting me the ability to speak in German. The church is an international work, so my accent is not too distracting to the people and some appreciate that I speak more slowly and with a simple vocabulary. We hope to find or train a pastor to take over this work.

Our outreach to the soldiers and their families continues here in Bayern. The Lord gave great opportunity this week for Caleb and I on visitation. We spoke with a soldier who was raised as a Baptist, and yet never heard a clear presentation of the Gospel. He listened intently as I shared verses from the Bible and described the dire need of his soul. Pray with us that he will continue to have interest. He did not trust the Lord at his door step, but I hope to see him again.

Last week we had another great service with a living room full of people. There were 23 all together, and that is so exciting to us. Perhaps this will be the season when God adds enough families to begin renting a building. Please pray for a strong well grounded family to join our number so we might have more stability from which to grow. The work is heavy for our family.

Urgent is an understatement as it relates to this next prayer request, need, and cry for help. Our support is sinking and the price of the Euro is rising. It's just like Satan to attack when so much is happening. If your church does not support us financially, please ask God to allow you to begin soon. The doctor bills, cavity fillings, vehicle taxes, and school materials took a huge toll on our budget. On top of that, a few more supporters let go of the ropes of financial support holding us here on the field. God is able, and we trust him. We have no backup plan. We burned our ships when we arrived in Germany, and plan to work for Jesus until the trumpet. Special offerings have kept us going, but regular support is greatly needed.

God bless you for your support, prayers, love, cards, and concern. Kevin, Stacy, Josiah, Gabriel, Bella, Caleb, Noah, Elijah, and Micaiah.