# "I don't know whether this is alright, for I never get an invitation..."



# Dear family and friends,

It's summer time again. Time for a getaway, enjoying the weather or possibly even a well-deserved holiday. Time to recharge and provide yourself with new energy. Also for us a time of reflection and, with a glance in the rearview mirror of the past season, to look ahead. What have we learned? What should be different or what could be better? After all you are a lifelong disciple and learner.

It is always important to check the measure of our own vision with the reality of daily life. Often in daily life you'll have opportunities and challenges you really like and in your enthusiasm you want to go for it. However the pitfall can be that you end up going in a different direction than you actually want.

# **Easter and Pentecost**

Although this year they also didn't fell on the same day (literally translation of a Dutch saying), we did very pretty similar things on these holidays. On both days we held Open House.

Easter Sunday we invited our relationships for an Easter brunch. Soon the living room was filled and we have enjoyed all the food that they brought along. One of them brought a small bouquet of flowers. "I don't know whether this is alright," she said quietly, "for I never get an invitation".

We told our guests about the great importance of Good Friday and Easter for the world. After that we all watched the movie "Risen". Most of them found this a very impressive film, which tells the story of the Roman centurion who was instructed to find the body of Jesus that was stolen by his disciples.

Eventually he found more than just the body of Jesus ...

On Pentecost Sunday we held a BBQ. With even more guests than at Easter we enjoyed delicious (meat) dishes. But not after we could explain the meaning of Pentecost which for some people is a bit complicated. The Holy Spirit has come and nourishes the fire of the good news in our hearts. Everyone was given the opportunity to write an encouragement for another on a postcard as good news for him or her.

# Húskeamer

As we mentioned in an earlier newsletter, in December last year we launched along with others a living room project in our village. Most of the visitors experienced loneliness in their lives, and after a few months some fine connections are arising amongst the regular visitors. That is exactly what we intend to do: coming in connection with those who feel lonely, not seen and/or are looking for answers to their questions of life.

# **Present**

After a year of preparation, we have founded Present. Like Besom in the UK, Present wants to be a 'broker' between people who want to offer help and those who needs help. Amo hopes to take on the role of Coordinator for this foundation.

## NMR

In May we were three days at the Netherlands Missionary Retreat of ECM in a small Retreat center. Under the theme "abide in Jesus" in the image of the vine from John 15:5, we could listen



# Buitenpost

"Our desire is to come in connection with those who are looking for answers to their questions of life and for whom a church as a place for answers isn't an option (anymore)."

to silence coach Mirjam van der Vegt. For many people silence is a nice means to come and get close to Jesus. The "abide in Jesus" is a condition to bear fruit. That fruit consists of who you are as a disciple of Jesus and what you should do with his help. If there is no balance in the triangle of 'abide in him', 'who you are' and 'what you do', the branche bears no good fruit. If Jesus says to us "abide in me", he speaks to our responsibility. Sometimes it can be slightly confronting when you are wondering how to deal with it and go deeper in stead of giving the religious correct answers. We are grateful that we could participate in this retreat. It has encouraged us and we went home with new insights and growth plans. They are good

**Abide in Jesus** Who you are What you do

NMR: Balance in Up-In-Out





ingredients for reflection. Maybe we need to rejuvenate our measure tape?

# **Inspiration 2017**

At the end of June we attended Inspiration 2017 in Assen. During this festival, intended for every follower of Jesus who wants to live a missionary life, participants for the first time or again could be inspired by the principles provided by Nederland Zoekt. During the workshop about the Learning Community we were able to testified about Butterfly.

# **Finance**

Our aim is in addition to our income from mission-related work to live from gifts and donations. We long to work in mission on a full-time basis. In addition to the income from a volunteer allowance from Nederland Zoekt and a fee for giving huddles, we already receive a lot of donations. You as a donor give us the possibility to continue with our good work! Thank you very much for your support. It makes us thankful and happy and it encourages us enormously to continue with our work.

# **Prayerpoints:**

- Thank Him for all the blessings that we experience in all the things we do.
- Pray for growth and persistence for the young believers who we welcome at home.
- Pray for insight and wisdom for the people in whom we invest, so we are able to guide them in the growth of their relationship with Jesus.
- Pray that God may provide in all we need for every day.
- Pray for expansion of our circle of friends, so that we will be able to continue this work.

Unfortunately, these gifts are not sufficient for us to live on and also the end of our starting capital (which was a necessary addition) is in sight. If you do not support us we hope and pray that you want to accept the challenge of this newsletter to support us and becoming a partner /or part of our mission. If you want to contribute, you will find all necessary data in the Colophon below.

Thank you so much for your involvement!

# Amo en Martha



butterfly.nu

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