

Brenda Ziska - Austria
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Dear Praying Family & Friends,

What fun to get back to the ministry in Klosterneuburg, Austria. It has been and will be a privilege to continue helping this new evangelical church. I'm working with the leadership team now which includes Jonathan and Raphaela Mauerhofer (and baby Mauerhofer expected this summer), the rest of



elders and their wives. Please be praying with us as we seek creative ways to reach Klosterneuburg with God's love, particularly at Easter time.

Right now the church has around 30-35 people that usually come to church on Sunday along with a number of visitors that come occasionally. There are three Bible studies, 2 in Klosterneuburg and 1 in Vienna. I'm starting to attend a bi-weekly home study, but am hoping to be a part of an evangelistic study for seekers. When Joe was unable to get out of bed, our evangelistic study stopped. The main family and different people from the study came and visited us and we had spiritual discussions at our house, but that was as much as Joe was able to handle. I'm hoping to try to get the study started again or get the people that were a part of it to join another study. Please pray that they will be willing to continue studying God's Word.

On April 9th we'll be having an evangelistic Women's Breakfast. I'm again on the committee that plans & runs the breakfast. Starting this week we'll be sending out the invitations and begin advertising in the community and at other neighboring churches in the area, including Vienna and 2 churches north of Klosterneuburg. I'll host a table of 8 to 9 women, lead a short discussion part way through the speaker's talk and be involved in the follow-up. Please pray for the preparations and for the women God will be bringing to hear His Word.



Pray in particular for the nurse Joe led to the Lord. Last time she came to the breakfast she brought her mother. Both were impressed with the speaker and the atmosphere of the meeting. When I told her about the up-and-coming meeting, she immediately wrote it in her calendar. She lives an hour away from me, although she works for hospice here in Vienna. I saw her this week and there may be a problem with coming on April 9th. Pray!!!



She has asked me to come and visit her at her home during Easter week, when she'll have more time, yeah! (In Austria this is a cross-over action from being my counselor in hospice to being a friend.) She's trying to help Daniel get work, so he had coffee with us. Afterwards even he said she's becoming a "friend". 😊 Pray that she continues to be responsive to God and that our time together will help her continue to grow closer to Him.

I've started meeting again with other women who were in a mentoring/discipleship relationship with me before Joe's and my ministry became more in our home. Some of the Austrian women are leaders in other evangelical churches in Vienna and in the Klosterneuburg area. I also had the privilege to share with one of the younger fellow missionaries in our Mission team this week. (Starbucks here I come!). We shared together our experiences of living in a world that speaks German. I'm back in that beginning phase of language learning after 37 years of living in Austria. I have to change everything into my name, because everything was in Joe's name - utilities -electricity, water, gas, radio/tv, telephone, etc. In each case I'm in a world of new words and procedures to go through. So far (thank you Jesus!) we still have water, lights, heat and other essential things. Although I did tell Daniel, maybe before I call the water company he should take his shower!



This month our birthday celebration at the children's home in Klosterneuburg was yesterday for one of the little girls. The Lord has given us a good relationship with the workers and director of the home, so we're allowed to tell stories about Jesus. Some of the couples have even been able to let the children visit them in their own homes.

We had a very special event happen that I haven't been able to tell you about. Some of the children have wanted to come to our church, so the team asked the director if they could come to the 1st Advent service. The

director allowed those who were interested to come. The new male worker brought the children. He thought the service was nice. It's hard for us in North America to believe, but this was his and the children's first time to be in an evangelical church!



It was fun that before Joe left earth, he was able to see the children actually come to one of our worship services. (I took pictures.) The 1st Advent was the last Sunday in November and Joe died on Dec. 4th.

I've enjoyed hearing from you this month. Thank you for writing and praying for us.

Love from Austria,
Brenda

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