

Tübingen Tidings

June / July 2010



"Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true" (John 4:37)

Church Update In our last newsletter we reported that the new semester had started and now the summer semester is over. The weather here is almost autumn now with much rain, although most German people don't want to accept that the summer is over. Though these past two months have been pretty busy for us, still it has been a very blessed time. Attendance at our Sunday morning services has increased the last several months, on the average between 40-50, and one Sunday at the end of June we had more than 60 people, including about ten extra guests from Southwest Christian Church, Atlanta, GA. We were especially blessed when three of them sang a special number in the service! Every Sunday people also enjoy the lunch and coffee after the service and stay longer in the church, or go out together afterwards, for example, to watch the World Cup soccer games, to the park to play Frisbee, or to go on a bicycle tour...etc. Friendships within the congregation are also growing! This is also a very good chance to make friendship with some non-Christians who like to come to activities. While **Reddy** from India isn't much interested in Christianity yet, he still enjoys our church people and joins our activities often. Some students try to tell him about Jesus occasionally and we all are praying that his heart will be opened soon.

Sunday Night Worship (SNW) in June was amazing! About 70 people attended, including many non-Christians! Susanne, a German pharmacy student, and also one of our team members for SNW, invited a Chinese dormmate who had never heard about Christianity to SNW, and this Chinese law student brought 4 other Chinese friends with him! It was the first experience for these Chinese people to attend a church! They were very happy and especially impressed by the worship songs and sermon (even though it was quite long)! Most of these Chinese were exchange students and went back



SNW Skit : "The Greatest Save"

to China at the end of the semester, but we hope and pray that they will have good contacts with Christians in the future in China! Susanne gave her dormmate a Chinese Bible before he left Germany. Our prayer is that the Lord will really speak to him through it! Yvonne, another team member for SNW, invited **Ashutosh** from India who is Hindu. He likewise had a very good impression about the service and began coming to the Sunday morning service and to the International Bible Study afterwards almost every week. Though he too sadly had to leave at the end of July, but he told us how he enjoyed the church services and Bible study evenings, comparing them to a Hindu temple at home. Amazingly, he felt "at home" in our congregation! Nevertheless, he felt some differences between Hinduism and Christianity through the Bible studies and conversation with other Christians in the church. Please pray for Ashutosh! We trust the Lord that some "Apolloses" in India and China will water the seeds we have sown here in Tuebingen!

At the end of the semester we had to say good bye to at least 6-7 students active in our congregation, but here for only a year or a half year. Sarah from England gave her testimony in July at the SNW, Mary-Brooke from North Carolina cooked for us after the Sunday morning service, and Kara and Hans from Connecticut were on the organizing team for SNW. Kara played piano at our services many times and Hans presided for the past few months at SNW...etc. After last Sunday's morning service, we had a farewell barbecue for these people at the nearby horse farm where Chris (from England) lives. Despite rain the days before, the Lord gave us a beautiful sunny day for the Sunday barbecue! It was really a blessing to have a great time of fellowship outdoors together. Very sad to see these leave Tuebingen, we still trust our Lord to send us new people again next semester. He always sends us more than we lost!

Strange, but amazing Experience Last time we reported about Jim's work with **Daniel** at the free Christian book table. Several weeks ago they had a very strange, but amazing experience. One afternoon they set up the book table at the small marketplace in front of the biggest church in downtown Tuebingen. Though it really looked like rain, the rain held off and the sun came out for them. Suddenly, a large group of about 50 students came to the place right next to them to participate in a radio or TV commercial. Five groups of ten students each had a contest to see which group could build the tallest tower out of rolls of toilet paper. Jim and Daniel watched part of it, and thought it quite odd, as they continued to pass out their tracts to people walking by the marketplace. Yet, only after this strange contest for the commercial was nearly over and the students began packing things up to drive off in a couple of cars, did they first take careful notice of the tracts they had been passing out before. The front side of the tract depicted an almost used up roll of toilet paper with the words written on it: "Five Minutes To Twelve", including an evangelistic message about deciding for Christ! They could hardly believe their eyes! Normally, they look at the tracts they hand out, but, for some reason, that day their eyes were somehow closed to them until they'd handed out nearly all of the tracts and the commercial next to them was almost over. Daniel, who'd picked out these tracts beforehand, was completely baffled by it all! Though there was no planned connection to the commercial, we were truly amazed at our Lord's sense of humor and believed once more that the Lord is working with us!



"Five To Twelve"

International Bible Study At the end of June we had a special event, Country & Culture Night, which we have once every semester and this time we invited a former missionary to South Africa, who worked among Muslims there. Because of the World Cup soccer tournament recently held in South Africa, many were interested in this country. As a result, about 60 people came and enjoyed African food before the presentation. While our speaker showed beautiful pictures from South Africa, he also spoke about important differences between Islam and Christianity, with some arguments against Islam. Meena from India, who had invited several **Muslim friends from Bangladesh** from her lab, was worried that the message from the presentation would be too hard for these friends who hadn't heard



Singing A South African Song



At The Farewell Party

much about Christianity before. For this reason, several of our international students prayed for these friends during the presentation that the Lord would speak to them, and we simply trust Him that it may have been the only time for them to hear this very necessary message.

At the end of the semester we also had a farewell party for several people, and it was a great blessing to hear the inspiring testimony of **Jon-André**, an exchange student in theology from Norway. He told us about a special experience of how his life was miraculously spared by God in a fire in Greece (no pun intended!). He and some other students are also leaving Tuebingen, including some German team members who have internships in other cities next semester. Please pray that the Lord will give us more new team members with a great willingness to serve international students with us!

International Summer Camp in end of August We are greatly looking forward to the annual summer camp for International Students at the Baltic Sea coast at the end of August. This time at least 10 people from Tuebingen will attend the camp with us. Please pray especially for non-Christians, **Akhtar** from Bangladesh, **Nina** from Russia and a Chinese family with a small child. The Chinese mother, **Junjun**, attends the International Bible Study with her two year-old son almost every week, but they have to leave every time before we start the Bible study as she has to put her son to bed. So, for her, the camp will be almost the first chance to hear a lot from the Bible and for her husband really the first time! Initially, they were worried they couldn't pay for the camp, but two ladies from our church gave offerings for this family and now they can go without any worry and problem! Please pray with us for God's blessing that non-Christians can get to know Jesus through it!

Prayer Requests

- Praise and thanks** to the Lord for the **great cooperation and team work** among students and others at the church. Pray continually for **Martin's faith** to be strengthened and for all the young students in the Tuesday evening German Bible study.
- Pray continually for **Akhtar (back from Bangladesh), Reddy (India), Ashutosh (India), Junjun**, as well as the Chinese exchange students that the Lord may open their hearts for faith in our Lord Jesus, even though some have returned to their home countries!
- Pray that more **new students** can be **contacted** through the **bookstand** distribution of free Christian books and for new outreach.
- We thank the Lord for His provision in allowing **Jane Frida (of Kenya)** acceptance into a nearby nursing college. Pray also for the Lord's guidance in the lives and future plans the students leaving Tuebingen: **Hans and Kara, Sarah, Mary Brooke, and Jon-Andre**.
- Pray for new contacts with **new international students** in the semester break and for our **Thursday evening weekly** activities. Pray especially for the Muslim students from Bangladesh, **international students in the dorm on our street**, and **new team members!**
- Pray for the **English Bible Class**, that new **Chinese students will come!** Pray for **Nina** from Russia and others to come regularly, learn more about Jesus from us and make personal decisions for Christ and obey Him in baptism.
- Pray for **Jim's father's (John) health** and for our own health. May our Lord strengthen his heart and health, just as He has ours.
- Pray for **our financial needs**, and for God's continued provision through your faithful support and continued English classes at the companies and in Jim's language institute. May God give us the wisdom and grace we need to continue to serve and live for Him!

Our many thanks....

We are very thankful for the faithful monthly support and recent generous offerings of the **Hillcrest Christian Church** and **Northwest Christian Church in McKinney, TX, Valley View Christian Church, Dallas, TX, Southwood Christian Church Greenville, TX, Cornerstone Christian Church, Dallas, TX, Haltom City Christian Church, Fort Worth, TX, Denton Christian Church, Denton, TX, Peachcrest Christian Church (Loganville, GA) and many of our friends in different parts of the U.S. and around the world** who have included us in their personal monthly tithing! **May God richly bless you all and multiply your gifts! (II Corinthians 9:12).**

Contact Addresses:

Jim and Naomi Kautt
Hintere Grabenstr. 45, 72070 Tuebingen, GERMANY
Tel.: 011-49-7071-255 104, Fax: 011-49-7071-959 249
E-mail: james.kautt@uni-tuebingen.de or
SugJames@netscape.net

International Student Mission
John and Faye Kautt
2945 Meadow Green, Dallas, TX 75234
Tel. (972)-241-8763
E-mail: fkautt@tx.rr.com