



CHANGING

SCENES



Mission
EineWelt

Weil es uns bewegt!

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Dear Readers,

We have been learning. In the second “Corona year”, the terms “analogous-digital-hybrid” have been connected for us with hopes and fears, possibilities and limitations, joy and frustration and with much – in fact almost everything – related to our work.

With a slight time lag, every event, every encounter, every meeting that we planned was affected by the waves of the pandemic and quite frequently drenched. The euphoria of finally being able to conduct an activity in real space was followed all too often by the sobering news that the infection rates were rising again and compelled us to return to the virtual space or a hybrid format.

Nevertheless, with creativity and flexibility we were able time and again to create spaces and develop scenarios so that people from all over the world, old and young,

were able to meet, to talk, pray and sing together and learn from one another. These experiences have carried us through these challenging times and make us happy and grateful as we look back.

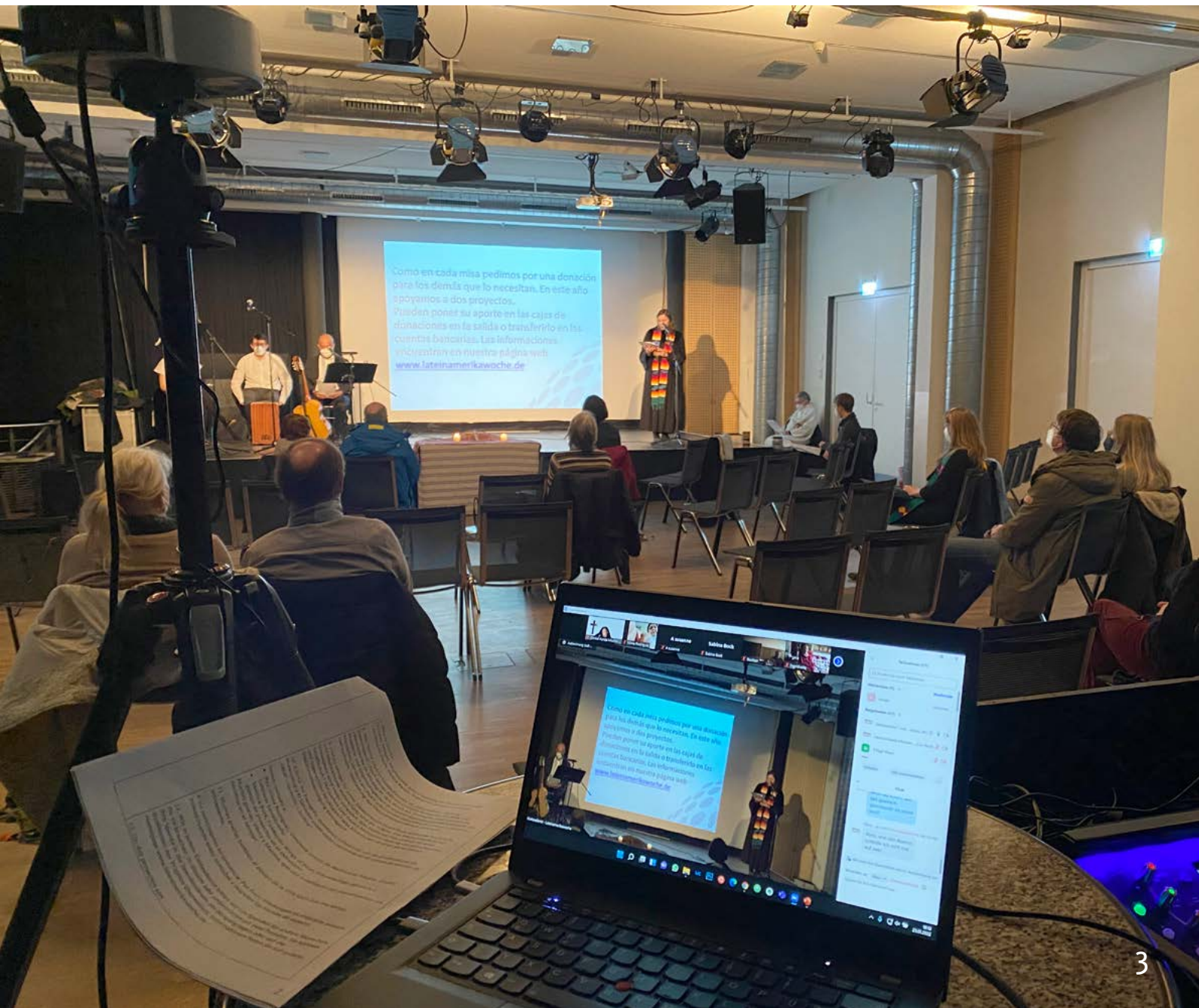
Warm Regards,



Dr. Gabriele Hoerschelmann (Director of Mission EineWelt)



D. Min. Hanns Hoerschelmann (Director of Mission EineWelt)



DR. GABRIELE &
D. MIN. HANNS HOERSCHELMANN
Directors of Mission EineWelt



Close despite distance

Sunday morning, mid-March 2021. It is cold. The wind is whistling round the house corners. The car windows are frosted over. Far and wide there is nobody in sight. It is early, it is unpleasant and we are in the midst of the third wave of Corona. Lockdown, social distancing and FFP2 masks are required. This morning our goal is Hof in Upper Franconia. On the way, the weather changes from sunshine to a snow storm. As winter ends, it demonstrates what it still has on offer.

But, however unpleasant it may be outside, joy is uppermost. It is the joy of being able again to attend and contribute to a live worship service. The joy that four young pastors are being ordained in St. Michael's Church. And the joy that one of them, Kathrin Zaha-Lee, will be going to work in our partner church in Malaysia as an ecumenical worker from Mission EineWelt.



+++ TELEGRAMME +++

+++ JANUARY +++

Hannes Gänssbauer, who worked as a missionary in Papua New Guinea from 1966 to 1975 and then as director of the then department for New Guinea, died on January 13th. During his time in office, the negotiations, which were very significant at that time for the future, were conducted concerning the return of cultural artefacts to Papua New Guinea. Even today, those results form the basis for the corresponding contractual agreements with the ELC-PNG.

Bishop Sumoward E. Harris, the third bishop of the Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL), died on January 14th following a short illness, three days after his 73rd birthday. He led that partner church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria from May 1995 to May 2012.



On January 21st, Sister Maria Horn passed away at the age of 93. From 1953 until her retirement she worked as a nurse and midwife in Papua New Guinea. She was stationed at Yagaum, Okapa and Awande. In 1966 she became the director of the leprosy clinic then in Etep which

she developed over the following years into a medical centre. In 1992 Maria Horn was awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz (Federal Cross of Merit) for her services.

Mission EineWelt celebrated the coming into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on January 22nd with activities on-line and off-line, and called on the Federal Government to sign the agreement.

+++ FEBRUAR +++

On February 1st, the military in Myanmar arrested the democratically elected head of government, Aung San Suu Kyi, the president, Win Myint, and other leading politicians of the ruling party and seized power for itself. Together with the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), many churches around the world protested against this putsch and called for prayer. Mission EineWelt joined in the protest and the call for prayer.

Via the Mekong Mission Forum, we have a close link with the Federation of Lutheran Churches in Myanmar.

The Evangelical Church of Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IECLB) published a letter

criticising the Brazilian government for its handling of the Corona pandemic, its irresponsibility “in the face of the rampant virus” and demanding “guaranteed, cost-free access to vaccine against COVID-19 for the whole of the Brazilian population”. Mission EineWelt supported the IECLB’s protest and also supported the demand for cost-free vaccines for countries unable to buy them in sufficient quantities.

On February 12th 2021, punctually for the Chinese New Year festival, the first series of the podcast “Wunder_kundig” (aware of miracles) was launched by the theologians Sung Kim and Simon Wiesgicki, both of whom have worked for Mission EineWelt in Hong Kong.



+++ MARCH +++

Kerstin Schönleben started her work for Mission EineWelt as officer for Latin America.



One week earlier, there was a similar event in Augsburg. There too a young woman, Paula Trzebiatowski, was ordained and she too, together with her husband Fabian, will be spending the next few years as ecumenical workers in our partner church in Kenya.

For us, these are small signs that, despite the many personal and social limitations during the pandemic, things are going on. There are new beginnings and changes, there are small signs which are encouraging. There is a bit of normality even though really everything is quite different.

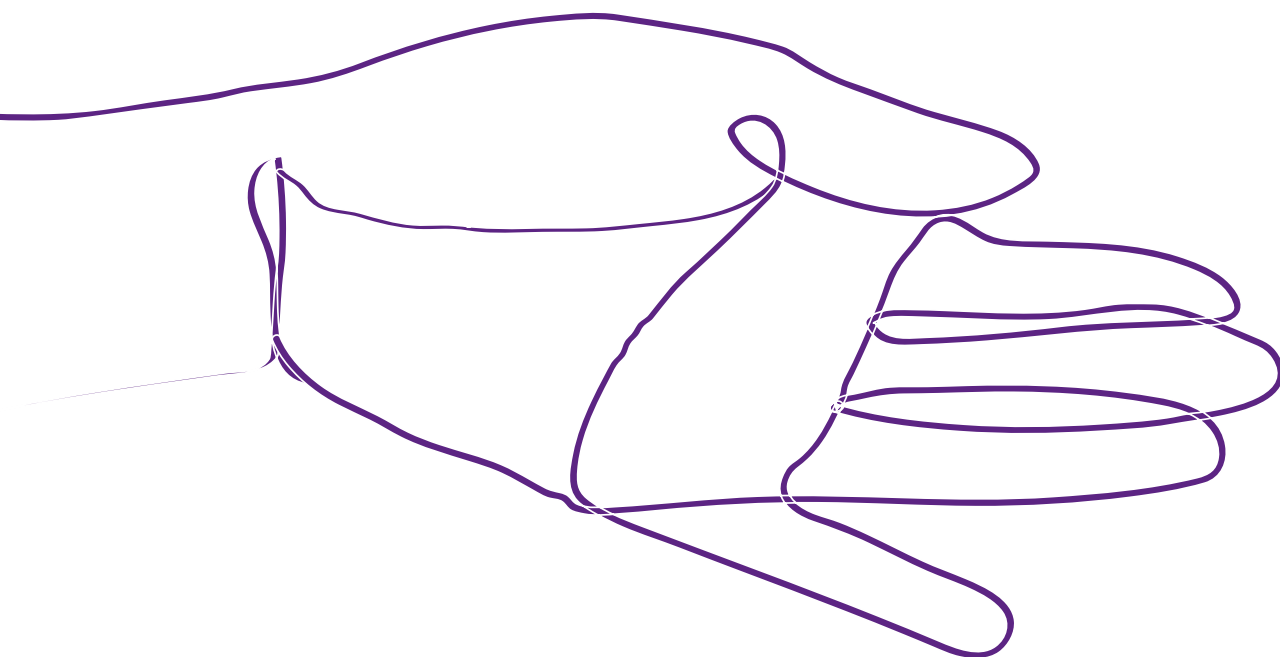
We urgently need these new beginnings because not only the pandemic but also our church's view of the future is depressing. Less members, less money, less staff. It is still not clear how we shall cope with these challenges. It is only clear that they will come – in fact that they are already here. So these positive and encouraging signs are all the more important. There are people who are enthusiastic about the cause of the faith and who want to shape the future of the church. There is so much imagination and flexibility in the church for dealing with the special challenges of the pandemic. Then community can become a reality although we are still supposed to maintain our distance. And then new relationships can be established across borders and continents which we would not have thought possible just a few months earlier.

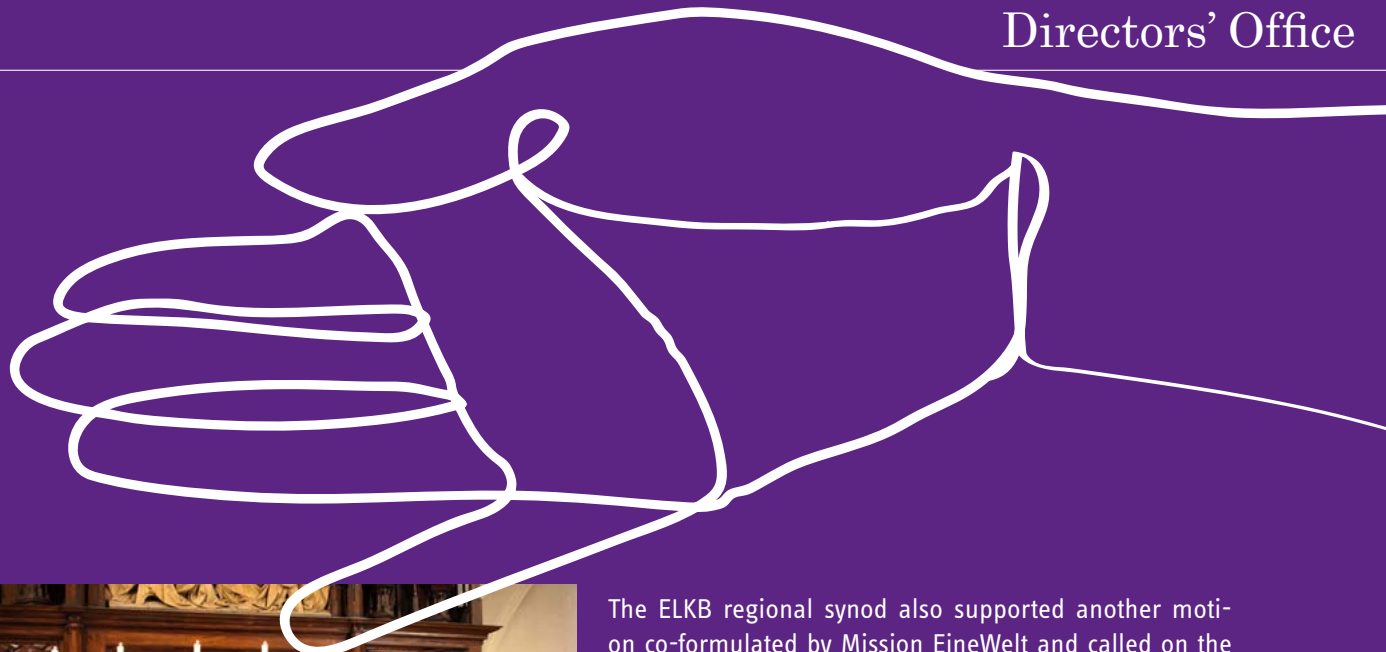
Indeed, while we are celebrating the ordination on this

cold Sunday in the northern area of the Bavarian regional church, this event is being followed live and simultaneously via the internet by people at their screens in Malaysia, the USA and many other places in the nearer or more distant surroundings. That is possible because new transmission equipment has just been installed in St. Michael's Church. And, to make sure that the sisters and brothers in our partner church in Malaysia know that they are invited and feel welcome, Dean Günther Saalfrank greets them right at the beginning in English.

Close despite distance – this has always been an issue for connections in the church all over the world. Imagination and perseverance are needed to give shape to partnerships between continents and fill them with life. Corona has given us a push to broaden our possibilities. Naturally, only digitally, only on the video tile – that alone will not satisfy us in the future either. Human encounters are necessary – live ones. But we have considerably increased our repertoire of possibilities to experience closeness despite distance. That is encouraging and gives us hope.

Gabriele and Hanns Hoerschelmann





Kathrin Zaha-Lee was ordained in Hof and, at the same time, commissioned for service in the Lutheran Church in Malaysia.

Paula Trzebiatowski was ordained in Augsburg and commissioned with her husband Fabian for service in Kenya.

At the request of Jack Urame, the bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea, the regional synod of the ELKB adopted a resolution submitted by Mission EineWelt and the Pacific Information Desk and condemned the massive, systematic violation of human rights in West Papua.

The ELKB regional synod also supported another motion co-formulated by Mission EineWelt and called on the Bavarian members of the Federal parliament to commit themselves to a strong law on delivery chains. In addition, the regional church council and Diakonia in Bavaria were requested to draw up an “outline for personal commitment concerning practice and needs in local parishes and church institutions as well as in diaconal institutions” in time for the Spring synod meeting in 2023.

+++ APRIL +++

On April 30th 2021 Sister Erika Richter died aged 87. As a qualified nurse and midwife and a sister of the Zehendorf diaconal community, she worked almost continuously as a missionary nurse in Northern Tanzania from 1962 to 1987.

+++ MAY +++

Gabriele Hoerschelmann was elected as a member of the presidium of the EKD synod.

+++ JUNE +++

In connection with World Refugee Day on June 20th, Mission EineWelt appealed for a stop to deportations from Germany as long as the pandemic lasts..

+++ JULY +++

Mission EineWelt's 21st Festival of the Worldwide Church on July 18th also took place in virtual form because of the Corona pandemic.



The great advantage also this year: discussion panels with international participation which would hardly have been possible to organise on a specific date in analogous form. The main subject was the effects of the Corona pandemic on politics and society and, above all, what responses and possible solutions the worldwide church can offer.

On July 25th, in the Church of the Redeemer in Dingolfing, Penga Nimbo's farewell took place. As a theologian from Papua New Guinea, he had been working both in the parish of Dingolfing and for the Department for Partnership and Parish Work throughout Bavaria since 2016.

The president of the Bavarian synod, Annekathrin Preidel, and the Bavarian Minister of the Interior, Joachim Herrmann (CSU), became the patrons of the building project "Gemeinde Centrum EineWelt" (GCEW - Parish Centre OneWorld) in Neuendettelsau. On July 30th, they visited the site to inform themselves about the building plans and the further steps towards their implementation.

+++ AUGUST +++

In the context of the worldwide commemoration of the victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a commemoration was also held in Nuremberg on August 6th in which Mission EineWelt and the Pacific Information Desk participated.

+++ SEPTEMBER +++

On the occasion of the Federal "Fair Weeks" from September 10th to 24th, Mission EineWelt also contributed a varied programme.

On September 19th 2021, Renato Creutzberg was inducted to serve in the church of the Pfuhl-Burlafingen parish. This 49-year-old theologian comes from the Evangelical Church of Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IECLB) and will serve for five years as pastor in Burlafingen.



+++ OCTOBER +++

The sixtieth anniversary of Tanzania's independence was the occasion for Mission EineWelt to launch a series of activities and events under the heading "Uhuru means freedom". This began with a song competition in which people in Tanzania and Germany who are at least 15 years old can participate.



+++ NOVEMBER +++

So that people everywhere in the world have an equal opportunity to be vaccinated against and treated for COVID-19, the 13th synod of the EKD called for fair access to vaccines and medication against COVID-19.

For Mission EineWelt, an era came to an end. On November 13th 2021, the farewell service for Reinhild Schneider, who has been the director of the Department for Partnership and Parish Work since April 2012, took place in the Laurentius Church in Neuendettelsau on her retirement.



The mission and partnership conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria called on the leaders of the regional church to actively commit themselves to respect for human dignity in the treatment of the refugees who have been brought via Belarus to the Polish border.

Following the synod of the EKD, a large majority of the synod of the Bavarian church also adopted an urgent resolution concerning the worldwide fair distribution of vaccines and priority access for particularly vulnerable groups of people.

Marco Trentini, a theologian from the Evangelical Church of Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IECLB), was inducted in

the local church of Kohlberg-Weiherhammer. He will serve as pastor there for five years.

+++ DECEMBER +++

On December 10th, International Human Rights Day, Mission EineWelt, attac and other cooperating partners called for a public declaration on international vaccination justice and a public health system based on need.

The initiator of the vaccination campaign in Neuendettelsau, the medical doctor, Cornelia Monteiro, donated the takings from the three events during the summer of 2021 to Mission EineWelt. The total of 15,000 Euros was used to support Corona aid projects in Tanzania and Papua New Guinea.



Zoom and Presence



KLAUS DOTZER
Department for Africa

Corona has taught us new, digital ways of meeting. No one in the Department for Africa would now want to be without our own data-secure Zoom licence. Digital meetings within the house, online encounters with partnership groups and working committees in Germany, online staff conversations and online consultations with partner churches in Africa, international forums for encounter and education platforms - all of this has become an everyday affair. It all enriches our work, saves travel costs and facilitates the flow of information. All that will remain. Even after Corona.

But it cannot replace meeting personally. That was very clear at the annual conference of all the workers in Africa at which Claus Heim and I were again able to be present in Tanzania in October for the first time after two years.



Including their families, there are still 50 people serving in Africa in Tanzania, Kenya, Liberia and the Democratic Republic of Congo on behalf of Mission EineWelt and the Centre for Mission and Ecumenism of the Church of Northern Germany. Very different professional groups and very different generations who are fully involved throughout the year in their local partner churches. Some for decades and others quite new. An inexhaustible need for mutual conversation builds up there in the course of one year.

+++ TELEGRAMME +++

+++ JANUARY +++

The newly established expert committee for Africa met on January 15th by Zoom for its constitutive session. Eight women and men from the world of church and education, medicine and public relations, meet as volunteers three times a year with specialist staff of MOW and the country officers, Claus Heim and Klaus Dotzer, to evaluate the work done and plan what is to be done.

“Tanzania after the elections” was the subject of an online workshop of misio Munich and Mission EineWelt on January 23rd. More than 100 interested people took part.

+++ FEBRUAR +++

Pastor Anne Mika was inducted to her new work on February 14th during a



worship service in Dar es Salaam.

+++ MARCH +++

Paula Trzebiatowski was ordained on March 7th in Augsburg by the regional bishop, Axel Piper. Immediately afterwards, the director of MOW, Gabriele Hoerschelmann, commissioned Paula Trzebiatowski and her husband Fabian for service in the Kenyan Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC). Paula will work there as a parish pastor and as director of the church’s department

for Christian education. Fabian will serve as adviser for the strategy and project work of the church.

On March 13th, partnership groups from all over Germany met via Zoom in the Congo working group and discussed the developments, projects and new developments in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo.

John Pombe Magufuli, the president of the United Republic of Tanzania,

Who are you? How are you doing? What is new in my case? What are our particular experiences?

What Zoom conference could provide adequate space for all of that? It all requires innumerable conversations in passing, discussions at table, walks, confidential talks about work and informal group discussions, morning meditations and evening devotions, shared tears of grief and

of joy, a common sense of frustration and the common singing of enjoyment.

2121: Yes, Zoom deserves our thanks. But infinitely more thanks are due for the renewed awareness that the possibility of physical, personal encounter is a gift!

Klaus Dotzer

About the feeling of iron balls, trusting God and drinking tea in Tanzania

Do you know Lucky Luke? The cowboy who moves faster than his own shadow and, after having an adventure, rides on alone into the sunset? Usually the comic hero has first hunted the Daltons who normally end up in the prison courtyard with iron balls round their ankles.

Like having an iron ball on my ankle – that or something similar is how the 20 months from March 2020 to October 2021 felt for me, although I certainly did not follow in the criminal footsteps of comic bandits.

What 20 months those were! The first thing on waking up in the morning was to look at my mobile phone. A quick

check on the incidence rate and a glance at the latest rules for Corona behaviour. The calculations of exponential growth vaguely reminded me of days gone by and a basic study course on statistics. I gradually developed a growing faith in numbers which is not really normal for me. Should I drive to the office or play safe and stay in “home office”? Better to look again and see how high the incidence is.

For a long time, no business trips to Africa were possible. For communication with Africa, it was only possible to use the computer and telephone. Even though we gratefully and extensively used what was technically possible, direct encounter and personal interchange were often lacking.

Then, in the autumn of 2021, I as the officer for Tanzania

died on March 17th shortly after the beginning of his second term of office. In line with the constitution, the vice-president replaced him in office. Samia Suluhu Hassan is thus the first woman to be president of Tanzania.

On March 20th, partnership groups from all over Germany met via Zoom in the Tanzania working group and discussed the developments, projects and new developments in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT).

+++ APRIL +++

“Re-igniting the first light” – re-lighting the fire of one’s first love. This was the motto for the synod meeting from April 21st to 25th of nearly 500 delegates of the Lutheran Church in Liberia, the oldest Lutheran Church



in Africa, which discussed its further course.

+++ AUGUST +++

Selina Schreiner travelled for MOW to Nairobi on August 1st as a volunteer

expert on a special mission. She will support Mary Mshana, the director of the street girls project (PLCC) of the Kenyan Evangelical Lutheran Church, for one year in its administrative and public relations work.

+++ OCTOBER +++

For the first time after one and a half years the regional officers, Claus Heim and Klaus Dotzer, were able to travel to Africa again. They both attended the conference of all MOW workers in Africa and, in addition to visiting church projects, they participated in the “round table” of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) with all its international partners.



In Ilembula Lutheran Hospital the new operating theatre was dedicated. More than 200,000 Euros from Bavaria were spent on the new building and its interior furnishings. Of this sum, approximately 130,000 Euros came from the Church Development Service in Bavaria and more than 70,000 Euros were private donations for operating equipment and interior furnishings.

+++ NOVEMBER +++

Preaching, teaching, healing. In the words of Bishop Jensen Seyenkulo, those are the three pillars of the work of the Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL). During his visit in Liberia from November 19th to 29th, the regional officer, Klaus Dotzer, was able to get to know them better personally in lively services, a theological training centre with a practical bias and in two rural church hospitals facing up to all kinds of challenges.



+++ DECEMBER +++

The government in Kenya declared the drought in the country to be a national emergency. The international church alliance ACT (Action by Churches Together) published an appeal for help and MOW recommended it for support. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria was able to help with 400,000 Euros from its emergency fund. This sum benefited the refugee work of the Lutheran World Federation office in Nairobi on the borders of Sudan and Somalia.

17 small projects of Corona aid (normally with a maximum allocation of 5,000 Euros from MOW) were run by the ELCT in 2021 in many different corners of Tanzania. This work was also supported financially by numerous private donors and the Bavarian church (ELKB).



was again able to hear “Karibu chai” – “welcome to tea”, because then, after 20 months when Corona prohibited travel, it became possible to travel to our partners in Africa again. I travelled for four weeks all over Tanzania.

In the process, on a road in Mbeya in south-west Tanzania, I also took this photo. A woman is walking along the edge of the road. Chai na man-

dazi. Tea and yeast dough fried in fat (a sort of doughnut) is what she has to sell. How will she have experienced the Corona situation during 2021? At no time did the state authorities in Tanzania impose a real lockdown during the pandemic period. I imagine how this woman went her way and offered her wares even in the midst of the pandemic which cost many lives during the various surges in Tanzania as well.

The mandazi which this woman sells are delicious the day they are made; only then can they be sold easily. These yeast buns are symbolic of many people in Tanzania who earn their living by informal jobs. As day labourers, small traders, tea and mandazi sellers. A struggle, again every day, to earn what they need to survive, often without any reserves or social security.



Photo: Claus Heim

The term “resilience” is used to describe the acquired ability to deal with crises and trials so that a person is not broken but enabled to come out of them strengthened. Does this woman have more resilience than I do, than most of us in Bavaria have? Are a large proportion of the women and men in Africa simply able to bear more, more resistant to crises than I am as a pampered German? Are they not also more spiritual than I? Have they more trust in God (by compulsion in a sense because they live without numerous insurance policies)?

Although I do not want to romanticise economic need, it often seems so to me. In conversations with people in Africa I often sense a high degree of resilience, a strong trust in God, and hope for a better tomorrow.

It is certainly good for the Evangelical Church in Bavaria

to be reminded time and again that the kingdom of God is growing not only between Hof and Passau, between Garmisch and Aschaffenburg, but worldwide. As a church we belong together. And Christians should not be like Lucky Luke, the comic figure mentioned at the beginning who rides off alone.

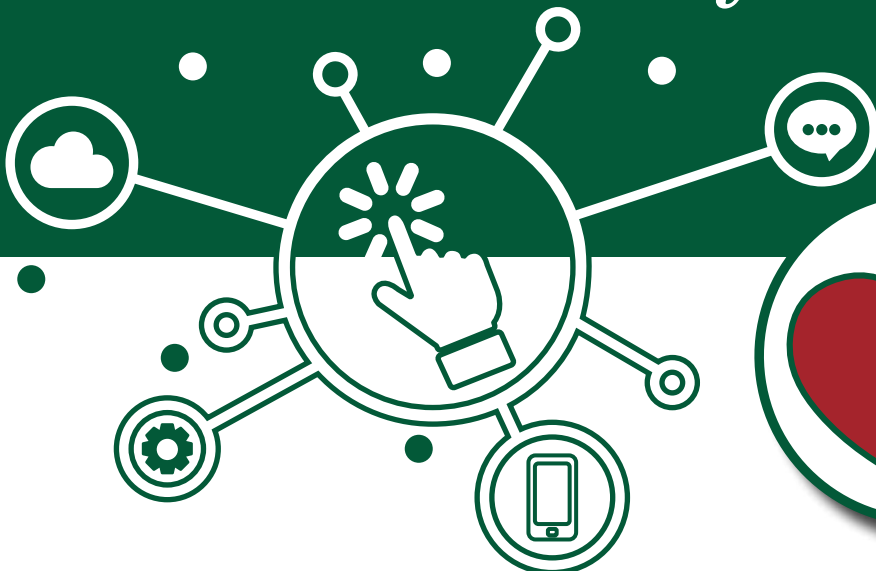
In this one world, we need to learn from one another and share what we need in order to live. Also at difficult times. It will also often be a matter of money and material goods (and we again transferred many things to Tanzania during 2021; the figures can be found in the financial report by Jochen Kronester). But it is also a matter of sharing other resources: of tea and buns, encouraging resilience, trust in God and hope.

Claus Heim

Digital can do a lot but not everything



THOMAS PAULSTEINER
Department for
Papua New Guinea/
Pacific/East Asia



2021 was also affected by the consequences of the Corona pandemic. Adaptation to digital platforms and means of communication was a real challenge for all involved. But digital space made national and international encounters possible on a short route at very low cost and these were often quite adequate to identify results. However, the clear disadvantage was the

lack of much more information that can flow and be received during live encounters. In the future, a number of journeys both inland and abroad will no longer be necessary, but we are nevertheless looking forward to and hoping that personal encounters will soon becoming possible again.



Our partner churches have also suffered enormously from the effects of the pandemic and from repeated lockdowns. Apart from the restrictions on or complete prohibition of opportunities for meeting and communal sharing in bible groups and worship services, the income of the churches and parishes has declined drastically. Theological discussions related to the pandemic also took place, e.g. about the possibility of celebrating Holy Communion online. At its latest general assembly, the Lutheran Church in Singapore (LCS) elected Rev. Lu Guan Hoe as its new bishop. According to the church's constitution, Bishop Terry Kee was not eligible to stand for a further term. Despite major restrictions under Corona, the church has tried to respond to the needs of seafarers and Thai foreign workers in the diaconal field.

At the end of the year, the [Lutheran Church in Malaysia \(LCM\)](#) elected Rev. Thomas Low to be its new bishop. He succeeds Bishop Aaron Yap who no longer obtained a majority after eight years in office. Here, too, Corona almost brought the evangelistic, diaconal work to a stop among

the Orang Asli, in Vietnam and in Myanmar.

The developments in Hong Kong are extremely regrettable as social life and the political situation have been streamlined by Beijing to a large extent. The churches and theological education institutions are also endeavouring to find a feasible way and to preserve as many personal freedoms as possible as long as they are able. It is clear that the pressure of censorship and surveillance is already affecting the mind and people are very reticent about expressing any criticism. The developments here are a sad and very dramatic example of how quickly political systems and basic conditions can change, and that freedoms and human rights can in no way be taken for granted. They have to be defined and defended time and again and must not be jeopardised unthinkingly.

In the Lutheran Church in Korea and at the Luther University the situation seemed to have calmed down a bit towards the end of the year after the deposed previous church president had continued to fight with no holes barred against the new church leadership and had involved it in legal disputes. The synod again affirmed the legal status of the new church leadership at the end of the year. It remains to be hoped that the church will be able very soon to return to its real calling and task.

The Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) also had to work and live this year despite extremely strict rules about leaving the home imposed by the pandemic. For months it was impossible to travel from one province to another. Many people in the Philippines are day labourers who were particularly hard hit by the continuing strict lockdown. The need was obvious and the church tried, in cooperation with the local authorities, to find possibilities of giving diaconal aid to the poorest – despite a marked drop in donations from the congregations. The Church Convention planned for October was cancelled because of the pandemic and the election planned for the leader of the church was postponed. So President Reyes remains in office for another year.

+++ TELEGRAMME +++

+++ JANUARY +++

An online meeting of the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Malaysia and Singapore (FELCMS) with international partners from the USA, Australia and Bavaria strengthened existing relationships. The participants informed one another about the current situation, worked on common strategies for further cooperation and prayed for one another.

+++ FEBRUARY +++

Together with the Lutheran World Federation, we supported a project to establish a small bible school coupled with a small vocational training school in the Philippines. Each year, about 20 young people could attend.

+++ MARCH +++

The specialist committee for Papua New Guinea/Pacific/East Asia met online for its constitutive session. The eight members appointed from different areas of the church's activity accompany the work of the department. On the other hand, they bring concerns from the Asia-Pacific region into their own fields of work and networks.

+++ APRIL +++

An intensive workshop on the amended regulations governing the project work of MOW enabled the staff of the overseas departments to become familiar with them. For example, a new application form for projects has been designed which should help to standardise project work and make it more transparent. Its implementation with the partner churches started soon after.

+++ MAY +++

The Pacific Theological College (PTC) is the largest and best known ecumenical institution for theological education in the Pacific. Many churches throughout the Pacific region have sent pastors to the PTC in the past few decades for them to obtain a master's degree there or a doctorate. In the next few years, the PTC is to be extended and become a university. During an online conference, the present situation and the partially disputed plans for the future were discussed in detail with various international partners of the PTC.

+++ JUNE +++

23 participants from China, Hong Kong, England, Norway, the Netherlands and Germany met online for the biennial meeting of the European Network of Amity Partners (ENAP). The main issue was "New challenges and future prospects for diaconal work during the COVID-19 period".

In view of the increasingly difficult political framework in China, the future role of the ENAP was also discussed in detail.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea (ELC-PNG) was also

severely hit by the economic consequences of the pandemic with a drop in income of 30 to 50 percent. The financial stability that had been achieved with much difficulty thanks to professional accompaniment was in danger of being lost again. So we are grateful that the ex-

The Amity Foundation sets great store by the reliability of the relation-

ships of trust which have developed with its European partner organisations over the years.

ry in Odenwald. This group brings together representatives of most of the church agencies connected with China from both Protestant and Catholic churches in Germany and Switzerland. In addition to a mutual exchange of information, there was careful discussion of the develop-

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS CAME BACK ON HOME LEAVE AND HAVE GONE OUT AGAIN::

- Rev. Michael Jacobsen (Fincke River Mission, Australia)
- Dr. Simon Ganai (Doctor, Etep, Papua New Guinea)
- Thorsten Krafft (Media consultant, Lae, Papua New Guinea)
- Rev. Wolfgang Grieninger (Theological Adviser, Malaysia)

NEW IN THE TEAM AND/OR SENT OUT:

- Rev. Dr. Stefan Gradl (Lecturer, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong)
- Rev. Kathrin Zaha-Lee (Missionary Student Work, Malaysia)
- Nazreat Elyas (Project Office, Lae, Papua New Guinea)
- Roland Kornhäusl (Finance Department, Lae, Papua New Guinea)
- Friedemann Stattaus (Youth Work, Lae, Papua New Guinea)
- Rev. Dr. Friedemann Barniske (Lecturer, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong)
- Dr. Holger Szesnat (Lecturer, Senior Flierl Seminary, Logaweng, Papua New Guinea)
- Rev. Andreas Latz (Intern, Lutheran Seafarers' Mission, Singapore)
- Norbert Köppel (Station Manager, Senior Flierl Seminary, Logaweng, Papua New Guinea)



+++ JULY +++

The Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is a strong partner in Papua New Guinea for reaching people in very remote areas of the country. We were able to use donation resources to finance a solar installation for the MAF base at Goroka costing almost 32,000 Euros. This will enable the MAF to remain faithful to its mandate: "flying for life".

+++ OCTOBER +++

In the context of the Mekong Mission Forum, more than 30 representatives from 25 countries and churches met online. The main focus was on the situation of the churches and civil society in Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. The political situation in Myanmar following the military coup was the cause of great concern and solidarity. Detailed discussions took place about which projects should be supported in which regions.

+++ NOVEMBER +++

The Ecumenical China Working Group met in person in the Höchst monaste-

ments of China's policy on religion and the effects on the churches there. A guest lecture dealt with China's Xinjiang policy and human rights issues. STAFF CHANGES:

The following persons have come back and left the service of Mission EineWelt:

- Rev. Dr. Simon Wiesgickl (Lecturer, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong)
- Deacon Michael Hofmann (Intern, Lutheran Seafarers' Mission, Singapore)
- Martin Lachmann (Amity Foundation, Hong Kong)
- Rev. Hans Grauvogl (Lecturer, Evangelist Training Centre, Amron, Papua New Guinea)
- Rev. Dr. Ralph Weinbrenner (Lecturer, Pacific Theological College, Fiji)
- Rev. Dr. Malte Rhinow (Lecturer, Luther University, Korea)
- Special mention must be made of Lieselotte Janetzky who has begun her well deserved retirement after almost 22 years working in the PPO Department.





tension of the employment terms for the Finance Consultant, Dr. Jaap Schep, for a further three years has become possible with the consent of the Lutheran Overseas Partner Churches (LOPC).

Owing to a lack of testing, there are no reliable statistics about the effects of the Corona virus. But many western countries and Australia in particular are actively engaged in combating the pandemic in PNG. However, the readiness for vaccination is extremely low (encouraged by social media and fake news). The vaccination quota is only about 2 percent of the population.

The north-south exchange came alive again in July with the first new commissioning in recent years. The “new people” were received with great enthusiasm in Lae, PNG. It was significant for us to experience that as well and a sign for all of us of a new beginning despite the pandemic. Especially against the background of the question whether new commissioning is necessary and in the context of a new round of discussions about colonialism, it is good to witness the joy on both sides that our more than one hundred and thirty years-old common history cannot be shattered by a pandemic. Of course, we are working together on adapting the way in which we live and work

as partners in a changing world.

The moratorium imposed by Bread for the World (BfW) in 2019 on sending out new doctors is still in force. The attempt to solve structural problems at the expense of the ordinary rural population seems to us ethically questionable. Other approaches are needed to find solutions.

It was a real loss that the important format of the LOPC and Partners Forum (PF) meetings could not take place in 2021 either. Our numerous bilateral and multilateral digital contacts could not replace the benefits of that platform for conversations. The complex contents can simply not be handled by Zoom meetings. Time together, the possibility of deepening contacts and the various levels of living communication are essential.

*Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ) /
Alice Springs – Finke River Mission (FRM)*

A change took place in the leadership of the LCANZ. For eight years, Rev. Dr. John Henderson had led the church as its bishop. He distinguished himself as a prudent, clever pastor devoted to his people who led the church with a

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SENIOR EXPERT PROGRAMME:

- Dr. Hubert Schildhauer
(Doctor, Braun Memorial Hospital,
Papua New Guinea)

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SOUTH-SOUTH PROGRAMME, THE FOLLOWING STAFF FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES OR THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MADAGASCAR WERE SUPPORTED FOR SERVICE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA:

- Rev. Edwin Huevos
(Lecturer, Senior Flierl Seminary,
Logaweng)
- Rev. Xavier Palattao
(Memorial Church, Madang)
- Rev. Reynaldo Sadca
(Lecturer, Evangelist Training Centre,
Amron)
- Antonio Tan
(Station Manager, Senior Flierl
Seminary, Logaweng)
- Dr. Jean Clement Ralison Rakotoson
(Doctor, Braun Memorial Hospital)
- Dr. Samuel Rakotomalala
(Doctor, Yagaum)
- Dr. Hervien Samuel Andriamananjara
(Doctor, Etep)
- Dr. Eli Jean Aina Rakotoson
(Doctor, Gaubin)

calm and sure hand. We shall miss his clear, open, friendly and also humorous style and wish him God's blessing for his retirement. We welcome Rev. Paul Smith as the newly elected presiding bishop of the LCA and look forward to fruitful cooperation. We pray that God will bless his ministry.

Collaboration in the work within the framework of the FRM and, on behalf of the LCA, in various language groups in Aborigine congregations and at the Yirara College in Alice Springs where Aborigine children from the age of 12 can study for school leaving examinations, is a challenge.

Fiji / Pacific Theological College (PTC)

Our connection with the PTC is the responsibility of giving theologians from the ELC-PNG the possibility of further studies there. The PTC is in a difficult situation, also as a result of the pandemic. Many of the sponsoring churches have been unable to send any new students whose contributions constituted part of the financing of the PTC. Some of the previous sponsoring churches have started building their own bible schools and theological education institutions so their support for the PTC is disappearing.

In addition, there is a growing shortage of lecturers which is also related to the plans of the present principal to turn the PTC into a university. For us, the PTC remains important as an ecumenical basis for education in the Pacific context.

With regard to issues, we have been concerned again, among other things, with the current debates on facing up to the German colonial history, the question of mission and colonialism, as well as various books published on the subject. Not only for this reason, we are grateful that it has proved possible to establish our own full-time project post for the next five years and to appoint Heide Lienart-Emmerlich for this. She will work professionally on the archives of MOW, incorporate new material, e.g. from inheritances, as an expert and make the material available.

Thomas Paulsteiner/
Arnim Doerfer



+++ TELEGRAMME +++

+++ JANUARY +++

On January 22nd the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons came into force. We rejoiced with the Pacific states which have ratified this treaty: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. To celebrate the day, we raised the flags of the states involved, which include many partner countries of MOW, in front of the entrance to Mission EineWelt.

In Hamburg, the seafarers from Kiribati, who were unable to fly back to their country because of the Corona crisis, celebrated the entry into force of the treaty in freezing temperatures in the garden of the youth hostel with traditional dances and in traditional dress.

By January 2022, a total of 59 states had acceded to the treaty and 86 have signed it. According to the public opi-

nion institute Kantar, four out of five people in Germany support accession to the treaty and 82 percent want the US atomic bombs to be removed from Germany. In MOW, we jointly support Germany's accession to the treaty and the removal of the USA's nuclear war heads stored in Büchel within the framework of NATO membership. Abolish nuclear weapons NOW!



Photos: MEW



Finally more attention for the (Pacific) ocean

JULIA RATZMANN
Pacific Information Desk



In June 2021, the United Nations (UN) proclaimed the Decade of Marine Research for Sustainable Development. Over the next ten years, persons active in environmental research and science are to work together to produce the ocean that we need for the future: healthy, full of life and with protected areas – but also sustainably managed and exploited.

In order to bring these different interests together under one umbrella, the Pacific Information Desk believes concerted action is required.

We are glad that now for a whole decade the “object of our work” will be the focal point for organisations, campaigns and actions which are committed to a sustainable ocean and its animal and human inhabitants.

Not without reason, our earth is popularly called “the blue planet”. 70 percent of the earth's surface is covered with water. One third of the earth is occupied by the Pacific Ocean alone; it is the largest ocean and the deepest with a depth of 10,000 meters. As “landlubbers” we often forget how important the ocean is for coastal dwellers. It provides food, income possibilities, transport routes, raw materials, renewable energy and, not least, the possibility of calm and recovery. If we wish to continue to enjoy

+++ FEBRUARY +++

In the context of further training for qualification in education work on development policy, the seminar "Prima Klima? The climate crisis and its consequences" took place online. Together with the young volunteers, we discussed the film "One Word" among other things. This is a participatory documentary from the point of view of the persons affected and concerns the effects of global warming on the Marshall Islands in the North Pacific and their population. The film

was designed and made over nine months with the participation of local people in film workshops. The story is told only by the protagonists. Their voices are the only ones which count.

In preparation for the World Day of Prayer (WDP) from Vanuatu, we gave a number of addresses both on the regional level of the World Day of Prayer committee and in local church congregations or to interested groups. Thanks to Zoom, we were able to provide information throughout Germany about this Melanesian state in the Pacific and

convey to people here in Germany what the everyday challenges are for the people on the spot. We also wrote many articles and contributed to publications on this relatively unknown country or published them. We are already looking forward to the World Day of Prayer in 2025 from the Cook Islands.

+++ MARCH +++

The WDP was celebrated on March 5th in services under pandemic conditions. The



the oceans and their beaches, even small changes in everyday living can help. For example, experts have calculated that there are 8.3 billion plastic straws in the seas. If you change to glass straws, you also protect the seas. For this reason, we wholeheartedly support the prohibition of one-way plastic for the whole of Germany. It is marvellous that, since January 2022, no more plastic carrier bags can be sold in supermarkets.

The oceans also regulate our climate and are the biosphere for animals and plants. A major part of the deep sea has not yet been investigated; almost every week, researchers come across forms of life which were still unknown to us. In our work, we do worldwide research in specialist magazines for such spectacular new discoveries and report on them in "Pacific News" and the "Pacific circular letter".

That more and more people are becoming aware of the oceans and their importance is also due to the UN Goals for Sustainable Development. Several of these 17 goals relate to the oceans and life under and above water. Sustainable management and exploitation of the oceans are understood here to mean finding a balance between the use of resources and their extensive exploitation. The use of the resources of the oceans should not be prohibited; rather it should be considered how they can be shared more equitably and used in such a way that the equilibrium of ecosystems is preserved. Catching fish is one example. Millions of coastal dwellers make their living by coastal fishery. They know exactly where and how many fish they can remove from the ocean in order both to meet their food needs but also not to endanger the stocks of fish. So it is necessary to maintain coastal fishing by small fishermen and, instead, to limit commercial fishing with its enormous dragnets.

Maritime research can help to develop fishing systems, to reduce unwanted catch, to protect the most endangered species such as the real hawksbill turtle, and nevertheless to meet the worldwide need for fish and seafood. We maintain contact with Pacific families who live from fishing and we regularly receive information about the local situation.

We also maintain contact with environmental activists on the Pacific islands where deep sea mining projects are being planned. Mining the resources of the deep sea will have direct consequences for the health of the deep sea and its creatures. So our press and education work also includes solidarity with campaigns throughout the Pacific against deep sea mining and fruitful cooperation with the Hamburg Oceania Dialogue.

We register with concern the serious set backs in the tourism sector as a result of Corona. Many of the Pacific island states advertise a "holiday in a tropical paradise" and are economically very dependent on travellers. For nearly two years, it has been impossible to enter many countries for tourist purposes. This has particularly threatened the livelihood of small family enterprises, diving centres, sailing trip enterprises and local travel guides. They miss their income and work with the tourists and the tourists miss their holidays by and on the sea.



liturgy used throughout the world had the title “Build on a strong foundation”. We supported and joined in the celebration of the WDP service together locally with Mission EineWelt and also in congregations in Fürth and Nuremberg.

At the suggestion of the Pacific Information Desk and the West Papua Network, the regional synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria dealt with the situation of human rights in West Papua, the western part of New Guinea island, during its digital Spring session from March 21st to 24th. With no votes against and only one abstention, the 108 synod members voted in favour of a draft resolution from Mission EineWelt and the Pacific Information Desk. In this way, the synod responded to a request from Jack Urame, the bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea (ELC-PNG), for support for the indigenous Papuans in the province of West Papua which belongs to Indonesia. Other churches have also supported this resolution in their synods.

+++ APRIL +++

Since the autumn of 2020, in cooperation with the Weissensee Arts College in Berlin and the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI), artistic research on climate change, post-colonial participation and media communication has been developed under the heading “Media Interaction & Climate Change – The Marshall Islands and Berlin”. Julia Ratzmann took part in an exchange between students from both colleges. In this way, new contacts have been established with art students from all over the world.

+++ MAY +++

The annual session of the Pacific Coordination Forum (PazKo) took place via Zoom. This enabled Professor Upolu Vaai, the director of the Theological College in Suva, Fiji, to give a live presentation of his plans for the reorganisation and extension of the College to a “genuine” university, thanks to the “screen sharing” function.

Even before this, during a Zoom event of the West Papua Network and Hamburg University, speakers from West Papua were able to join in directly on the subject “Women’s Rights in West Papua”. Everyone enjoyed the great benefit of virtual meetings – we were no longer

just talking about our partners and their difficulties but rather talking with them and allowing ourselves to be led into their world by sound and images.

+++ JUNE +++

In cooperation with the Oceania Dialogue in Hamburg, on four Mondays in June we organised digital lectures on the subject “Oceania – Burning Glass of Global Challenges”. We were especially impressed by the performance by Craig Santos Perez from the Island of Guam. This native Chamorro sings, talks and recites “Eco Poetry”. We discussed the effects of climate change with young female climate activists from Fiji and an activist woman from Tonga informed us about the deep sea mining projects planned off the coast of Tonga.

+++ JULY +++

The annual festival of Mission EineWelt (Worldwide Church Festival) again took place online. Julia Ratzmann was the moderator for a panel discussion on the social consequences of the Corona pandemic with participants from all the partner churches of MOW.

The digital annual conference of the Pacific Network on the subject “Current Information



For island dwellers, in particular, the ocean is much more than a place to live or work. They attribute a soul to the sea and view it as a member of the family. People and seas are interrelated on a spiritual level and interact with one another. For this reason, it is a frightful idea for many island dwellers to have to abandon their home islands because of the rising sea level. When we of the Information Desk commit ourselves with our education work to sustainability, protection of resources and against the effects of climate change, this has immediate consequences for people in vulnerable regions of the world.

Our work in favour of endangered biospheres and people also reflects a core conception of Christian action: standing up in solidarity for our fellow human beings and our common world. In God’s creation, animals, plants and human beings must have equal rights to a “good life”. That is the purpose of our daily work with and for the Pacific in line with our motto “learning from one another – living with one another”.

Julia Ratzmann and Steffi Haagen

from Oceania” took place in cooperation with us. We heard a lot of up to date information, for example about the elections in Samoa, but also on the “Micronexit”, the departure of the Micronesian states from the Pacific Islands Forum which was previously so influential.

+++ AUGUST +++

We took our leave of Lieselotte Janetzky, for many years the head secretary in the Department for the Pacific. Lieselotte will continue with us as a member of the Pacific Network and is always prepared to review new books on the Pacific for our publications.

On August 6th we contributed to the 76th Hiroshima Commemoration Day with an address on the history of the nuclear weapons tests in the Pacific. Because of the Corona regulations, our vigil could be held for only about 2 hours in the open air in front of the portal of St. Lorenz Church in Nuremberg.

+++ SEPTEMBER +++

Jakob Renner started his Voluntary Social Year with Mission EineWelt. This “digital native” plays brilliantly on the keyboard of the social media. Thanks to special funding from the digital innovation fund of the Evangelical Church in Germany, he has brought the hardware of the Information Desk up to date and taught us how to use iPad, camera, microphone, cutting and audio programmes. Our short films and videos can now be found on Instagram, Facebook and even on You-

Tube on our own “Infostellen-Kanal”. With the global climate strike on September 24th, it was fitting that we met with representatives of the WDP committee in order to hand over lists of signatures to the Bavarian minister for the environment, Thorsten Glauber, in Forchheim. We wanted to make it clear that climate change concerns all of us.

The participative film on climate change, “One Word”, was shown in cinemas and One World shops and we were repeatedly able to participate as partners in the discussion that followed. In this way we have had discussions on the film with many people and reflected together on how we deal with the challenges of the climate crisis and what it means for us.

+++ OCTOBER +++

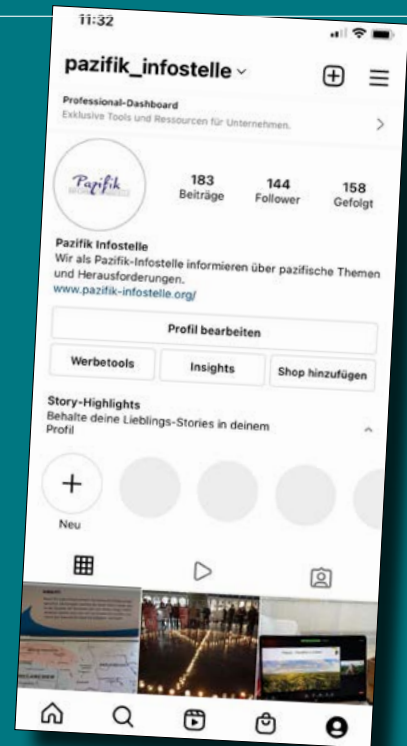
Relaxation of the Corona restrictions made it possible to give the first analogous lecture. Martina Kleinert was able to introduce the South Seas Collection in the Historical Museum of Obergünzburg to 40 interested persons of the Natural History Society. The Pacific Group of Nuremberg was also able for the first time again to have an evening meal together in an Italian Restaurant; with all the joy over meeting again, it was a loud and exciting evening.

+++ NOVEMBER +++

Our theme month started with the beginning of the UN Decade for Marine Research. On the four Mondays in November, organisations introduced themselves which are working in Germany and the Pacific for maritime protection.

The committee meeting of the Pacific Information Desk again took place online.

Together with the Department for Development and Politics and former volunteers, we



made our first podcast and discussed how serving as a volunteer in a country of the south such as Papua New Guinea can change our view of and attitude to subjects like racism and colonialism.

+++ DECEMBER +++

Julia Ratzmann participated in a follow up meeting of a seminar of the VEM (United Evangelical Mission). In June, the partners of the VEM in Africa, Asia and Germany had already had a digital discussion on the subject “Against Discrimination and Exclusion”. One lesson from the international meeting was that racism can be found everywhere and we can best identify ways to combat it together.

In an online lecture, Ingrid Schilsky from Hamburg told us why we can be the “voice” for the people in West Papua – because we can point to the challenges and difficult conditions of everyday life and stand up for human rights on the spot.

The second Corona year ended with a “Christmas Hula”. In the digital morning devotion for staff, Julia Ratzmann danced and explained the classical Hawaiian Christmas Hula.

www.pazifik-infostelle.org



Church among the people



KERSTIN SCHÖNLEBEN
DEPARTMENT FOR
LATIN AMERICA

“Now I am allowed to teach seven of the women myself. At the end, they will also take the examinations and receive a certificate from the Ministry of Education. It is exactly the same as if they had been taught by one of the state teachers.” Belinda Colindres’ pride and enthusiasm are infectious. At the moment, she is sitting opposite me in the Zoom space but her daily life takes place in the church office of the Iglesia Cristiana Luterana de Honduras (ICLH) and in the town areas of Tegucigalpa, Santa Cruz de Yoyoja or La Ceiba.



+++ TELEGRAMME +++

His first Youtube clips were convincing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcT63honGuM>

the first woman president of a church in Costa Rica.

In the summer, we succeeded in obtaining the cooperation of UNHCR in the project for refugee shelters.

+++ EL SALVADOR +++

Bishop Medardo Gomez and Rev. Abelina Gomez celebrated the 50th anniversary of their ordination and Bishop Medardo Gomez became the archbishop.

Rev. Hans-Jürgen Johnke concluded his service as a senior expert and remains in El Salvador with his family.

Fernando Rodriguez returned to El Salvador after his Masters studies and started to work in the public relations department of his church.

After the election of the new parliament, the prosecutor general and the constitutional court judge were dismissed by the parliament in May; Archbishop Medardo Gomez described this as a state coup. In September, El Salvador was the first country in the world to introduce Bitcoin as an official currency.

+++ COSTA RICA +++

In March, the Lutheran Church of Costa Rica (ILCO) elected its new leadership. According to its succession procedures, Lic. Hazel Centeno became

+++ NICARAGUA +++

ETA and IOTA were a concern for the IELF in the following year as well. As a church with project experience, the IELF was entrusted by ACT Alliance with the responsibility for coordinating the medium term measures for the reconstruction in 2021, subsequent to the emergency aid in the winter of 2020.

A large part of the year was marked by the election campaign, human

The Ministry of Education has not sent anyone to some of these parts of town for a long time now and anyone who lives there is sometimes not only cut off from water and electricity but also from other central things of life. The possibility of learning to read and write can be one of them.

Belinda Colindres Maramoros is the coordinator of a project that is concerned with women and, with its holistic approach, combines offers of education, health education and a theology of female emancipation.

During this and the coming year, Belinda Colindres will accompany 33 women from 8 local communities in as individual a way as the biographies and living conditions of the different women require. For many years, the ICLH has been committed to strengthening and promoting women in a social context which is increasingly fragmented by violence, drug criminality, the Maras and state corruption. Today, the project makes more sense than ever. The statistics for 2021 show a femicide every 23 hours in Honduras. At the same time, poverty also remains mainly feminine there owing to the lack of education opportunities.

On Zoom again. This time with Julio Cesar Caballero, the current church president of the Iglesia Cristiana Luterana de Honduras. A few weeks ago, in the context of an interview with the Lutheran World Federation, he stated, “Our women pastors, our volunteers and I go to these local communities and see boys armed with guns who belong to the gangs. But we go without fear; we greet them, we bless them. When our church goes to these areas, we have entrusted ourselves to God in line with Psalm 23: ‘The Lord is my shepherd’.”

Today Julio Caballero asks me to discuss with him about a possible adaptation of a project to enable not just women but everyone to have the opportunity of further education. The project “New Perspectives in view of the migration movement” wants to enable people to keep their heads above water existentially as very small scale entrepre-

neurs with home-made cosmetic articles, with a small bakery or the repair of mobile phones. But more and more frequently Julio Caballero faces closed doors. He asks the neighbours and then hears that yet another family has set out towards the north. The trend is becoming increasingly clear. Understandably in a country in which today almost one third of its about ten million inhabitants depend on humanitarian aid. Julio Caballero feels the force of the exodus most strongly in San Nicolas, Olancho, a very special place for the ICLH. It was here in 1951 that the first Lutheran congregation in Honduras was formed by migrants from El Salvador, but now the departure of many families is very painful for the shrinking Lutheran congregation. And the Olancho region is not only hit by economic problems but also strongly affected by climate change. So where the families are no longer able to harvest rice and beans, even the additional income from a very small enterprise would not help any more.

In November 2021 Honduras elected Xiomara Castro as its new president. Will she be able to change the direction in which the situation in the country is going together with the newly elected parliament? One can only hope so.

The ICLH will continue to be present in the town areas of Tegucigalpa and with the people in Olancho. As a church originally resulting from migration itself, it will go along in Honduras with the people who continue to search for their way and their future here. But those who set out for the north will, at best, find support on the way and then a new home in the Lutheran churches of Mexico and the USA. A migration network, AMPARO, has long since been formed.

Kerstin Schönleben

rights violations and restrictions on the freedom of the press (which were sometimes even felt by us in Germany in digital formats), until President Daniel Ortega was again confirmed in office in November by the election.

+++ HONDURAS +++

At the beginning of the year, the Lu-

theran Church (ICLH) called Rev. Bianca Kanitz from Brazil and appointed her pastor of the congregations “La Canada” and “La Resurrección”.

In February, the ICLH elected a new church leadership. Rev. Julio Ca-

ballero became the president of the church.

In the midst of extreme political tension, Xiomara Castro, the wife of the former president Manuel Zelaya

25th Brazil Day in the ELKB: Before and After. What next?



2021 was a jubilee year for the Brazil Day in the ELKB (Bavarian Lutheran Church). 25 years have passed and many people are part of this lovely story. An enriching experience of encounters, interchange and both individual and collective growth. The Brazil Day has certainly given the partnership groups and their congregations many positive impulses already. That is a reason for gratitude and rejoicing.

The congregation in Speichersdorf had prepared for the anniversary. Pastor Hannes Kühn was motivated. “We are prepared to be hosts and are looking forward to hugs, singing, dancing and meeting friends. ... We will take care of good food and drinks.” That was how it was announced but, because of the Corona pandemic, it was not possible to gather in person.

Nevertheless, the study day and the celebration took place. People took part very attentively online. At various

places in Germany and Brazil, computers were turned on and a lively picture appeared on the screen. Three hours were well filled with a devotion, review, lecture, group work and reports.

In his lecture on the question “Will the IECLB still be what it was before?”, Walter Altmann, the former president of the IECLB online from São Leopoldo, analysed the present situation of the IECLB and proposed answers for the future in this virtual setting.

“This is a difficult moment for the IECLB. Its own identity is at risk as a Protestant church, a church with a Lutheran confession, a church that is working in Brazil as its name indicates,” was Altmann’s evaluation and he reported about attacks on the IECLB. “In recent times, the IECLB including its leadership is being attacked increasingly and systematically when IECLB members and ordained staff express themselves on issues related to public order.” The attacks come especially from a Lutheran association “Erben von Worms” (Heirs of Worms), an organisation that had already spoken out on previous occasions against the official stand of the church or against some of its leaders. “They even call for some kind of rebellion in the congregations and their threats are far from veiled that they will withhold financial contributions,” Altmann said.

“At the same time,” Altmann continued, “signatures have been collected in favour of the IECLB leaving the CONIC, although the supporters of the petition have not revealed their identity. They claim that the motion to withdraw from the CONIC, the establishment of which was decisively promoted by the IECLB, was justified because it had abandoned its aims in favour of action of a party-political nature.”

The former

(2006-2009), was elected president in November.

+++ BRASIL+++

The new “Brazilian booklet” was presented in May. A digital version can be downloaded in PDF form under:

<https://mission-einewelt.de/internationale-beziehungen/partnerkirchen-uebersee/brasilien-ielcb/>

The booklet can also be ordered from the online shop of Mission EineWelt: <https://shop.mission-einewelt.de/produkt/laenderbroschuere-brasilien/>





church president concluded, “It is clear that the views of the presidium of the Lutheran association ‘Erben von Worms’ have no basis in Luther. Their source is quite different, namely political, but being obscured by the claim to a supposed Lutheran confessionality. In face of such divisive and unfounded manoeuvres, it is necessary to resist. We are opposed to attempts to undermine the unity of the IECLB.”

We received a lot of feedback after this event. In his report, Gerhard Baumgärtner wrote, “The lecture was followed by a lively discussion. A diverse and am-



The consultation between the ELKB and the IECLB took place in digital form. The main issues were the challenges for the church in view of the pandemic and new forms of worship services in this situation. Mission EineWelt and the IECLB conducted a compliance workshop online. This possibility of conversing directly was also used for consultation

by partnerships and institutions.

After completing his doctorate, Alexander Stahlhoefer was appointed lecturer for church history and systematic theology at the FLT.

+++ CILCA +++

In connection with compliance, a new agreement was drawn up between

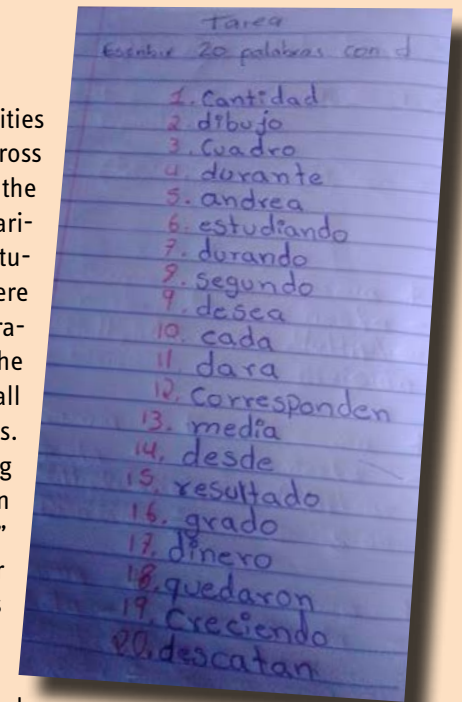
ple picture of the activities and the interchange across borders resulted from the presentation of the various partnerships. Naturally, all the reports were strongly marked by traces of Corona since the previous year with all the related limitations. The hope and yearning for real encounter soon could clearly be felt.” Gerhard Ulsenheimer summarised things in his email. “Those were really wonderful hours which reinforced my

hope and my confidence about meeting my friends in Brazil again soon.”

The whole lecture by Walter Altmann can be found under:

<https://mission-einewelt.de/brasilientag-2021/>

Geraldo Grützmann



Post-colonial remembrance

DR. GOTTFRIED RÖSCH
Referat Mission Interkulturell



To cultivate respectful coexistence, an intercultural mission can be helpful. Aims and interests bring people on this one planet together and need to be negotiated. What links, what loyalties and what solidarity do we have in each case? Which links do we in Mission EineWelt want to support and promote?

In the beginning, God created heaven and earth. That means the whole world, clearly structured or differentiated or ordered in different realms and yet closely interwoven. So this includes all people, as part of creation with all their differences, in the rhythm of space and time with limits and contact zones.

Christians all over the world and the Christian faith can link different people with one another - many different issues, different regions of the world, the worldly and the spiritual, heaven and earth, and even the depths of human action, behaviour and suffering.

Some things in 2021 were rather depressing. The gap between resources and privileges, poor and rich, can separate people from one another. The effects of climate change are felt more and more. A virus was circulating and made straightforward meetings and travel difficult or even impossible. Europe's southern contact zone with the rest of the world, the Mediterranean, a bridge linking various countries, is sadly equally marked by isolation, violence and death.

But postcolonial behaviour with destruction, exploitation and the exhaustion of people and resources cannot offer a good future. Alongside this, there are efforts to find common solutions. It is worthwhile for Europeans to recognise the new developments in other regions of the world. Digital possibilities create a network between human beings including Christians worldwide.

The analogous visit of Philomena Njeri Mwaura for several months was impressive. In many conversations, she was an attentive, gifted listener. She was able to speak clearly about the challenges to Christians in the future: not only in a rosy light but with a wide view and horizon compared with a purely internal German perception of the challenges for "the church". She is a professor of theology in Nairobi and her exercises in the Augustana University, contributions to seminars and public digital lectures provided clear East African or world-church insights. During the pandemic, she was able to take advantage of the good possibilities offered by the Neuendettelsau library and her research will continue to be published.





I was especially impressed by a visit of a mainly East African group to the memorial site of the concentration camp at Dachau. Rev. Björn Mensing of the Church of Reconciliation there and the Polish historian, Jan Kwiatkowski, received us and kindly gave us a lot of their time. Walking through the grounds, intensive conversations took place. It is not so much answers as questions which can take you further there.

What was the prehistory of National Socialism during the colonial period and especially the history of its origins in Bavaria? On this issue, Franz Ritter von Epp is one of the striking, influential, Bavarian personalities. What was the importance of the German colonies in Poland and Eastern Europe, the colonisation of the “German” East in medieval times, right through to the colonial and racist aims of the internecine war in the middle of the 20th century? What specific role did anti-Semitism have in this and how

is it related to other genocides and mass murders of the period? How did Afro-Germans experience National Socialism at that time? Why is it only now that people remember the murder of the Soviet prisoners of war?

And also: how do we now as survivors or descendants deal with the commemoration of violence in the past? What was the role of the churches then, what happened after 1945, and what is their role in commemoration today? Who has the authority to give an interpretation?

In Kenya, after World War II, a long and brutal civil or liberation war started which ended with independence. The war and its system of camps was described as the “Gulag of the British” or also the “Bergen-Belsen of the British”. The wounds have still not healed and affect many things in the country even today. Nowadays, a young generation wants to know what happened in

the past. How does Kenyan society handle this? And how does British society? Sometimes in Tanzania the German colonial period is romanticised. But there too the colonial period was marked by continual wars against the Germans. The First World War laid many regions of the country waste. How is it possible to remember something

+++ TELEGRAMME +++

+++ FEBRUARY/MARCH +++

Spiritual exercises in everyday life online. Spiritual exercises in everyday life consist of times for daily exercises and a weekly meeting. There the participants meet in small groups to share their thoughts and experiences of the past week. Can such a thing work online? During Passiontide in 2021,

Missio Munich and Mission EineWelt risked this experiment. The basis was the ecumenical material “erd-verbunden” (earth-related). About 50 participants met on five evenings. Here is a comment on the weekly meetings via Zoom. “The body prayers, reflection on pictures and scriptures, and the discus-

sions in pairs were really very varied and inspiring.”

+++ APRIL +++

In large parts of East Africa, the Pentecostal movement is a significant mega-trend. Professor Philomena Mwaura from the Kenyatta University spent the summer of 2021 as the holder of the Vicedom lectureship in Neuendettelsau and painted a picture with many facets. Looking at the different phases of the Pentecostal movement, she identified developments in the Pentecostal churches which would be hard to imagine elsewhere. Mega-churches were established by so-called prophetesses, women, some of whom had no theological training. They embody a new life with God and have attracted not only women but also men as followers.

At the same time, she described the outline of the ecumenical challenges and opportunities. In addition to a tremendous potential for reforming worship, the community and politics, there is also an inclination to set limits and focus inwardly. Philomena Mwaura's suggestion is both to recognise the potential and the problems and to learn from them together.

+++ JULY +++

Youth encounter: “Like a Tree” of 2020 became “Like a Forest” in 2021. 48 very varied hours in six time zones (Dodoma, Hong Kong, Lae, Managua, São Paulo and Germany). We met on a learning platform depending on who was awake when and



also at different times. Some of the experiences and contributions were shared in the forums and uploaded. At the end of the 48 hours we felt the “jet lag” which you normally only have from travelling between different time zones. “It feels as if I have been travelling all over the world.”

A “statement” was produced which was sent to church leaders all over the world. An extract: “We hope that our church leaders will recognise that the worldwide church is like a forest in which older and young trees should have space to grow. They should not prevent the younger ones from growing by putting them in the shade. If that happens, productivity will decrease day by day and that will not keep the church alive and continuing to develop. The church should not just give young people a place to celebrate but also space to grow into leadership positions.”

+++ SEPTEMBER +++

For ten days, 12 participants from all continents and many time zones met online for the digital International Summer School 2021 “Reflecting our Heritage”. It was refreshing how Sr. Dr. Grochowina spoke about her love of football in the everyday life of a religious sister. Fascinating to hear how Philomena Mwaura descri-

when we no longer know how much was destroyed? What was the role of Tanzania later in the anti-imperialist wars of liberation, also during the Cold War? It is worthwhile not allowing these common histories with their complicated interlinking to vanish. In the mutual European-African relationship, they are a common heritage. They affect us in our present situation. Even to the extent of the limits set in the Mediterranean today. Churches and religious communities can be spaces for encounters where histories can be heard. This is often the case at Mission EineWelt – a good tradition despite all the difficulties.

We were also able to enjoy the beauties of Bavaria during the visit. After the discussions in Dachau, we paid a short visit to the castle complex in Schleissheim. After all, the Wittelsbach family still maintains its links with Kenya even today.

Gottfried Rösch

bed restrictions. Heart warming to experience via Zoom how happy Dr. Kit was to meet the participant Valdecí from Brazil again. Sometime in the past, they were both participants at an analogous Summer School in Neuendettelsau. The team was glad to see how the Christian faith created lively connections worldwide.

Fair Week 2021: “Shaping the future fairly - #Fair action for human rights worldwide”. Human dignity at work is a human right which is derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights under the UN Charta (Article 23). The SDGs of the United Nations count decent work and sustainable economic growth (SDG 8) as one of the 17 goals for sustainable development.

The OneWorld shop took up the theme with an action on the question of chocolate. In front of the shop there was a selection of “fairafric” chocolates. People were allowed to try them while respecting the Corona rules. On the basis of photos, those who took part got an impression of how chocolate is produced – from the cocoa tree to the harvest and processing. Cocoa pods and dried cocoa beans brought the pictures to life.



There were free brochures to take away with fair recipes for vegetarian and vegan dishes made from organic and regional ingredients.

In cooperation with the action association “Verkehrswende” (changing transport) of the local community, the OneWorld shop and the fair trade steering group took part in the Parking Day in Neuendettelsau. On September 17th from 11 to 15 hours, the car park in front of the savings bank was “won back” from the street traffic. It was also possible to discover one’s own carbon footprint. To try this out, some passers by were motivated to stand still. Over coffee and cake, there were interesting conversations on sustainability, fair trade and ideas for changing transport.

+++ OCTOBER +++

How are things going in China? It is not at all easy to describe that but possible. During the study day “Beautiful China?!” on October 2nd, various approaches were combined. Yan Xu-Lackner of the Confucius Institute demonstrated how children’s

books in China have become better suited to children and culturally more diverse. Nora Sausmikat from the “Urgewald” foundation discussed the role of NGOs in China. A number of the possibilities for advocacy have recently become more closely regulated than in the past. The interviews organised by the YMCA in Nuremberg show a pastor from China, a YMCA staff member and an elder of

the Chinese congregation in Nuremberg. There are people everywhere in China who live by their faith and are active as Chinese people. The devotion led by Jan Depner combined art installations and magical music and formed the framework for the study day. Conclusion: question marks and exclamation marks belong very closely together!



Culture and the question of

„normal“



REINHILD SCHNEIDER

Department for Partnership and Parish Work

The core of our work in the Department for Partnership and Parish Work (PG) is related to culture. By this, we do not mean so much a stylish dinner with the Queen of England or the wonderful sounds of the violin concerto in D major by Johannes Brahms, opus 77. And the opposite example of a lack of culture with a quick lunch in a fast food restaurant is only of marginal interest to us. We focus mainly on what is normal, on everyday things, on what

happens when people relate to one another. When people are happy that everything remains as it always was, when they know their way around and when they know how things should be, then we raise our antennae. The fact is that not only the people of Franconia know exactly what is normal and how everything works. The situation is exactly the same among the people in Chimbu in the highlands of Papua New Guinea (PNG) or in Vitória in Brazil.

In the context of a church partnership, it fortunately often happens that people meet, for example from the Southern Diocese in Tanzania and from Upper Bavaria. Such encounters are usually very enjoyable but they can also become a real challenge. Sometimes it takes only a few days before the partners on one side discover that the others do not behave as one would really expect. Apparently there must be different normals (plural of normal) although that is somehow a contradiction in itself. Then a sense of certainty can arise that we do everything right and the others are not quite on track. Who does everything right and who is off track depends entirely on whose view counts.

Instead of explaining what normal really means, we should like to describe two scenes which could perhaps serve as suggestions for a conversation on the question of normal at the next meeting with your partners.

1. A young woman and a young man are sitting on a park bench. They embrace and kiss one another.
2. A lady pastor comes to make a birthday visit. After exactly half an hour, she looks at the clock. She says that

she has the next appointment in 15 minutes, gets up, says goodbye and leaves.

How do you and your partners react to these two situations?

At points where there are cultural encounters, we from the Department for Partnership and Parish work come into the picture. If we do our work well, all those involved in a visit will know in advance that there are in fact several “normals” which also means other normals which differ more or less markedly from our normal. A good introduction to the fascinating world of culture can usually help so that encounters between people from different regions of the world run smoothly. The participants then know that “different” does not mean “wrong”.

Of course, we are realistic enough to recognise that sometimes just the departure after three intensive weeks prevents a major escalation. But that is not a bad thing and probably makes the next meeting all the more successful.

+++ TELEGRAMME +++

MEETINGS IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR PARTNERSHIPS

As always, we thought a lot about encounters together with people actively engaged in the partnerships, considered which subjects could be important and interesting for everyone, planned programmes and wrote applications for subsidies – but unfortunately because of Corona not a single encounter could take place in 2021.

ONLINE MEETINGS

In the meanwhile, many partnerships have met online and there have even been online worship services. One example is the youth of the Protestant Rural Youth Organisation and the members of the Agricultural Counselling Organisation for Small Farmers in West Paran , Brazil, CAPA, who have organised regular “online meetings”. The initial results of these encounters can be found on Instagram.

INTERNATIONAL EVANGELICAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE (IEF) SOUTH-NORTH



Despite Corona it was possible for a few young women to come to us in Bavaria under the umbrella of the International Evangelical Volunteer Service (IEF) and to work here, one from Argentina and three from Tanzania. Two of the Tanzanian women had to wait a whole year for their entry visas. A highlight on the fringe was the choice of Grace Matandika from Tanzania to be the “Christ Child of Forchheim”.

STAFF FROM OUR PARTNER COUNTRIES

Over the past year 2021, a total of seven staff from our partner countries were working here in Bavaria. Rev. Penga Nimbo returned to Papua New Guinea with his family last summer. Two pastors and their families came to us in Bavaria from Brazil: in September Renato Creutzberg to the parish of Pfuhl-Burlafingen in the New Ulm deanery



and in November Marco Trentini to the parish of Kohlberg in the Weiden deanery. At present, we have five Brazilian colleagues and one from Tanzania working here in Bavaria.

WORLDWIDE CHURCH FESTIVAL

As every year, there was also to be a Worldwide Church Festival again this year. Because of Corona, we had once again to decide in favour of an online version. Our worship service was a great success with a total of 380 people attending. The discussion on the subject “Strengthening global solidarity” linked interested people from various parts of the world together in conversation. But overall it was clear that digital and festival do not fit together very well.

A few more figures

The major part of our work took place in the course of the year in many activities and events. Some statistics on that: In 2021 we were involved in a total of 232 activities such as worship services, visits to working groups, consultation about encounters planned or on the matter of “compliance” and many others.

147 of our activities took place online.

58 of the activities were educational events. These included working groups, seminars, lectures and educational worship services.

Owing to Corona, only 2 of our events could be held on the premises of MOW in Neuendettelsau.

Corona or Nothing is normal anymore

The past two Corona years have made our lives much more interesting, at least from the intercultural point of view. We do not want to create the wrong impression here. We of the PG are not happy about this COVID-19 virus. It has caused a lot of suffering and for some has even meant death. No one would wish that and nor do we wish it for anyone. But you cannot help it – the virus is there and you cannot drive it to the airport so that it finally flies away.

Corona changes our lives and it changes our culture. We have somehow lost our intuitive sense of right or wrong and a “new normal” has not yet taken shape. More or less convincing and simultaneously very different or even contradictory bits of knowledge about what this virus and the Corona vaccines do to us and our bodies have been developing in parallel. Because of these contradictions, something in our culture is becoming somewhat diffuse, illogical and unforeseeable. While everything was still normal, everyday and predictable a short time ago, we are now repeatedly beset with a feeling of uncertainty. Do we use our elbows or clench our fists in a ghetto? Are masks compulsory or not? Must I tell a fellow passenger in the bus that that his mask does not cover his nose? Should restaurants and cultural institutions close or open? Compulsory vaccination or better not? All of a sudden we

have constant quasi-intercultural encounters in our own country. Am I behaving the right way? Am I perhaps upsetting other people? Normally such questions concern us as culturally sensitive travellers mainly when abroad.

One of the new certainties can be expressed as follows. Can vaccination not be right? After all, we have no idea in what kind of extensive series of experiments we are supposed to serve as guinea pigs. In addition, there are independent scientists who know that the Corona virus is far less harmful than the media and politics always claim.

Another certainty is the following. Really, every child understands that there is no alternative to vaccination. All the more so, because there is scientific proof that the vaccines are really very safe. Anyone who refuses to be vaccinated contributes to the further spread of the virus. Surely we must accept responsibility for our society.

Where is the mistake? Well, initially there is no mistake. Finally, we all suspect, hope and think we can arrange our world in such a way that, in the end, we believe we know quite definitely that our conviction reflects the objective truth. That is ridiculous but human. We need order, normality, in order to cope with everyday life without having constantly to consider what is plausible, what is right and what is wrong. The decisive point finally is: how do



we organise our everyday life? How do we cope with one another in face of this confusion of opinions and convictions? Of course, we also experience all of that in our work for Mission EineWelt.

PEM conference and MiPaKo

Somehow during the summer of 2021 there was a gradual, gentle feeling of lightness, of the habitual and of normal, everyday life. This breath of normal was really relaxing. Accordingly, the board of Mission EineWelt took the courageous decision that the forthcoming meeting of the officers for partnership, development and mission (PEM conference) and the conference on mission and partnership (MiPaKo) should again take place with people present physically in Neuendettelsau. And on this occasion as well we would say farewell to our head of the PG department, Reinhild Schneider. How much better it is when we are able to sit side by side in the church and to sing, pray and be sad together.

As the weekend of the conference came nearer, the number of persons infected by the COVID-19 virus steadily increased. And, in similar proportion, the discussions about it in MOW also increased. Would it not be better after all to meet online? After all, we also had a respon-

sibility for our guests. Or should we firmly trust God that somehow everything would work out alright? Heated debates took place on one side or the other and finally we agreed that the meeting should take place in hybrid form. Those who wanted to come were warmly invited. Those who preferred to take part in safety in front of their home screen would also be offered this possibility. A good decision in my opinion – also from an intercultural point of view. We were not able to come to one common opinion and that was also not of primary importance. But we did agree how the meeting could be held jointly – with one compromise or another on all sides. In retrospect we can say it was a successful meeting. We disinfected, checked and gave out masks; we were sometimes more and sometimes less cautious; we tried to enable the participants at home to be part of the gathering as much as possible, and together we all coped with the event. We thank God that the meeting did not develop into a super-spreader event – because that could have happened.

Manfred Kurth





A slightly different view of Corona

DR. JÜRGEN BERGMANN
Department for Development and Politics

Over the past year, the Corona pandemic has led public opinion generally to forget numerous very important world problems. Hunger in the world has increased and also extreme poverty. Although the question of climate change has managed here and there to hit the headlines - but without adequate plans being adopted to limit it -, the still more dramatic loss of biodiversity has hardly been discussed. The che-

mical and biogeochemical maximum limits, which have long since been exceeded, have been equally neglected as shown by the diagram of the limits on the maximum capacity of the earth. People have died and are still dying of killer diseases like tuberculosis and malaria which have been known and avoidable for decades, while the whole world stares like a frightened rabbit at the snake of Corona.

+++ TELEGRAMME +++



+++ JANUARY +++

At the Academy conference "Welt Aufgang!?" (Rising world) in Tutzing with Harald Lesch, it became clear something is possible. The Corona pandemic has shown us that, if it is really important, money apparently

is of no account. Then science can achieve within months what would normally take years. And people are expected to put up with more than can be expected. That for which there was previously no alternative now works differently. Another world is possible; since Corona the proof is there.

+++ FEBRUARY +++

Not yet at the goal but finally at the

starting point. After months of delay, the Federal government agreed in February on a draft for a German Supply Chain Law which was finally passed in June. The "Initiative Lieferkettengesetz.de", of which Mission EineWelt is a member, welcomed the overdue paradigm shift to finally setting binding rules for enterprises to respect their duty to care for human rights. But there is still a lack, among other things, of liability regulations and environmental protection under civil law.

+++ MARCH +++

We should have liked it differently

Since 2011 the expression “great transformation” has been current in Germany. It is discussed in expert circles and starts from the recognition that a major change of direction towards sustainability is required at all economic and social levels – especially in Germany and all industrialised countries, but finally in almost all the countries of the world. So that there can be a future in our beautiful country and a future on this wonderful planet.

Nevertheless, many people do not know what to make of the expression “great transformation”. A pity because it is a matter of nothing less than the future of humankind. In the meantime, fortunately, the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs, have become a bit better known. These international sustainability goals were adopted in September 2015 by the United Nations. Here too, the realisation is the same as in the great transformation: Germany has enormous development tasks to fulfil to achieve sustainability.

Following that memorable decision of the UNO on the SDGs, a few months later in December 2015 the World Climate Conference took place in Paris. The realisation there was also overwhelming; many of the challenges which need to be met seem too overwhelming in order for this planet to be able to remain liveable and loveable for us human beings.

You do not need to be an extreme pessimist to claim that we are not succeeding in reaching these goals. Not the SDGs nor the 1.5 degree goal of Paris, not to mention a great transformation. Now even the Federal constitutional court has demanded that the Federal government pursue more demanding climate goals at last within an appropriate

time frame. The sad result so far: the new Ampelregierung (three party government) will also fail to meet the 1.5 degree goal from Paris. Is the aim too high? The effort is too small!

And then we experienced Corona and everything, or at least much, was different! What is meant here is not the side effect that Corona caused the CO₂ emissions to fall worldwide in 2020. That happens with every economic depression and is of no lasting benefit for the world climate. But the following is noteworthy:

In the case of Corona, apparently money is of no account. In the case of Corona, science was able to achieve things within months which normally would take years. In the case of Corona, more than can be expected was expected and is still expected of human beings.

Despite all of the criticism and all the mistakes that were made in combating the Corona pandemic, it was not only in Germany but all over the world that all the previously conceivable limitations were turned upside down. That for which there was previously no alternative now works



but, in 2021 as well, the World University had to go online again. We discussed with many exciting speakers in digital space about various forms of discrimination and how they can be overcome. Numerous interested people took part, some of them also directly from the global south, discussed actively and yet again made the World University something very special.

+++ APRIL +++

On April 29th and 30th, the fourth school fair “Global Learning” took place, completely online for the first time. Globalisation, sustainable consumption, fair trade – Mission Eine-Welt issued the invitation to study these issues jointly with the Fair Trade steering group of the city of Nuremberg. 600 school children from the 7th to 10th grade from Nuremberg and the region were able to choose and participate in two workshops each from the 20 on offer.

+++ MAY +++

+++ MAY +++

Vaccination justice and vaccine charity were discussed and demanded during the online study day at the beginning of May under the heading “Worldwide pandemic – common challenges” with representatives of

our partner churches in Brazil, Papua New Guinea and Tanzania and of DIF-ÄM. The participants felt the egoism of the rich countries was shameful as well as the desire for profit in the pharmaceutical industry. It was also interesting how differently different societies dealt with the pandemic.

+++ JUNE +++

What has sexual violence in wartime to do with the Congo and our mobile phones? This question was examined by the mobile phone project of Bavaria in the course of an online lecture series on “The raw materials catastrophe mobile phones?” The human

rights activist, Julienne Lusenge, from the DR Congo explained how sexual violence was being used deliberately as a weapon of war in order to destroy families and society.

+++ JULY +++

On July 9th and 10th, the “Bavarian One World Days” took place with the “Bavarian Fair Trade Exhibition” as an online event for the first time. Whereas in earlier years, at the invitation of the Bavarian One World Network, more than 1000 participants had gathered, there were nevertheless several hundred Bavarian One

World enthusiasts who met online this year. Mission EineWelt organised information shops with up to date information about Tanzania and about the Bavarian mobile phones project.

+++ AUGUST +++

At the beginning of August, 23 former South-North volunteers met in Nuremberg in the context of our Come Back programme. Among all of these returnees the question was: What is development really? How much of it is present in volunteer service in development policy and what might that perhaps have to do with (neo-) colonialism?

colonialism?

+++ SEPTEMBER +++

September was predominantly influenced by the Federal election as a “climate election”. Under this heading, on September 15th a panel discussion was organised with members of the regional and Federal parliaments during which the climate protection conceptions of the large parties were examined critically.

Shortly before the Federal election, the global climate action day took place. In Germany alone, more than

differently. The non-governmental organisation attac has been chanting “Another world is possible” for 20 years and coming up against the walls of rejection. Since Corona, we have the proof that another world is possible! If we really want it, there are enough financial resources available or whole branches of the economy will come to a stop. When we believe it necessary, science can open up amazing ways which previously seemed hopeless or

at least far too far away. And people are also prepared to follow difficult paths – or at least most of them are.

But precisely at this point further reflexion must take place and lessons be learned from the Corona years. Lessons which might help to deal with the still greater challenges facing humankind. Because Corona has demonstrated that our solidarity does not go very far. On the national level,

we see how fragile the cohesion of our society is. When people are robbed of part of their individual freedom and real or supposed dangers arouse various kinds of fears, this awakens states of agitation which are hard to define. Personal limitations in order to achieve a higher goal for the community? No way in the view of a – rather noisy – minority. Confidence in decision making structures based on scientific evidence and in a policy which tries to maintain a fair balance? Here too we discovered considerable deficits – partially explicable because both science and politics have gambled away a lot of trust in the past few years. But in part it is also very amazing to see such ludicrous theories suddenly falling on fruitful ground – again among a minority. What really holds our society together nowadays?

International solidarity suffered all the more. It was like the voice of a

Ökologische Belastungsgrenzen

nach Will Steffen et al. 2015

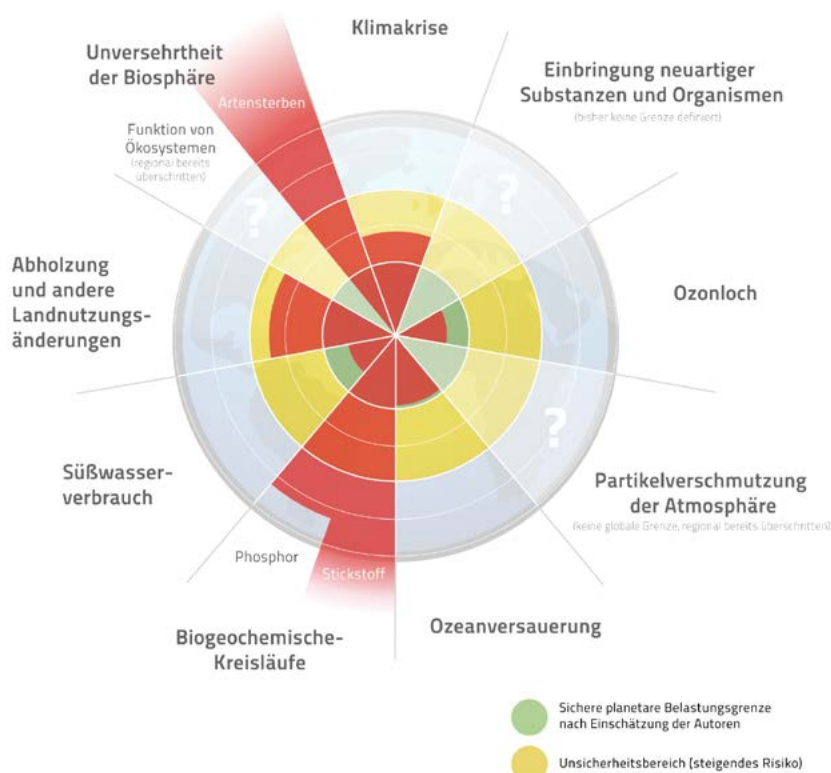


Illustration: Felix Müller (www.zukunftli-selbermachen.de) Lizenz: CC-BY-SA 4.0

600,000 persons demonstrated in favour of more environmental protection. Mission EineWelt also took part in the demonstration march in Nuremberg.

+++ OCTOBER +++

On October 1st "Congregation: fair and sustainable" started, a new award for local congregations. The seal offers them the opportunity to make their commitment to fairness and sustainability visible. Using a list of criteria, each parish can examine itself to see where it stands with regard to ecology, worldwide partner-

ship and fair trade.

+++ NOVEMBER +++

On November 26th the 16th "Bavarian Round Table: Social and environmental standards in enterprises" met again as an online event because of Corona. The main interest was in good examples from practice and in dialogue with representatives of politics. Jürgen Bergmann presented the work of the "Fair Toys Organisation".

+++ DECEMBER +++

The selection seminar for the IEF South-North programme awakened



joyful expectation about the coming year group with 14 new volunteers. After a two year break due to the pandemic, things are to start again in the summer of 2022 when the volunteers set out for Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Kenya and Tanzania.

preacher in the wilderness when we heard from time to time, "A pandemic can only be combated successfully on the global level." Instead, the government was criticised by no small number of self-seeking citizens when vaccines were obtained in European solidarity at the beginning of the pandemic and not according to the motto "German vaccines for Germans first". The COVAX initiative of the United Nations was understood by many governments more as a charity action to impress the public by getting rid of surplus vaccines. International solidarity would have sought a strategy for getting the best vaccines onto the market as fast as possible in the amount required worldwide. The fact that the Federal government spoke out against releasing the patent for a limited period did not help here. And so new variants of the virus kept developing and probably – so we must fear – other new ones will continue to appear. To repeat the question here: what really holds our world society together nowadays?

What about the solidarity of Christians all around the world? There are indeed moving examples of supplying masks to our African and Asian partner churches at a time when these were not available in Germany. And the spontaneous Corona Aid Fund of our regional church (every donation was doubled!) is also worthy of mention. But the time when the churches determined the moral, ethical direction and set worldwide standards has passed, at the latest since the handling of the abuse cases in the churches. No, sadly even the church does not hold our German or the worldwide society together. Perhaps it never did anyway – and that is also not its task.

So what have we learnt? Another world is possible – if we really want it decisively enough. As Christians, we have always demonstrated that by examples, with loving symbols

but also by efficient lobbying like impressing on enterprises the importance of the Supply Chain Law for the duty to care for human rights. In the economy and society "another world is possible" as well. The great majority of the population will bear with severe cutbacks if we take people seriously.

The greatest challenge will be to enable all people really to belong. That at least is an answer to the question of cohesion. It has to be a matter of participation for all, not just good words. Access to education and inter-changeability of education are political tasks; as a church we already convey the necessary contents of education – also particularly at Mission EineWelt. On the political level, the economic inequalities, which have increased scandalously in our country and even more so at international level, must be reduced. That is also part of participation.

What remains to be done? As a church we must demand participation for everyone still more decisively and loudly. We must live out new narratives of global and local solidarity still more clearly, the stories of Christian living all over the world. Human-made problems can be solved by human beings. Another world is possible. As Christians we believe that anyway. Since Corona, the proof is evident.

Jürgen Bergmann

Corona continued

Personnel and financial support of the partner churches in the context long-term developments



JOCHEN KRONESTER
Department for Finance
and Administration

As in the year 2020, the Corona pandemic kept a firm grip on Mission EineWelt and the partner churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria during the budgetary year 2021 as well. In both Neuendettel-

sau and Nuremberg, we were again compelled to considerably limit daily operations with people present which meant that personal encounters were almost completely impossible. The staff of the kitchen and conference

centre again had to spend a long period on short time. Digital learning formats, video conferences and other electronic learning measures became increasingly an everyday routine. The Corona crisis again resulted in 2021 in considerable limitations on recruiting staff for work in our partner churches and also on the international exchange of staff. In society, we continued to experience the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus with its different variants in several surges. Each time, politics reacted with lockdowns, vaccination campaigns and other measures to safeguard a functioning medical system and to relieve the burden on intensive care wards.

In summary, it can be said in retrospect for our budgetary year 2021 that the financial year was also marked by a great willingness to donate despite all the difficulties caused by the pandemic. For the budgetary year 2021, the pre-tax allocation of the regional synod amounted to 1.6 percent. By shifting income from the Church Development Service (KED) to the development education work of the Department for Development and Politics this year, 50,000 Euros were added to this amount. Thanks to this

In the past year, Mission EineWelt received this total of donations and gifts

Breakdown of donations and gifts	Result for 2021
General World Mission tasks	330.944 €
Corona Aid Fund	468.802 €
Evang. Church of Luth. Confession in Brazil	28.259 €
Evang. Luth. Churches in Latin America	125.011 €
Kenyan Evang. Luth. Church	101.724 €
Evang. Luth. Church in Congo	46.594 €
Lutheran Church in Liberia	41.888 €
Evang. Luth. Church of Papua New Guinea/East Asia	135.567 €
Evang. Luth. Church in Tanzania	566.249 €
Total donations and gifts	1.845.038 €

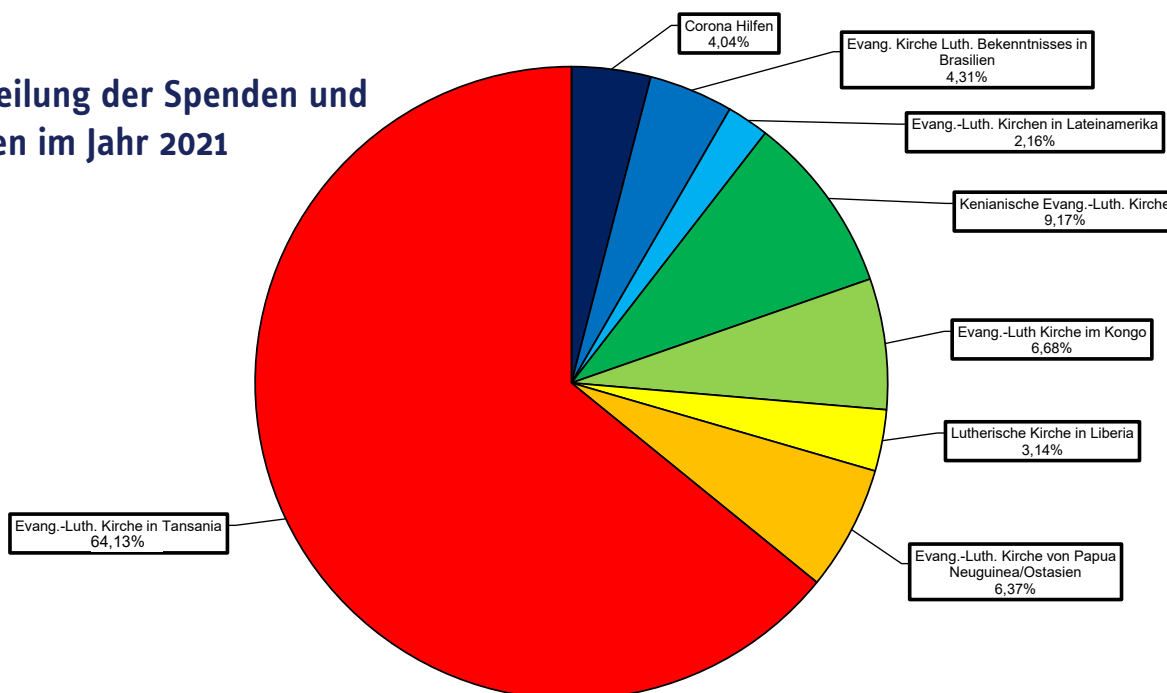
Income	Result for 2021
Third-party subsidies (e.g. Federation)	0 €
Interest	0 €
Collections	61.456,00 €
Donations and gifts	1.254.986,72 €
Bequests	4.500,00 €
Other income	0 €
Special funds from previous years	-51.691,00 €
Subsidy from the regional church	13.060.603,00 €
Total income	14.329.854.72 €

Expenditure		
Area of work	Area of expenditure	Result 2021
Germany	Staffing costs	4.218.432 €
Germany	Material costs	413.991 €
Germany	Payments for accommodation and catering	-109.347 €
Germany in total		4.523.076 €
Papua New Guinea, Pacific, East Asia		
PPE	Staffing costs	1.658.421 €
PPE	Budget subsidies	430.000 €
PPE	Projects, individual measures	332.169 €
PPE in total		2.420.590 €
Africa		
Africa	Staffing costs	1.746.417 €
Africa	Budget subsidies	381.162 €
Africa	Projects, individual measures	788.797 €
Africa in total		2.916.376 €
Latin America		
Latin America	Staffing costs	356.667 €
Latin America	Budget subsidies	220.564 €
Latin America	Projects, individual measures	233.369 €
Latin America in total		810.600 €
World Mission		
World Mission	General tasks via EMW	358.510 €
World Mission	Special tasks	0 €
World Mission	Exchange pastors from overseas	304.092 €
World Mission	Earmarked special budget	834.293 €
World Mission in total		1.496.895 €
Total expenditure		12.167.537 €
Total income		14.329.855 €
Unspent		-2.162.318 €

structural measure and taking account of the increase in salary rates, the initial subsidy budget also approved by the regional synod amounted to 13,017,659 Euros. In the neighbouring table, the subsidy budget is shown as 13,060,603 Euros. The background to this is that a consolidated budget amount of 42,943 Euros, made up of a surplus for 2019 (+53,343 Euros) and a budget correction to take account of the so-called September amount carried forward

(-10,400 Euros) for a one-year scholarship programme postponed to 2022 for Brazilian students at the Evangelical Theological University in São Leopoldo (Escola Superior de Teologia - EST), was credited to the subsidy budget of Mission EineWelt during the exercise of the budget. It should be noted that the balance figures in this financial report reflect the situation as per February 22nd 2022 and changes may yet be made as a result of the final accounts of the regional church office. Compared with the previous year, the income from donations and gifts declined by 590,051 Euros to the present sum of 1,254,987 Euros. An important factor in this marked reduction compared with the financial year 2020 was a clear drop of 433,307 Euros in ear-

Aufteilung der Spenden und Gaben im Jahr 2021



marked donations to the Corona Aid Fund. For this, no further appeal for donations was launched because not all the funds available had as yet been applied for, used for the purpose intended and accounted for by the partner churches abroad.

In addition to the normal income and expenditure covered by the regional church budget, in 2021 Mission EineWelt, as the only heir, received a bequest of 1,212,734 Euros ear-marked for use with people with disabilities and the sick in the partner churches and transferred by the finance department of the regional church as a special item. To ensure that this bequest is used as ear-marked in compliance conformity, a separate working group comprising all the country officers, the compliance manager and the officer for fund-raising was established under the leadership of the director.

Income 2021

The subsidy from the regional church, as described above, amounted without adaptation to 13,017,659 Euros. On the income side in the previous year, an encouraging increase in income from donations of 387,435 Euros to a total of 1,845,038 Euros was registered, compared with a decline in 2021 in the amount of 590,051 Eu-

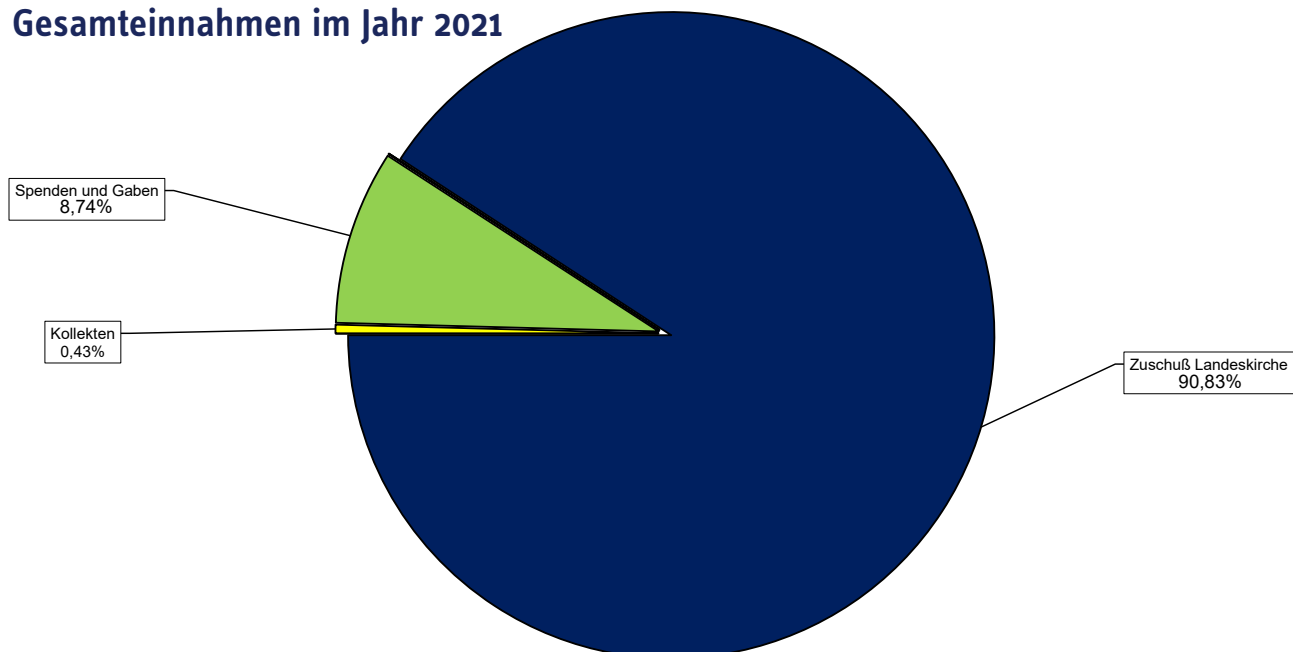
ros to a total of only 1,254,987 Euros. The understandable cause of this decline was the Corona situation in the countries of our partner churches. As already mentioned, in many cases the donations received for the Corona Aid Fund had not yet been completely processed and accounted for by our partners so that this fund had not been completely used up in 2021, with the result that no new appeal for funds was launched. Compared with the previous year, there was also a marked drop in the collections forwarded to us, namely from 126,262 Euros in 2020 by 64,806 Euros to 61,456 Euros in 2021. Here too it can be assumed that the Corona pandemic with its very limited opportunities for presence at worship services was the main cause of this marked decline. During the financial year, Mission EineWelt received a bequest of 4,500 Euros for the budget. In 2021, the proportional positive result of 53,343 Euros for funds unused in 2019 was also available additionally for the institution. As prescribed, the expenditure separately planned for this amounting to 51,691 Euros was entered on the income side and is therefore shown on the neighbouring table with a minus on the income side.

Expenditure 2021

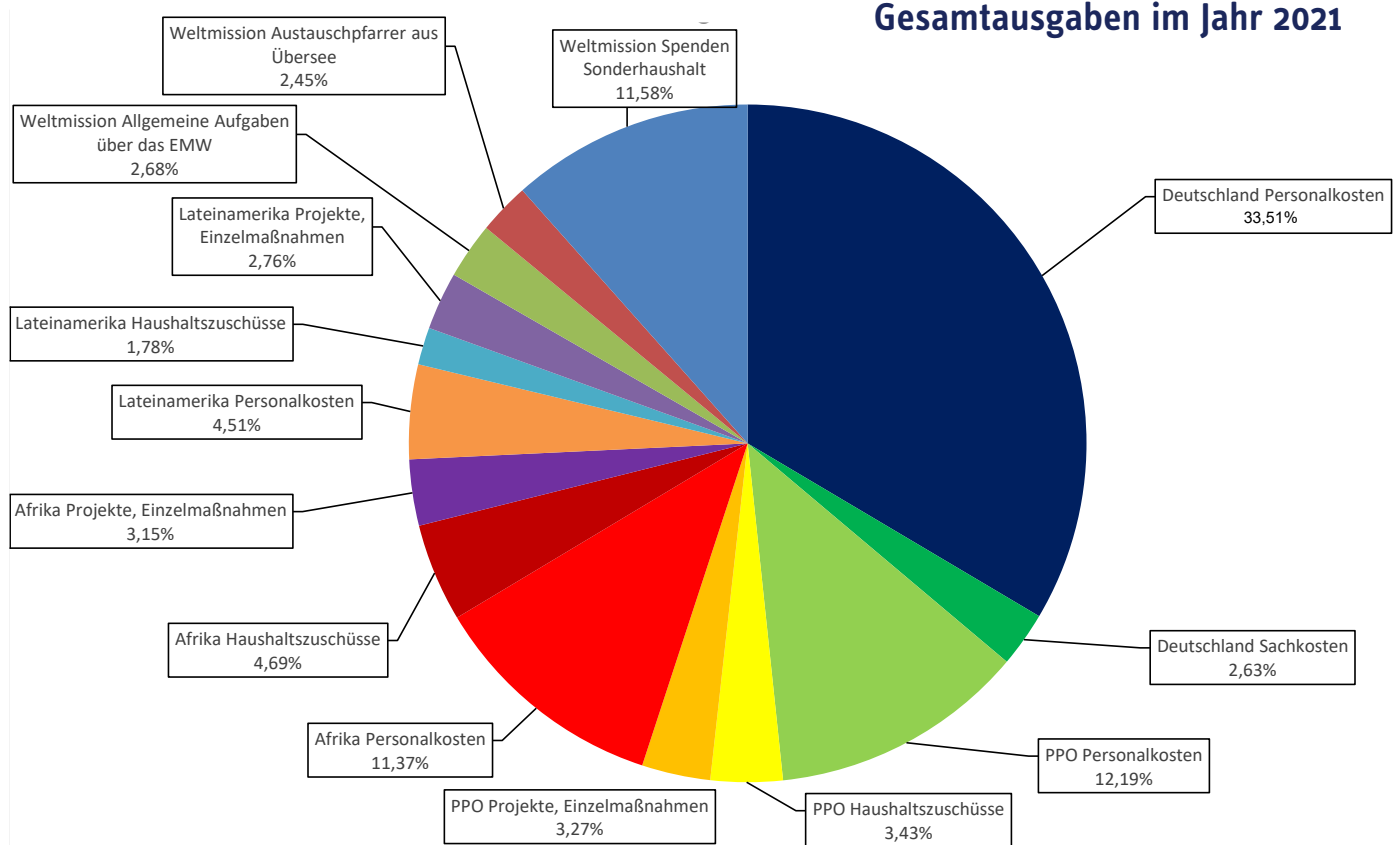
Compared with previous years, total expenditure was considerably lower as a result of the pandemic. In an overall comparison of all income and expenditure, the lower expenditure amounted to 2,162,318 Euros which go back into the general church funds. The main cause was the considerable limitations caused by Corona on recruiting staff to be sent to partner churches, and hence there was considerably less expenditure on staffing during the financial year 2021.

As mentioned in previous annual reports, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria as a whole is in the midst of a major process of change. This has led to various organisational and structural processes in Mission EineWelt which continued in 2021. The developments in Mission EineWelt have been based since 2016, on the one hand, on the demands of the annual advance taxation with its requirements for continuous and long-term cuts related to our subsidy budget. On the other hand, there is the parallel PuK process (PuK = prospects and concentration) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria with the necessary debate about the contents of church work and its future direction.

Gesamteinnahmen im Jahr 2021



Gesamtausgaben im Jahr 2021



In the context of this prospective change process in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, it is a major task for us in Mission EineWelt to point permanently and repeatedly to the great importance for the whole church of relationships outside. We know from experience that the sight of partners in the worldwide church is very quickly lost among the major, general challenges and their priority for the region declines. In 2021, one could nevertheless sense great solidarity with the partner churches throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria. Special value must be attached to the fact that, in addition to all the financial commitment and despite the pandemic with all its health risks, most of the specialists sent out and their families remained on the spot in the countries and with the projects of the partner churches and their living presence alone was a clear sign of solidarity in the Corona crisis.

As far as the current structural change processes are concerned, it should

be noted that, for a number of years, Mission EineWelt has been engaged in endeavours to guarantee the medium and long-term future of the institution. At the same time, there is a growing need to obtain third party funds in order to continue to be a companion on the way with staff and finances for our partners abroad in their sometimes very difficult situations. In addition, the demands on the administration of the partner churches related to project applications and accounting in line with compliance have increased tremendously. But, for this problem too, we are seeking and following common ways. Since 2019, the issue of compliance has come to the fore and the updated regulations of the Bavarian Regional Taxation Office (08/2021) and of the Head Office for Finance in Frankfurt (03/2021) reinforce the requirements for written documentation and evidence for the transfer of donated funds to other countries. Greater effort has been devoted both to accompanying the Bavarian partnership groups in parishes and dea-

neries as well as to the exchange, information and training of the project offices in the partner churches as an additional central building block in handling finances. For this reason, compliance will be and remain an increasingly important focal issue in our partnership relationships over the next few years, not merely inland but also in our partner churches.

Jochen Kronester

Walking Side by Side – despite compliance?

CHRISTINA ENGELS-MÜLLER
Compliance



“Compliance” is a complex term which covers many things. Explained briefly, it particularly means conformity to rules related to legal and internal provisions together with the corresponding transparency. For Mission EineWelt, since 2019 compliance in relation to financial transfers to other countries mainly means that Mission EineWelt, as the last body in Germany which transfers the funds to other countries, must be able to guarantee and prove that the donations and gifts forwarded were used for the stated purpose.

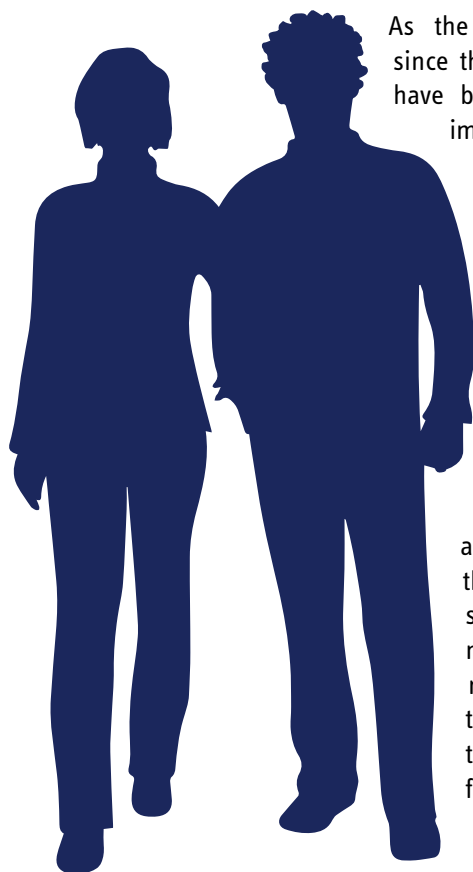
As the Compliance manager, since the beginning of 2020, I have been accompanying the implementation of the required measures for the observance of these requirements. In particular, they demand standardised application processes and standardised forms of proof for the areas of donations (e.g. individual and partnership donations) and budget funds. For the past two years, Mission EineWelt has had to meet new formal requirements and some relating to content in order that the financial support for the projects of our partners continues to be possible. If the require-

ments are to be fulfilled, the cooperation of our partners is essential. This applies both to the cooperation of Mission EineWelt with our partner churches in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific in their various units such as dioceses, districts, circuits, deaneries, synods, parishes and institutions, and also to the partnership activities of the deanery and parish partnerships. The Financial Cooperation Agreement, project description, financial report with evidence for individual items and the narrative report are examples of key terms connected with compliance which are most important here.

What do these new compliance regulations mean for the partnership relationships of Mission EineWelt?

First of all, the demands of compliance constitute a challenge for our partnership relationships. That the new requirements are not the result of any mistrust of Mission EineWelt in relation to our partners, but really based on legal necessities, is an important key message from us to our partners. In order to meet the requirements, both sides of the partnership must cooperate very closely because, without the help of our partners, support cannot be given even though we might wish to provide it.

The desired goal of Mission EineWelt for our worldwide relationships, “Walking Side by Side”, therefore also applies to compliance. We walk side by side with our partners and also face challenges in the process. This means that our common path is not just limited to transferring funds for a project; on the contrary, we walk the whole way of projects together with our partners, whether this be at the start of a project when drawing up the project application, seeking solutions for problems that may arise during the implementation of the project, or with necessary assistance in submitting the required evidence for the project accounts.



An important key for achieving this aim is communication. So, for example, projects must be carefully thought through in advance by both sides of the partnership, and there must be open discussion of problems during the course of the project. This absolutely essential increase in communication is an opportunity for strengthening existing partnerships in a lasting way and for helping partnerships, which have lost sight of one another, to find a way back together again. In the meanwhile, we are happy that we are receiving increasing numbers of responses which confirm the positive effect of the compliance requirements.

Understood like that, we can no longer say “Walking Side by Side – despite compliance” but rather “Walking Side by Side – thanks to compliance”.

From March 2020 onwards, the Corona pandemic gave rise to a further challenge to compliance work which had to be mastered. Exceptional conditions on both sides of the partnerships, more difficulty with communication and new, difficult situations that developed in many of our partner churches.

Further compliance courses with people present and journeys to our partner countries could not take place as planned because of the pandemic. An involuntary shift to the virtual mode had to come about. And it very quickly became clear that training courses could also be conducted

Compliance and Corona: an additional challenge

In order to train our African partners, right at the beginning of the compliance implementation phase, in early February 2020, it was still possible to hold a Compliance Workshop in Arusha, Tanzania. The director of the Africa Office, Klaus Dotzer, the expert for Tanzania, Claus Heim, together with Manfred Kurth (director of the regional office South Bavaria, Department for Partnership and Parish Work) and myself were able there, jointly with the Tanzanian project office, to train 72 participants from our partner churches in Africa (Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mozambique and Liberia) in the requirements for the transfer of funding. Thanks to this direct communication, many general and also specific questions could be clarified and uncertainties removed.



successfully via video conferences, and individual projects planned and accounting problems clarified. A number of partnership donations provided partners in other countries with the necessary technical equipment and new solutions were found.

But particularly in emergency situations it is essential to stick to binding requirements because emergency aid projects are an area of work which is extremely susceptible to corruption. With the help of the existing compliance system, it was possible, for example, for Mission EineWelt to set up a Corona Aid Fund in the spring of 2020 which made it possible to assist our partner churches very soon while respecting the compliance rules. The donations received for this purpose were doubled by the ELKB until July 31st 2020. Up until December 31st 2021, Mission EineWelt was able to register ear-marked entries for this fund amounting to € 489,374.54. The major part of this sum has already been approved for emergency aid projects related to Corona in our partner churches (as per January 31st 2022). In addition to the purchase of hygienic articles, the money has been used, among other things, to provide food for people in need and for educational work related to Corona.

A complex donation project like the Corona Aid Fund makes it especially clear how important the very good functioning of cooperation between the different departments of Mission EineWelt is for handling (donation) projects in line with compliance. From the appeal for donations via the approval of applications to the final accounting when

the project ends, all the steps and the related compliance requirements were carefully considered jointly by all the departments and offices involved. The Fundraising Office plays a decisive part here because, even before donations are appealed for, a necessary internal agreement must be reached, for example, in order to guarantee that all ear-marked funds can also be used and accounted for according to the rules.

Compliance: an on-going process

Irrespective of Corona, compliance will never be a fait accompli but rather an on-going process of constant adaptation. In this connection, compliance should never be seen as a separate area of work; rather, it must be integrated into all the existing activities and include everyone involved. Here, the continuous assistance of our country officers for our partner churches in following the requirements and the comprehensive advice to the German partnership groups from the staff of our Department for Partnership and Parish Work play a major part as well.

In conclusion, irrespective of legal requirements, it is finally important to all sides of the partnerships that the money entrusted to them is used for the purposes intended.

Christina Engels-Müller



For advice on partnership donations and the relevant compliance requirements, you are welcome to get in touch with the staff concerned of our Department on Partnership and Parish Work.

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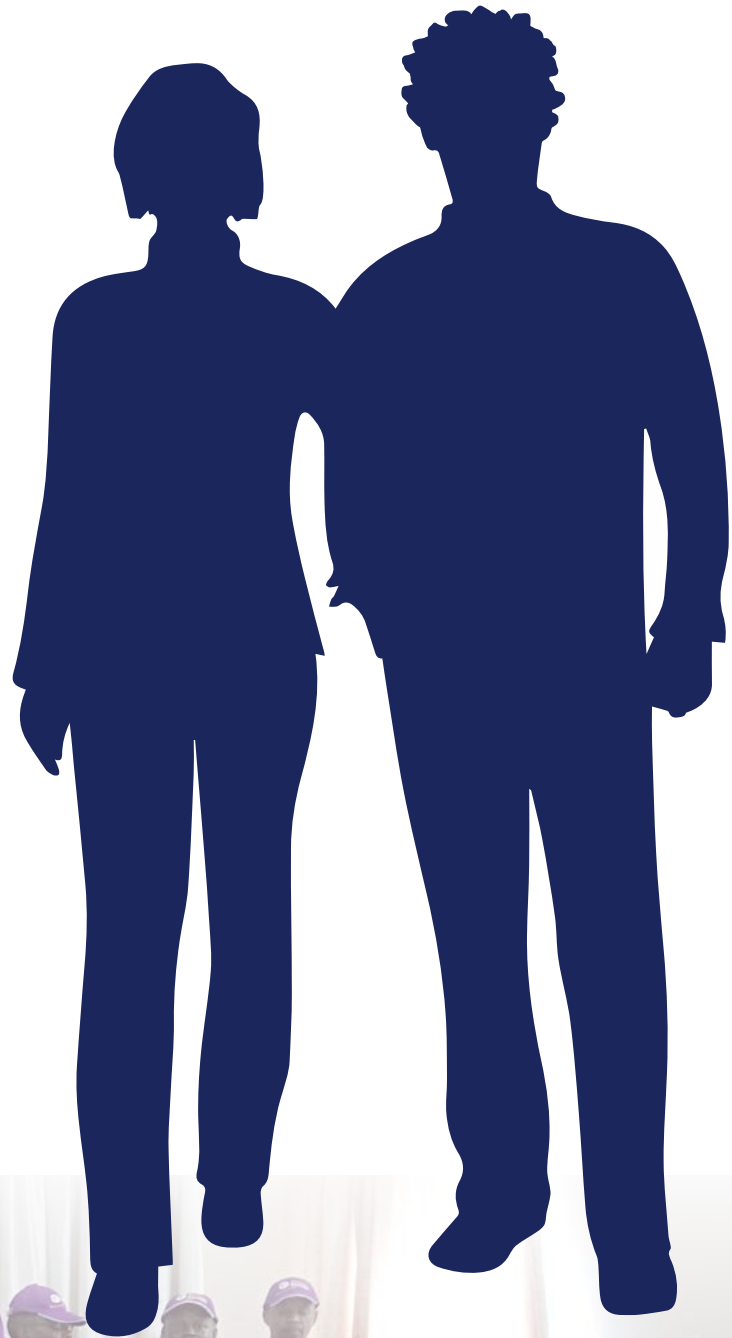
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Vaccinating and Helping



KATRIN BAUER
Fundraising Office

December 27th 2020 was the official beginning of Corona vaccinations in Germany. During the first phase, the highest priority was given to the over 80-year olds, residents in care institutions, staff of intensive care wards, emergency reception centres, rescue services and mobile nursing services as well as certain staff in medical institutions. “Protecting the weakest is the first aim of our vaccination campaign,” said Jens Spahn, the Federal minister of health. The vaccination campaign was divided into four stages. During the last stage, everyone else willing to be vaccinated could receive the vaccine. This demonstrated the commitment, cooperation and creativity of associations, local authorities and individuals.

In Neuendettelsau, the campaign “A prick for you – and help and hope for many people worldwide” was launched. The doctor Cornelia Monteiro, the mayor Christoph Schmoll, the pharmacist Mira Müller-Schmidt, Kerstin Schmoll and dozens of voluntary helpers contributed to helping the local population and some others early on to be tested for and vac-

inated against the Corona virus locally as they still can today. They all worked hand in hand to make as many tests and first, second and booster vaccinations possible.

But it was not only the people here locally who were important to the committed volunteers. They also remembered people worldwide. So a major part of the income from the vaccination campaign amounting to 30,000 Euros was used to support a number of different projects in our partner churches. Thanks to the income from the vaccination campaign, it was possible to support aid measures and information programmes such as training and information about Covid-19 via the church radio station “Sauti ya Injili” in Tanzania. That made it possible to reach more than eight million people. In addition to proclaiming messages of the faith, the programmes mainly deal with health, education and agriculture, but campaigns against the genital mutilation of girls are also part of the programme.

The church radio in Moshi, “Voice of the Gospel”, broadcast information for about three months concerning protection from and vaccination measures against Corona.





Oxygen determines survival

In caring for people severely affected by Covid-19, medical oxygen is important for survival. For this reason, we had to assist our partners in their medical care. Vaccination is a national issue not only in Germany but also in Tanzania, Liberia, Papua New Guinea and many other partner churches.

In many countries there is little vaccine available or the readiness to be vaccinated is not very great. For this reason, like here, many people will also continue to contract Covid-19 – and then oxygen will determine the survival chances of the patients.

Oxygen is one of the most important medicines for people with a severe or critical course of Covid-19 infection. But the provision of medical oxygen is often inadequate because building up the necessary infrastructure has

been neglected for years in countries with low or medium incomes. Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, we have repeatedly seen patients with severe pneumonia, malaria or sepsis, as well as very premature babies, dying because they could not be given oxygen. The outbreak of Corona has brought the lack of oxygen in many places into focus. Inadequate provision of oxygen is fatal.

It is not only in Germany that health services have reached their limits. Beds in intensive care wards are in short supply; there is not enough oxygen for all patients. In many areas of our partner churches there are no intensive care wards. Here oxygen concentrators are supposed to help. The appliances suck in the surrounding air and enrich the oxygen it contains up to about 96%. Although this procedure does not replace mechanical respiration, for Covid-19 patients with medium severe courses it can be life-saving.

It was possible to equip the hospital in Etep, Papua New Guinea, with such oxygen concentrators. They were also





supplied to the Gaubin hospital. 180 beds are available there for the approximately 65,000 people on Karkar and the neighbouring island Bagbag.

In Tanzania, assistance was given to the church hospitals for acquiring additional oxygen cylinders – another investment that saves lives. The Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCT) runs 24 hospitals in Tanzania, the majority of them in rural areas. In January 2020, the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) in Moshi installed oxygen production equipment that can fill 400 oxygen cylinders in 24 hours.

Before the outbreak of the Corona pandemic, the staff of the Medical Centre thought that the institution would be able to provide care for 674 beds for at least 20 years. Then Covid-19

struck the world and the demand became enormous. During the pandemic, the Centre also provided socially disadvantaged patients with oxygen cylinders free of charge. “In the past, our daily use amounted to 50 to 60 cylinders. Now the equipment is unable to keep up and the need amounts to more than 400 cylinders per day,” said Professor Gileard Masenga, the director of the KCMC, in an online article. Dr. Paul Mmbando, director of the medical department of the ELCT, asked for funding for the medical oxygen cylinders urgently needed.

Water for life

Cleanliness is the be-all and end-all in an operating theatre. So water must always be available. But precisely that cannot be taken for granted in Tanzania unlike Central Europe. At the hospital in Ilembula, Dr. Werner Kronenberg and all the medical staff were happy about the completion of a new operating theatre. Now the newly dedicated operating theatre has received its own water supply. But it is not reliable. The water tanks installed should guarantee that water will always flow when it is needed. “But unfortunately that does not always work,” Werner Kronenberg reported. So the staff of the hospital save water wherever possible and also keep a supply ready in large buckets. Two water towers have been erected beside the hospital. The tanks on the platforms of the towers should always be filled to some extent but the drought upsets all the plans. Now it is possible to purchase more tanks for the rainy season thanks to donated funds. By means of the additional water tanks, the operation of the hospital can be kept going.





Pella Bethânia

The “Sociedade Evangélica Pella Bethânia” at Taquarí in the south-eastern Brazilian federal state of Rio Grande do Sul has existed since 1892. For more than 100 years, orphaned children and young people have been given accommodation, care and schooling here. Gradually other fields of activity have been added; nowadays, senior citizens and persons with disabilities are accompanied here with heart and mind.

The Lutheran Church is in charge of this important institution. Mission EineWelt supports diaconal programmes like these in “Pella Bethânia” as well as many other important projects in its partner churches. During the pandemic, the costs of protective and hygienic material have been very high. In this case, too, we were well able to help.

Nor did we leave our partners in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific alone during the pandemic. Many projects and Corona aid measures were generously supported and are still being promoted. It is indeed a major concern of ours to find good solutions together with the people on the spot and to give lasting help. This demands a good exchange of information and good cooperation; that is the only way for us to discover where and in what form support is needed.

Compliance

The fundraising office is also very much concerned with the matter of compliance. How can we of Mission EineWelt guarantee that the donations we have received have been used by our partners abroad according to the purpose of the donation? And how can we prove that that is exactly what happened? These questions concern us, not only because of the budget issues involved but also because we have a duty to our donors. The Compliance Team set up in 2020, consisting of Christina Engels-Müller (Compliance manager), Katrin Bauer (director of fundraising) and Manfred Kurth (director, regional office South Bavaria), is responsible for ensuring that we do justice to our responsibility.

We have generous, reliable donors who help quickly in an emergency. And many of them also reflect on how they could help people in our partner churches even after their death. Therefore some of them also include Mission EineWelt in their wills. By this means, we were able to inherit more than 1.2 million Euros in 2021. An incredible amount that benefits people with handicaps and the sick. Maybe you have also thought about how you could help. With a donation in your will, you can open up opportunities and possibilities for people in our partner churches.

Katrin Bauer

From manuscript to published book



ULRIKE HANSEN & REINHARD HANSEN
Directors

Telephone call from an author to the Erlanger Publishing House for Mission and Ecumenism. He has written a book, about 220 pages on DIN A4; it is historically relevant and the content relates to one of the partner churches of Mission EineWelt. We ask the author to send us the manuscript by email. We upload it on a reading device and take it with us on our holiday. The manuscript reads well. We both read it right through and do not set it aside. We agree that this document could be of interest for a wider readership.

After our holiday, a conversation with the author. The original version is reworked in a few places. The author looks out pictures; there are more than one hundred pictures to start with but then less, mainly the better ones that are suitable for printing and for a larger group of readers. We discuss the format for the book, the font and the font size. We plan the timing for its production and announce the book for the Leipzig Book Fair – to present it to a wider public. A budget is drawn up and enquiries are made about subsidies for the printing.

When the writing of the book is finished, it is not easy to find a telling title for it and a fitting title image. Both of them should attract the readership. Specially creative people help to design the cover, find the title and the title image. The foreword is revised again and a preface added.

When the finished book comes from the printer six months after the preliminary considerations, it causes great enthusiasm. It is placed in the web-shop of the Erlanger Publishing House and on the list of available titles for the bookshops throughout Germany. The book appears on the newly printed flyer of the Publishing House and there is already a date for a first reading.

Ulrike Hansen

In January 2021, Ulrike and Reinhard Hansen took over the directorship of the Erlanger Publishing House on a voluntary basis. Both of them had served for a long time in different posts in Germany and abroad for Mission EineWelt and still have close relationships with the ecumenical movement worldwide.

In October 2021, Christine Bauer left the Erlanger Publishing House. From January 2022, Aline Obermeyer will serve as a team assistant.



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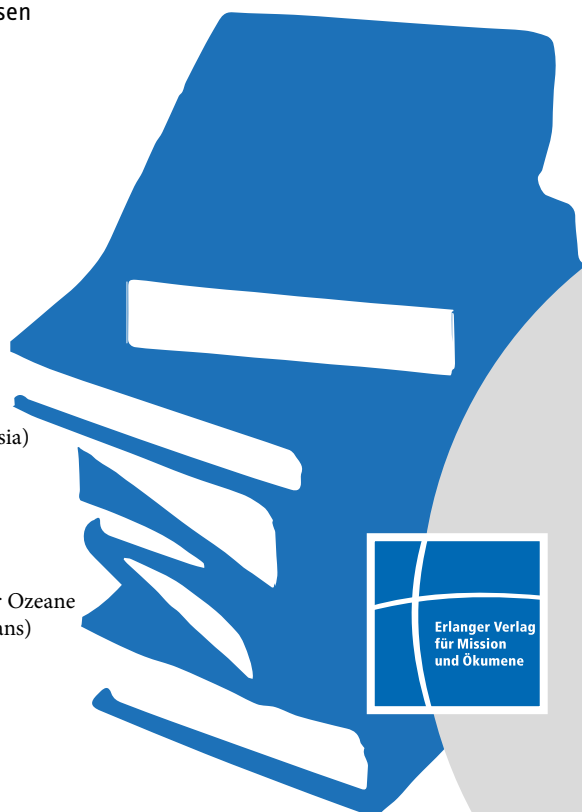
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New Structures at Mission EineWelt

In the context of the “Profile and Concentration” process (PuK) of the church in Bavaria and the need for further savings, Mission EineWelt has been working for several years on a new structure for the inland departments. From September 1st 2022, the previous departments for Partnership and Parish Work (PG), Mission and Intercultural Studies (MI) and Development and Politics (EP) will merge to form the Department of Worldwide Encounters and the Department of Global Learning.

The main aim of this new arrangement is to take the best possible account of present and future developments in (intercultural) encounters and in educational and advocacy work.

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