



Have We Met Before?

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Greetings Friends in Christ,

The way of Christ's love in Germany is in mysterious motion for mercy, witness and life together! Let us explain a bit more. Recently, a refugee at the Chemnitz church joins us. We recall briefly meeting him before, but we didn't completely remember his story. In the way of the Spirit, refugees will come and go and sometimes seem to be gone forever and then suddenly reappear. Such is the case with our friend from Afghanistan, Mirwais, who was being deported after two years in Denmark where he initially learned about the Christian faith. We learned that for the past six months he claimed church asylum at a sister church in Berlin. This means that for the past six months, he couldn't lawfully leave the property of the church. Three weeks ago, he was back at the Chemnitz camp and planning a mechanical internship to fill the gaps in the German workforce. Last weekend, we met him in St Petri SELK church and he told us that he had been transferred to Dresden. Pray that his witness in Christ be the light of undeserved grace in the German land where God has placed him now, as well as in his Afghan homeland. Remember our Dresden friend Kouroush from the last newsletter? He also remembers Mirwais through the church in Denmark! What a small world yet a beautiful solid rock of faith in Jesus that they both now stand on...all other ground is sinking sand!

We meet and connect with many people who leave their homeland due to political and economic decline and opportunity for German provision. Most refugees claim religious asylum since it is unlawful to be a Christian in Iran and Afghanistan. Most refugees that we meet are not poor and accustomed to middle class living. We have met a professional soccer player and executives. They miss their homeland and all dream of a voluntary return someday. When and if that time ever comes, God's loving Word is going out now to sustain them with more than economic comforts or false claims.



Mirwais and the Heim, Dresden



Prayers:

- For our Pastor and congregation to faithfully serve refugees in love, catechesis, meals, Bibles, transportation, language, legalities and more.
- For thanksgiving for refugees that have started professional training programs and their children who attend new schools.
- For the refugee who is expecting her first child while her husband remains in Iran.
- For our churches and donors from all over the world that serve this mission with joyful hearts.

“In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” 1 John 4:9-10 ESV

Blessings,

Carl & Karen Cecil

Staying in touch with
family around the world



Carl at St Petri
Treff, Dresden

Pastor Dittmer
Preaching at the
Chemnitz Divine Service



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