



Mama goldfinch checking on her babies

Connect with me:

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I'd love to set up a time to talk with you!

To be added or removed from this mailing list, send me an email with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

Sometimes I forget to be thankful. However, God continually shows me that I should have “an attitude of gratitude” all the time! A few weeks ago, I discovered three baby birds that had fallen from their nest into our front yard. Two of the babies survived and my neighbor helped me rescue them by placing them in an empty hanging plant pot. That day I anxiously watched to see if the mother and father birds would come and care for their young or if I would have to “take them under my wing” and raise the chicks to maturity. I was ecstatic to see the parents come and care for the baby birds later that afternoon! In that moment, I had a lot to be thankful for - neighbors who are always willing to help me with anything, the mother and father bird who continued to care for their children so I wouldn't have to, and most importantly, God who created everything and continues to care for us as well! The day after those baby birds were old enough to fly away on their own, a huge storm hit our area. As I was sitting in my basement, I thanked God that He caused those baby birds to grow up quickly so they could find shelter before the storm hit. I thanked God for wonderful neighbors who checked in on me to make sure I was safe. I thanked God for protecting me during the storm. But God isn't done teaching me to be thankful!

When reading the psalms, we very often see David praising and thanking God for all the wonderful things God has done. And there are so many things for which we can be thankful! David frequently thanks God for His protection, for His love, for His faithfulness, for creating us and the whole world in such an intricate and unique way. Psalm 138:1-2 (ESV) says, “I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.” Here, David models for us how we should give thanks to God - with our whole hearts and through worship and singing. One of my favorite hymns is *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (LSB 790) which echoes what David often writes in his psalms. Verses 2 and 3 of this hymn say: “Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by His gracious ordaining? Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you, health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you. What need or grief ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.” In those times when life isn't going as planned, when we could despair over what is happening in this world, this hymn and the psalms remind us that God is in control. When has God ever failed to provide for us? Again, we are reminded that God has promised to never leave us or forsake us. He will never stop blessing us with His love and care. God never stops teaching us and reminding us that we have so much for which to be thankful! Therefore we can sing: “Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him! Let the Amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him!” (LSB 790:5)



The last baby goldfinch before it flew away

Please Pray for:

- God to open all the borders that are closed that I might soon be on the mission field
- Teachers and Students as they go back to school during a pandemic

Give Thanks for:

- God who never stops loving us and teaching us
- You and others who pray for and support me in serving the Lord

For many, school has started again! School and everyday life may look very different from previous years but we can still be thankful that God never changes no matter what is happening in our lives. Are you teaching in a classroom or teaching your children at home? Would you like to have someone else help teach your kids about the work God is doing through missions as well as learning about the German language and culture? Then please let me know! I would love to come to your class via video chat. Just email me at rachel.krause@lcms.org and we can set something up!

Learning Farsi

My Farsi learning is slowly moving forward. There are a couple letters that look exactly the same with some small variation that makes them completely different letters. The ر (reh) and the ز (zeh) look the same but add a dot above and it makes a different letter with a completely different sound! There are a few other letters like this and that often trips me up. A phrase I learned early on in my German learning is: Übung macht den Meister (practice makes the master = practice makes perfect) and flashcards have been my very great friends as I practice, practice, practice my Farsi letters and words!!

Here are a few new words I learned:

Big = بزرگ (bohzorg)

Cow = گاو (gahv)

Help Wanted

When I get overseas, it will be difficult for me to print out and send my newsletters to supporters via mail. Is there an individual or a church small group that would be willing to print and send out my newsletters for me? If you are interested, send me an email and we can discuss further details!

Thank you for joining me on this journey of serving refugees in Germany. God has truly blessed me by placing you in my life!

Prayerfully consider partnering in sharing the Good News of Christ with refugees in Germany through a financial gift. Send Checks to:

The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
40718 Highway E - 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod and include Krause/Germany on the memo line.

Gifts can also be given securely online at www.lcms.org/Krause or <https://missioncentral.us/Krause/> or by phone by calling 1-888-930-4438