



The beautiful view inside of St. Lukaskirche

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Upon landing in Leipzig, I hit the ground running. I started learning as much as I could about how things work around here because my fellow LCMS missionary, Deaconess Kim Bueltmann, was leaving for her time of home service in the US at the end of August. The following describes a bit of what a typical week looks like here:

On Sundays, we meet with some Persians for Baptismal class in our outreach center here in Leipzig, followed by drinking coffee together after the German speaking service ends. The Persian speaking service begins at noon after which we must quickly pack everything up and drive an hour to Chemnitz, a nearby German city, where we also hold Persian speaking services. Following that second service, we also have a Baptismal class at our Brücke outreach center in Chemnitz. Since Deaconess Kim has been gone, I assist by leading the music for both services.

Every other Saturday, we spend the day either in Chemnitz or in Leipzig at our outreach centers. We have a Bible study, time for fellowship which usually includes food, and time for them to ask any questions they may have regarding letters from the German government or any other documents.

Wednesdays are the days we meet with the people of the neighborhood surrounding Lukaskirche. We've also recently added to our Wednesday program by offering a very short afternoon and evening prayer for any who are interested. Our first evening prayer was attended by at least 3 different families that we had never seen before.

I make a home visit to a Persian woman and her adult daughter on Fridays and help them with their German learning. While there, they always invite me to stay for lunch and because of this, I've been able to try a lot of new Persian dishes!



I love seeing this view of St. Lukaskirche when I walk to work!

Please Pray for:

- The unrest still occurring in Afghanistan and the Middle East
- For all those who have been displaced by these conflicts

Give Thanks for:

- For arriving safely in Germany
- You and others who pray for and support me in serving the Lord

The above portion of my schedule has remained the same for the most part but sometimes, other opportunities come up, too.

For example, Pastor Gottfried Martens, a SELK pastor from Berlin, brought a bus full of Persian teenagers through Leipzig on a tour through this part of Germany. They stopped to visit us at Lukaskirche to see and ask questions about our outreach endeavors. After enjoying cake and cookies, we had a short devotion time. Another time, there was a district meeting of SELK pastors at Lukaskirche and we were asked to provide the lunchtime meal. One of our Persian refugees volunteered to orchestrate and cook a delicious Persian meal for them! And most recently, we had a group of children from a local Kindergarten come visit us to learn about Reformation Day and All Saints' Day.

I also recently finished leading some middle schoolers through an introduction of the Old Testament. Kim started this weekly class with the kids and I just took over the last few classes when she left.

In the midst of all this, I am also still helping plan the Intensive Study week in Wittenberg for our seminary in Riga, Latvia. This course takes place October 31-November 5 - what better way to start the week than by celebrating the Reformation in Wittenberg itself!



Preparing the presentation for the Kindergarten class

My Persian learning has really taken off since coming here. One of the refugee women has taken me under her wing and is slowly teaching me Persian. I can even create a few simple sentences on my own! Sometimes, I can even understand a few of the words the Persians are saying in their conversations though they speak very fast!

Today is cloudy. - امروز ابری است.
(Emruz abri ast)

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:

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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