



What a Year!

Dresden, October—December 2020

This year has been such an emotional up and down. I praise God that I have been able to remain healthy! Prior to Germany's latest COVID-19 lockdown, I was also able to fully move into a great new apartment and even get a cat! Even though things seem dark here, I've been able to see God's light still shining with so many examples of His love.

Saxony, the German state I live in, has become the new hotspot for the virus in Germany. We have had to partially close Café Story and really become creative to find ways to still minister to and care for our neighbors. We have been blessed to be able to still meet in person for church services in the Café. During the week, we've also been giving out cards with a Bible verse and a prayer in our guests' to-go orders. My teammate created a "15 Minute Christmas Kit" with cookies, tea, and the story of Christmas to give to the people who we have gotten to know well.

We've been blessed to witness encouragement from our neighbors, as well. Many have given us Christmas gifts and purposely come to Café Story to buy food and support us. This difficult time has really made it possible to see the presence and impact we have had in our neighborhood. We can't wait to be able to meet together with people again and have been prayerfully preparing for new future outreaches.

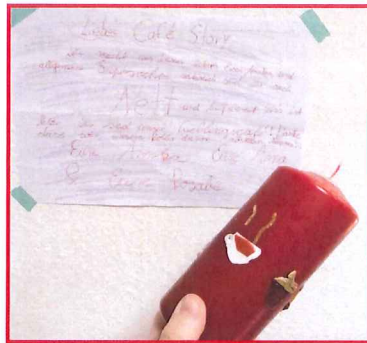
I hope you and your family are doing well. I know some of you have lost people to the virus and my heart goes out to you. I pray that you have found comfort in the peace that comes only from our loving God.

I am also grateful for those who have continued to support me during this time. Your generosity is such a blessing from God and I pray that you continue to feel God's love through this very different holiday season and feel blessed in the New Year!

In Him, *Mary Ellis*



My "new" Schwibboggen, that one of my neighbors gave away—for free! I love that it has such a beautiful Nativity scene.



A sweet encouraging note and homemade candle given to Café Story from a group of neighborhood girls.



Meet my new furry family member, Haru!

Contact me while I'm here!

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WHAT TO PRAY FOR!

- CAFÉ STORY
- HEALTH AND SAFETY
- LANGUAGE LEARNING
- GROWING NEW FRIENDSHIPS
- CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT