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www.gokmusa.org/ellis

BLESSED BY YOU

Anytime I travel to the United States, I am always impressed by the generosity and encouragement of those I meet. Whether someone has been supporting me from the beginning or is hearing my story for the first time, I get blessed by so many different people.

I am supported by people from so many different congregations. In a modern culture that so often feels divided, it is beautiful to see the one thing that unites everyone is the desire to see the Gospel spread

throughout the world. I meet former missionaries who understand the struggles. I meet people who for whatever reason never felt called to go, but definitely felt called to give to those who can. I meet people who are blown away by simply hearing the history of East Germany and how dark the culture can be. I meet ministers who are called locally, but understand the kingdom of God is bigger than just their congregation. God uses people in so many different ways to spread His Word.

Seeing people praise the work being done here and understanding why Dresden is so dear to me, it truly means a lot. It is hard to put into words how much I appreciate everyone that makes this possible.

⁴⁰ "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." Matthew 10:40-42

In Him,

Mary Ellis



I was blessed to share about my ministry at one of my supporting churches, Mission Bible Church.



Reconnecting with friends and family at my open house for supporters in the US.



Praying for and blessing some of my friends in Leipzig at their first baby shower.

LEARN GERMAN WITH ME

"Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei."

(All-es haht ine End-a, nure dee wurst hat zwi)

Literal: Everything has an ending, only a sausage has two.

An idiom meaning that everything eventually comes to an end.



Zeal Church exists so that people can experience and embrace the fervent love and freedom of God. We inspire people about God and equip them to follow Him wholeheartedly and thereby becoming the person God created them to be. Our passion for God and people is our driving force. www.zealchurch.de



Kontaktmission is a networked mission movement empowering Christians worldwide to live out their God-given callings, and sending them out for the building up of His church.

www.gokmusa.org

AS THE LEAVES TURN

END OF THE SUMMER SEASON



With my head pastor René on Staff Photo Day.



Catching up with a friend on my first Sunday back in Dresden after my trip to the US.



Zuckertüte for Zeal kids

The beginning of July was the end of my trip to the US. It was a fun trip and I was blessed to meet with many supporters and churches to share all the updates of my ministry with Zeal. I came back to Dresden encouraged and greatly refreshed.

August was when Zeal celebrated the new school year by blessing our children entering first grade. This is such a huge milestone for kids in Germany! We also participated in *Stadtfest Gottesdienst*, which brings every church in Dresden

together for an outdoor worship service. It seems to grow every year and that is so incredible to see.

The end of August also brought upon a leadership change at Zeal Dresden. Our location pastor is going on maternity leave and our location finance department leader is taking over as a Dresden location leader. While this means another time of transition, we are excited to see what God has planned for our church in the future.

September was the wind down of the small group semester. I hosted a surprise "Going Away" party for one of my closest friends and former co-leader of our small group. I pray that God blesses her greatly in the next chapter of her education.

The last weeks of September and the beginning of October my parents are coming to visit and I will have some short vacation time with them. Please pray for their safe travels.



The "Going Away" party in the park.

The closing prayer was lead by four different denominations at *Stadtfest Gottesdienst*.



PRAYER REQUESTS!

- ZEAL CHURCH
- LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
- CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT
- MY HEALTH
- MY FAMILY

BACK TO SCHOOL

In Germany, "*Einschulung*" is the official celebration of a child going into first grade to begin their education. Parents will throw elaborate parties for their children and each child receives a "Zuckertüte" which is a decorated cone filled with toys, candy, and school supplies. Also, kids will often get properly

measured for their first backpack, which can easily cost over 100 Euros.

I was once told the reason Germans make such a big deal about starting school is that the cultural thought is that life is all downhill from there. Once you start school, the fun of childhood is over and you

must become an adult. It is a rather negative outlook of the world.

At Zeal, we bless the kids, praying that they see the joy that God brings throughout their life as they grow. We want them to know that He loves them through all of life's stages.