
SWISS NEWS

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Erich and Tetyana Salzmann

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Dear friends

Like every year, summer once again went by, however, not without some fantastic moments.



On the very last warm autumn day, we enjoyed the beauty of the valley “Lötschental” with its yellow larch trees. Meanwhile the snow has come significantly closer. Although we enjoy the beauty of winter too, it somehow reminds us every year about endings and dying. Good to know, that after winter there will be again spring and new life.

Saying Good-bye

Tetyana's mother has had some serious health issues since quite a long time. In September, she went to the hospital, hoping to get an artificial joint for her hip. Without that, she would have become increasingly dependent and tied to her bed. However, even before the operation took place, her health rapidly deteriorated and then she died at the age of 80.

Already the next day Tetyana was on her way to Ukraine. Most of all she wanted to support her two sisters during that difficult time. That worked out very well.

So good to know, that just as it is with the seasons of the year, on the other side new life awaits. The main difference is, that unlike with earthly life, that life will no longer include defects and troubles.

Kneaded

On the return journey from Ukraine, her niece Natasha accompanied Tetyana. She enjoyed her time with us in the Bernese Alps very much. In return, we benefited from some fabulous massages. Backs and shoulders got thoroughly kneaded. That gave me a significant improvement, but also at the same time the understanding, that my problems cannot be solved by massages alone. Natasha drew the same conclusion as my orthopaedist: Overwork. The extreme difference between office work and dragging around furniture is taking its toll. Now I am trying to achieve further improvement through exercises. If that does not work, then I

will probably in the long run be forced to look for another part-time job.

Free book

Not so long ago we have published the audio book “Letters from a sceptic” in Russian. Now, after some negotiations with the US publisher, we were able to buy for a one-time fee of 250\$ the rights to publish also the Russian text as a free download on our website. That was just about perfectly timed, since the printed version is now sold out and no reprint is planned. Now Russian speaking readers from all over the world can download and read the book. Already one of my friends wrote to me, that he had been able to point to this very valuable book during a discussion on an internet forum.

By the way, until now, over 4000 users have accessed our Russian website over 8000 times. On top of that, the videos on our Youtube channel were accessed over 6000 times. The audio book “Letters from a sceptic” alone was accessed over 1500 times, either individual chapters or the whole book was downloaded. Although this is a modest figure in comparison to some other Youtube video clips, however it is our prayer and hope that each one of the lives was somehow touched and changed.

Summer camps

The Dubovyk family sends their greetings and thanks for all the support through finances and prayer.

Here a few glimpses from the camps:

During the camp for the families of soldiers and army



chaplains it once again became obvious how much is being broken by war. For the participants this camp was a unique opportunity to talk openly while being in a good atmosphere. A special guest was a Christian psychiatrist, who was a great help to many, thanks to his professional knowledge about post-traumatic syndromes. Apart from the professional help, he kept on pointing out, that Jesus remains the best doctor.

Another camp was focusing on the families of church and ministry leaders. Many of these leaders take care of other

families, but then their own wife and children miss out. Often the children become more and more estranged and even turn their back on the faith.

The camp was organised in a way, so that husbands and wives, as well as parents and children were able to



fellowship in an open and honest atmosphere. Some moments were very touching. One day all the children and youth had collected a list of criticisms towards their parents. The parents had made a list of what bothered them about their children. Among other things, there was the following point on the list of the parents:

“We would like you to hug us more often and show us your love with words, deeds and emotions.”

After these words one of the girls said: “What are we still sitting here? Let’s go for it!”

Then the young folks jumped across the benches and tackled their parents, hugging and kissing them. The whole meeting went on for over three hours, and of course, the parents returned the love of their children.

Children’s video Bible

First preparations for the recording of a children’s Bible in sign language for deaf people are going on. A suitable children’s Bible version was found, but because the text contains a bit outdated language, it is now being edited first. After that, a sound recording will be made, which of course can then be used as an audio bible. Only in a third phase a video recording of the translation into sign language will be made. The three phases will run parallel, but slightly offset.

Revelation – a book with 7 seals?

When we translated the sermon series about revelation into Russian, we could observe, that it was setting free many people. Now we want to translate it also into German. Since the 70-ies and Hal Lindseys book “Late great planet earth” the topic end times keeps on dominating the thoughts of many Christians again and again. Sometimes this turns into some quite absurd conspiracy theories. However, those who take a closer look quickly realise that much around it can’t be true and that books like the one named above are outdated and their claims often totally off.

So what is it really about the end times? And what is really written in the book of revelation?

In this sermon series, Greg Boyd presents a view of the book of Revelation, which takes us away from all the fear mongering and guides us into a hope for a beautiful future, while remaining with both feet on the ground of reality

I would like to invite you, if you haven’t listened to these sermons yet, to do so. You can download them here:

If you have German speaking friends, then please point them to www.ueberdenken.org (or www.zanovo.info for your Russian speaking friends). The whole series is more than worth your time!

Various

Education and choice of profession is now a major topic for our kids. Especially Darja has been struggling to make a choice. Florist and watchmaker have been her favourites so far.

The marriage for my colleague at work still does not look good. His wife is not interested in working on the relationship, despite the fact that both are confessing Christians. On one hand my colleague senses, how God is carrying him, on the other hand he really struggles with the emotional stress.

Thanks to all of you for still supporting us, although we no longer look like “classical missionaries”. We are convinced, that this kind of ministry is no less important.

Greetings

Erich & Tetyana with Darja & Dan

Prayer requests

Give thanks for

- the comfort Tetyana experienced over the death of her mother
- the publication of the free Russian book
- the successful summer camps
- the health improvements

Pray for

- the sisters of Tetyana, who do not yet know Jesus
- the people reading “Letters from a sceptic” in Russian
- the follow up work in the lives of the camp participants
- the work on the children’s Bible in sign language
- the German translation of the sermons about Revelation
- a suitable Russian speaking worker
- my colleague at work and his marriage and family
- our health, and clarity about work
- our two kids and their professional education

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