

**** HAITI-NEWS *** HAITI-NEWS *** HAITI-NEWS ****

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Landau/Blaufelden 20.09.2017

Dear friends of the Lebensmission,

After the hurricane Irma is before the hurricane Maria!

Thank you to all those who joined us in prayer during the hurricane Irma. Certainly you were informed by the media that Haiti was in fact exempted by it. We are very, very thankful to God for that.

Now the next hurricane Maria passes by the Caribbean with highest warning level. This could brush against the Dominican Republic and the North of Haiti coming Thursday evening. Please let us again pray to God that hurricane Maria as well like Irma before will pass and miss Haiti. The country and its people are in human estimation really buffeted enough by the many natural disasters during the past years.

Martina Wittmer writes shortly after her return to Haiti and after Irma had passed by:

We are all well!

Hurricane Irma passed by Haiti. We were spared. It rained for two days, but without a severe storm. In the orphanage only a few branches broke. One family came to seek shelter here at our place. All are alleviated.

We were spared. In the news we see effects and consequences of natural powers like Irma. Trees are being snapped like matches. Houses and cars fly through the air, whole quarters are flooded.....

Man, we individuals remain a small element. How often we feel powerful as if we had the control over everything. Irma may remind us to keep humble. We thank God that we remained spared of feelings of helplessness and horror and suffer with all those who were affected.

We will continue to build – for secure shelters. The hurricane season lasts until end of November and every year there will again be storms like these. I'm so thankful for our well-constructed house on the top resp. at the hillside of the orphanage.



Thank you for all prayers!

Further, Martina asks for prayer for the following matters of concern – for the orphanage and the fostership work:

- One children’s mother will marry and leave on 30 Sept. 2017, we employed a new one, she may adapt herself well and build good relationships with the children.
- We have to discharge a washing woman because of intolerable conduct, we hope that she leaves peacefully (which is not obvious: white employers are often taken to court in order to still get a severance pay as high as possible).
- We wish a young helper that she will experience God’s work personally here in the orphanage.
- Unity in the fostership team and recovery/health of the director Fanette who suffers from a flu with fever.
- Further development of the formation and study fund. Our vision is that the foster-children will be released after finishing a formation. This is not always possible financially because it means a high burden for the fosterparents. Actually this topic is very urgent because the applications and registrations at the universities are just taking place which involve high costs.
- We want to reach the children and their families for the belief in Jesus Christ, that they have open hearts and we god-given opportunities.

A few weeks ago we just had a seminar for all coworkers in the orphanage and in the fostership programme under the topic: “How do I guide a child to Jesus?”. It is important for us not only to be active socially, but also to give sufficient room to the spiritual dimension of life and give the children the chance to find an embodiment of their personality in Jesus and in the Christian belief. This decision however remains an offer which can be either accepted or rejected as well.

The young Wittmers had a precious time in Germany. We as the whole Wittmer family passed a wonderful common holiday week with all of our children and grandchildren and also with the Haitian part of the family not easily within reach usually.

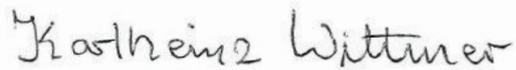


On Saturday, 30th September 2017 at 3 p.m. there will be the second assembly of members of the Life Mission this year. We will meet in the Church He’s Alive, Alfred Nobel square 3 (seminar room in the 2nd floor north (yellow) ELF). Whoever of you not being a member so far is interested may participate with pleasure as a guest. It would be helpful to enroll in advance via our office so that we can prepare accordingly.

I greet you all with the first portion of the bible verse which requests and challenges us to constantly pray. It is to be found in 1 Tim. 2,1 (in the Geneva translation)

“The first and most important I request from the congregation is the prayer. It is our task to stand up and pray for all people with pleas, pleads and thanks.”

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karlheinz Wittmer".

Karlheinz Wittmer
President of the Lebensmission



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