



YOUR MISSIONARIES  
**THE RICHARDS**  
TO GERMANY



DEAR PASTOR AND CHURCH,

**PROMOTION TO HEAVEN** – At the age of 90, Hanna Haarburger was promoted to heaven. Hanna was a member of our church for several decades, and although we know it is only a matter of time before we will see Hanna again, we will miss her very much. Hanna's is a story of tragedy and a testimony of loyalty; her father was a German-Jew who died of cancer in 1936, but as tragic as his death was it ultimately saved Hanna and her brother, whose mother was German, in that it occurred before the Nazi persecution that sent many of their relatives to death camps and their mother's guardianship was enough to keep them safe. By God's grace, following the war, Hanna studied to be a midwife in England where she was first introduced to Baptists, but it was not until she returned to Germany and began attending our church that she got saved. Once she accepted Jesus as her Savior, she wanted to serve God in a biblical congregation for the rest of her life, and by God's grace she achieved her goal.



Hanna was a close friend of my wife. They went on many outings together and always sat together during church services.



As a passionate piano player and faithful church member, Hanna was always willing to play church services and music specials.



Faithfulness! Whenever the church doors were open, Hanna was there to serve the Lord. She was usually the first to arrive.



Hanna's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday: This was such a special blessing for me personally (as seen above).

**FREUNDETAG (FRIEND DAY)** – The past two months have been very busy, and very blessed; one of the events that kept us busy was hosting a Friend Day. It was an opportunity for our church members to invite friends and family, to whom they had been witnessing, to attend a special sermon followed by a potluck lunch. The event was a success with quite a few visitors and, praise the Lord, two people got saved (a husband and a wife whom I have been witnessing to for over two years).

**WEIHNACHTSGOTTESDIENSTE (CHRISTMAS SERVICES)** – As is the case each year here in Germany, our most well attended service was the Christmas Eve service. This is traditionally the day Germans celebrate Christmas. We had many visitors, who heard the Gospel message for the first time. Because of the nature of this service, we try to do something a little different—we hold a “candlelight service” making this evening a little more special.

**NEUJAHRGOTTESDIENST (WATCH NIGHT SERVICES)** – While this past year has seen many rich and rewarding blessings, there have also been a number of attacks by the devil on the church and our members—please pray for God's protection, strength, and grace. Given all that has happened, it was so nice to end the year with such a wonderful time of worship and special music followed by our annual New Year's potluck dinner. I am so thankful that God continues to bless the ministry here in Germany and I pray that we will see many new souls saved in 2019 and see even a greater increase in church membership and attendance. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

**PRAYER REQUESTS –**

More Independent Baptist Churches in Germany  
More to be Saved and Baptized  
More to follow the call for service and to go where there is a need

Specifically, the Salvation of:  
**Herr Wehrstein, Ildiko, Oiva,**  
**Erika Belz & mother,**  
**Herr Moser**

Faithfulness in the Last Days (*Hebrews 10:25*)  
The Churches in Ingolstadt and Stuttgart  
Church Outreach Ministries

In Christ,

*Bill Richards*