



The Baptismal Font discovered underneath the Cologne Cathedral

Want to see what is already going on in Leipzig at St. Lukaskirche's outreach center called Die Brücke?

Check out their website: www.die-bruecke-leipzig.de
Devotions and sermons are regularly posted in Farsi, German, and English! Just click the button that says "predigten".

Connect with me:

rachel.krause@lcms.org

I'd love to set up a time to talk with you!

I am also willing to set up a time to teach your children a bit more about the history, geography, and language of Germany! Email me to set something up!

To be added or removed from this mailing list, send me an email with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

I recently listened to a chapel message from the chaplain at Concordia University, Nebraska. In this message, he related the text for the day, Psalm 142, to what we are experiencing today. Psalm 142 was written by David when he was hiding from Saul in a cave. We are in our own caves, our homes, seeking shelter from an invisible virus. David experienced despair and distress over his troubles - hiding in a dark cave for days on end with none of the perks we have today must have been frustrating and depressing. We have many great tools to help keep us occupied during this quarantine, yet we also experience despair and distress. What does David do? Psalm 142 says that David cried out loud to the LORD. He poured his complaints and told all about his troubles to God. David then realizes that God is his Refuge. God will rescue him. God will set David free. In this time of quarantine, we can do as David did. We can pour out our troubles and complaints to God because God will hear us and rescue us.

When I lived in Germany as an au pair, I was able to take a day trip to the city of Cologne with a friend. My friend took me on a tour underneath the famous cathedral, the Kölner Dom, where archaeologists are excavating ancient Roman ruins. One of the items they uncovered was an early Christian baptismal font (pictured above). The font is still encased where they found it, in a cave but what a great reminder it is for us in these days! Just because we are limited in our interactions with others, as baptized Christians, we are NEVER alone! Christ Himself was buried in a cave so that we might experience eternal life with Him in heaven.

A favorite hymn of mine illustrates what we should do when we are in a season of being stuck in a cave - "*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*." Stanza 3 says, "Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge - Take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there." Whether you are alone or with others during the Shelter-in-Place order, Our precious Savior is right there with you. He is in our caves with us. Are you worried or distressed about something? Take it to Jesus. Cry out loud to the One who has overcome all sin, death, and the devil. I look forward to the end of this pandemic, when God brings us out of our caves. Then we can be like David too, giving thanks to God among our brothers and sisters in Christ once again!



While we wait for Shelter-in-Place orders and travel bans to lift, I am staying busy by practicing my German. Thanks to Pastor Brent Smith at Mission Central for the German books!

Please Pray for:

- Healthcare workers and other frontline workers that they stay healthy and strong
- All those who are sick and for their families that God gives them peace and comfort

Give Thanks for:

- Technology that keeps us in worship and fellowship together while staying apart
- You as you pray for and support me in serving the Lord

I am excited to share with you through my newsletters all about what God is doing in Germany! I have been asked to work alongside our partner church in Germany as the church shares the Good News of Christ with refugees. Often, when we think about Germany, we think of it as a Christian country. There are so many churches plus that is where the Reformation started, surely there are numerous Christians filling those churches to the brim each week! But in actuality, there are many people in Germany that have not heard about God and His love for them. Many are refugees who would not have been able to hear about God in their home countries. Many are Germans who are proud to call themselves atheists. I look forward to joining our partner church in Germany, the Selbständige Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche (SELK), as they minister to these groups of people and share God's love with them. St. Lukaskirche in Leipzig, Germany is where I'll be based. I'm excited to join Deaconess Kim Buelmann (LCMS missionary) and Pastor Hugo Gevers (SELK) as they share Christ with all people.

Family Fun Facts:

- Dad: Ken Krause
 - Job: pastor at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
- Mom: Julie Krause
 - Job: part-time organist at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
- Older sister: Katie
 - Job: Principal at Concordia Lutheran Church & School
- Younger sister: Sarah married to Michael Duffy
 - Job: Sarah is a teacher & Michael is a student at the seminary in St. Louis
- As a family, we have traveled to 48 of the 50 United States - just missing Hawaii and Oregon!

Thank you for joining me on this journey of serving refugees in Germany. God has truly blessed me by placing you in my life!

Prayerfully consider partnering in sharing the Good News of Christ with refugees in Germany through a financial gift. Send Checks to:

The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
40718 Highway E - 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod and include Krause/Germany on the memo line.

Gifts can also be given securely online at www.lcms.org/Krause or <https://missioncentral.us/Krause/> or by phone by calling 1-888-930-4438