



Germany
Karen Tang
Prayer Letter
January 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

“But his delight is in the Law of the Lord, and on His Law he meditates day and night!” Psalms 1:2

On January 2nd, our Bible reading class started our Bible reading this year with Psalms. Our senior brothers and sisters have been following the Bible reading plan for three years since 2021 during the pandemic. At the request of our sisters, this year we also added a hymn-singing session, which coincided with the fact that many of the hymns were based on the theme of the Psalms, so in addition to reading the Bible, we also learned to sing new songs to praise God!

Last December, I had several receptions. A couple passed by my house and stayed overnight before heading to other city; a sister came from other city to Frankfurt to take a flight back to visit her relatives in China, and she also had to stay overnight; one sister was out of town, and she stayed at my home for the whole Christmas vacation this year; and I also accompanied a teenage student to stay in a hotel for one night (at the request of his mother), and then I took him to the airport to fly home the next day.

I also hosted a non-believer who wanted to buy a car because she lives in a relatively remote place in the south. She looked at a used car and the car dealership was about half an hour's drive from my home. She asked me to accompany her to see the car and test drive it. After she bought the car, I had to take her to the car dealership to pick it up, and then drive with her back to her home because she had just obtained her German driver's license. The next day I had to take four hours of public transportation to get home.

In December, I also accepted a request from a stranger. A stateless Chinese lady who was several years younger than me, was admitted to a hospital. Since she did not speak English or German, the hospital was unable to communicate with her, so they hired a Chinese interpreter. It was this interpreter who asked me to visit her in the hospital. The hospital later transferred her to an organization which had converted a hotel into a refugee camp and there was a room in the hotel that could accommodate her. As I followed her around, I became her interpreter, translating for the person in charge and staff of the organization that took her in, the staff of the social welfare department, the doctors, and the ambulance staff. Since this woman is suffering from terminal cancer, a hotel is not a place for her to live for a long time because there are no medical staffs to take care of her. She cannot eat a lot of things, and she cannot move around so it is not clear whether she has eaten anything or not. Every time I visited her, I would bring her some soup, which she called "Jesus Soup", because I prayed for her and asked Jesus to save her and help her. God did find her a hospice ward through a few dedicated doctors of a charity organization, and after much effort, she was able to stay there for a long time and receive good care. There was a Tibetan lady there who could understand a little Chinese and was also responsible for taking care of the meals. She said she could cook some food suitable for Chinese appetites.

Since the Giessen Fellowship did not have the manpower to hold a large-scale Christmas event this year, we invited the new students to join us for the holiday. Only one girl came to join us, while the other two boys were called by their classmates after they had promised to come. This girl had just come to study for her doctorate degree, and she had a lot of anxiety and stress, and we didn't see her come to the fellowship after the holiday.

Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

1. I am thankful for the senior brothers and sisters who are willing to come together every morning to listen to God's word! I am grateful that last week I visited an old sister who we have not seen for a long time and invited her to participate in our Bible reading. She has also joined us starting this week!
2. Thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve brothers and sisters and unbelievers as guests in my home! I am grateful that I could accompany the single sister on her vacation so that she would not feel lonely!
3. Thank God also that I could minister to that unbeliever in need by helping her so that she may come to know God one day!
4. Thank the Lord for having mercy on the lady suffering from terminal cancer, allowing her to have a resting place and receive good care! Pray that she will have a clear mind and be willing to accept the Lord's salvation when she hears the Gospel.
5. Pray that the Lord will protect the children from getting infected often in this cold weather and then spreading it to the whole family!
6. Pray that the Lord will protect the pregnant sister so that both she and the fetus will be healthy and the baby will be delivered smoothly at maturity (expected date of delivery is March)!
7. Pray that the girl who is studying for her doctorate degree will adapt to her studies and be willing to come to the fellowship to communicate with brothers and sisters to relieve her stress!

May the Lord lead us into the new year and let us follow Him closely!

I wish you all a blessed Chinese New Year in advance!

Serving Him,
Karen Tang