

## Christmas Market

Each year during Advent, many people flock to the Christmas Markets in Salzburg, Austria. This year, MBMSI church planters Richard & Hazel Funk along with their Salzburg church group started to dream about how they could reach out to the city of Salzburg. They hoped to have a book table in a Christmas Market, but weren't sure if this was even possible.

The church could hardly believe it when they were given a spot for their book table in a popular Christmas Market that thousands of people visit each Advent. Richard & Hazel wrote to their supporters to ask for prayer, saying: "Our Salzburg Church will have a Christian book table at one of the most frequented Advent markets. We were granted a wonderful spot in the chapel of a castle courtyard. Pray that we will gain new contacts to people; that books, Bibles and calendars will be sold and that God's Word will enter homes and hearts."

On the weekend of the Christmas Market, the Salzburg church group set up their book table in the Market on Friday at noon and by the end of that first night, they had handed out nearly all of their Christmas tracts. They gave out bookmarks that invited people to their church services, and quickly printed more when these also ran out! Advent booklets, children's books and Bibles, evangelistic books, and calendars were all sold. On Saturday morning they had to drive back to the bookstore to stock up on more Books and Bibles.

There were even people from other countries such as Germany, Holland and Italy who arrived by bus to explore the Christmas Market. The Salzburg church members were excited and encouraged as they saw how interested people were in the Christian literature.

The church members realized that their faith had been much too small when they first dreamed of having a book table at the Christmas Market. They were amazed at all the different people that God brought to them as they took turns helping out at the book table. Richard & Hazel saw their prayers answered beyond what they had expected and rejoiced in seeing God at work through this amazing opportunity.

Praise God for a successful weekend at the Christmas Market in Salzburg. Pray that God will reveal Himself to each person who bought a Bible or other Christian literature. Pray that the truth of Emmanuel – God with us – will be shone in their hearts this Christmas.

*"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

– 1 John 1:14



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## A Life Changed

Fher jumped out of bed and glanced outside at the weather. Today was Baptism day at the RETO Church and Fher was one of the 8 people who were getting baptized! Although it was a cool day and the pool was unheated, this did not get in the way of the church members' excitement about the baptisms.

Fher was introduced to Jesus through a Sports Camp that was hosted at the RETO Church in Guadalajara. The Matthew Team, an MBMSI church planting team in Mexico, hosts short term mission teams in the summer who often help out with English camps, Kids camps, and Sports camps at the RETO Church. These camps are an amazing way for the RETO Church to reach out into the community and spread the love of Christ in Guadalajara.

Fher and her younger brother Pedro have lived with their grandparents in Guadalajara since their parents' divorce several years ago. One day, Pedro and some cousins invited Fher to come with them to a Sports Camp that was happening at the RETO Church. The next summer Fher went to Sports Camp again and she decided to give her life to Jesus!

Over the next year, Fher grew quickly in her faith and love for Jesus. She got involved in anything that would bring her closer to Him, including prayer nights with a small group of older adults.

Fher's extended family has noticed the incredible change in her life and is starting to become curious about Jesus. On the day of Fher's baptism, 11 of her extended family members came to witness her baptism and even spent the afternoon with the RETO Church family.

Praise God for Fehr and the 7 other RETO Church members who were recently baptized, and pray that they will remain steadfast in their devotion to Christ. Pray that many more people will come to know Jesus through the camps that are hosted at the RETO Church. Pray also that Fehr's extended family will choose to entrust their lives to Jesus.

*"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives."*

– Romans 6:4

# February 2010



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Vic &amp; Marty Wiens</i>  WORLDWIDE	2 <i>John &amp; Geri Ervin</i>  WORLDWIDE	3 <i>Barbara Block</i>  INDIA	4 <i>Matt &amp; Ruth</i>  RESTRICTED	5 <i>Bob &amp; Chris Davis</i>  THAILAND	6 <i>Otto &amp; Marjorie Ekk</i>  PORTUGAL
7 <i>Wendy Eros</i>  JAPAN	8 <i>Cynthia Friesen</i>  THAILAND	9 <i>Otto &amp; Lidia Funk</i>  PERU	10 <i>Trever &amp; Joan Godard</i>  MEXICO	11 <i>DMI</i>  PHILIPPINES	12 <i>Rob &amp; Judy Griffioen</i>  THAILAND	13 <i>J&amp;F</i>  RESTRICTED
14 <i>Member Care Volunteer Team</i>  WORLDWIDE	15 <i>Jim &amp; Marilou Nightingale</i>  BRAZIL	16 <i>Baudouin &amp; Marie Brigette Nsulunka</i>  SOUTH AFRICA	17 <i>Saji &amp; Bindu</i>  RESTRICTED	18 <i>Sandra Plett</i>  MEXICO	19 <i>Dave &amp; Louise Sinclair-Peters</i>  THAILAND	20 <i>Russ &amp; Marjorie Speiser</i>  FRANCE
21 <i>Robert &amp; Anne Thiessen</i>  MEXICO	22 <i>Phil &amp; Carol Bergen</i>  BURKINA FASO	23 <i>Melvin &amp; Gudrun Warkentin</i>  PARAGUAY	24 <i>Blaine &amp; Michelle Warner</i>  BURKINA FASO	25 <i>John &amp; Evelyn Wiens</i>  UKRAINE	26 <i>Robert &amp; Marlene</i>  RESTRICTED	27 <i>Samir &amp; Lewiza</i>  RESTRICTED
28 <i>MBMSI Office</i>  Abbotsford, BC						