



Summer 2014

Funks' Foreign Report

Christ will make his **home** in your hearts as you trust in him. Ephesians. 3: 17

Home During the past months, while on MINA (Ministry in North America), we were often asked questions about “home”: What is home to you? Where do you feel most ‘at home’?” The answer did not always come easily as we have family in both Austria and Canada. After arriving back “home” in Austria, we realize again, we have several homes. The question of “home” prompted Hazel to look through definitions and liked the following one best: “*an environment offering security and happiness.*” Thanks for providing exactly that to us.

Back Home Now you may ask, “How do you know that Austria is also “home”?” Here are examples of the familiar that resonated with our inner being: **hearing** the church bells, the braying of the donkey, sirens calling the volunteer firemen to work, the melodious Austrian dialect, **seeing** the luscious green everywhere, narrow streets and small cars, **experiencing** packing one’s own groceries, high toilets, low light switches, and the list continues

Life at Home Reconnection highlights included varied experiences like: enjoying our children and grandchildren living here, phone calls welcoming us “home”, attending a funeral of a 71 year old lady from the Steyr church, scheduling mentoring and counselling appointments, skype calls, long phone calls, responding to emails, news of a baby born to co-workers, hosting friends for coffee and meals, meeting Vakif - a Turkish friend on the tram, purchasing flowers for our balcony and food for the fridge.

Other perspectives on Home Both of us recently began writing portions of scriptures in our quiet times with the desire that “*Christ will make his home in our hearts as we trust in him.*” Eph. 3:17. The funeral reminded us “*this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come.*” Hebr. 13:14. Ultimately we look forward to the fulfillment of the promise, “*Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.*” Rev. 21:3 (all NLT). These eternal perspectives do



not eliminate the pain of saying good-bye to friends, extended family, children and grandchildren, but remind us of the much larger picture of what “home” really is.

Praise:

- Meaningful encounters with many of you on our MINA
- Hearing many “I/we pray for you regularly”
- Your hospitality that gave us “security & happiness”

Prayer:

- Since returning we have noticed a high turnover of residents in the apartment building, where we live. Pray that we connect well with new neighbors.
- For wisdom, guidance and discernment in planning our travels with MB Mission Member Care & resourcing Austrian churches.
- For compassion and understanding as we walk with workers, who are going through difficult times.
- October 5 to 11th we serve as small group leaders at the Open Hearts Training week in Germany.

Thanks so much for your faithfulness in being a part of our ministry in Europe.

Richard & Hazel Funk

Richard and Hazel Funk
Web: mbmission.org/rhfunk
Email: the_funks@aon.at
Phone: 011 43 732 672643
Our Address: St. Isidor 14
A – 4060 Leonding, Austria

Contact MB Mission
Web: mbmission.org
Email: mbmission@mbmission.org
Phone: 1.604.859.6267
Address: 302-32040 Downes Road
Abbotsford, BC V4X 1X5

mbmission 
going to the least reached