

YOUR MISSIONARIES
THE RICHARDS
 TO GERMANY

DEAR HILLCREST BAPTIST CHURCH,

NEW YEAR— Praise the Lord for another year to serve Him! Given all the recent events, it really seems that the Lord might be returning sooner than later. Even though the thought of leaving this sinful world and being with the Lord our Savior is such a sweet feeling, there are still many souls that need to hear the Gospel. With this new year starting, I pray for the strength to focus solely on serving the Lord, winning souls, discipleship, and starting churches. Please pray that the Lord will put a burden on the saved here to also tell others about Christ before it is too late.

OUTREACH EVENTS - A great way to reach the lost in Germany is to have outreach events where friends, neighbors, acquaintances, colleagues, etc. can be invited to spend an evening together amongst Christians and hear the Gospel being preached. Recent outreach events included our Watch Night service in January, and a 'Raclette' dinner in February. As our members are making a bigger effort this year to invite people, both events saw many visitors and were great opportunities for witnessing to the lost. Even better, we are seeing more visitors in many of our church services as well; last Sunday we had five visitors in attendance, including one of my nurses from the Rehab facility. Please pray for those lost visitors, for the follow-up visits, and continued growth within the church.



HEALTH UPDATE - I am happy to report the stomach pack the doctors put in last August has finally been removed, Praise the Lord! Even though I only needed it for a few days because my appetite returned sooner than they expected, the doctors wanted to keep it in place on the off chance there was another major hospitalization. While the doctors were removing the pack, they noticed an infection in my esophagus I had earlier was not fully healed so I had to return in two weeks for an endoscopy. Unfortunately, the doctors were not able to complete all the tests during the procedure and have asked me to return again at the beginning of March for another endoscopy. Please pray the Lord will give the doctors wisdom and that the infection will heal quickly so that no further procedures are necessary. I am already known at this hospital as the man with the guardian angel, so they would not at all be surprised if God healed things without their medical practices. While going to the hospital never seems to be fun, I know that God is using each visit for me to witness to more people, so if He wants me to have more visits then I will happily do it for the Lord. Please continue to pray for my medical needs, for all those I have already been able to witness to, and for more opportunities to spread the Gospel. Finally, please also pray many more people will be open to the Gospel after they hear and see what God has done during all of this.

PRAYER REQUEST –

More Independent Baptist Churches in Germany	Faithfulness in the Last Days (<i>Hebrews 10:25</i>)
More to be saved and baptized in Germany	The Church in Ingolstadt, Germany
More to follow the call for service and to go where there is a need	That my son-in-law Jeremy Randle will be able to raise his support quickly as Europe needs fundamental Baptist missionaries who are church planters

In Christ,
Bill Richards

"I bare you on eagles' wings" – Exodus 19:4