

Dear friends, dear sisters and brothers in the Lord!

Christmas is coming soon and we are going to celebrate the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ in a short while.

Living in a quite confusing time, it's so important for us to remember the fullness of the blessings that Jesus gave us as a gift through his life, his death and his resurrection. At the cross he said already: "It is accomplished!" And through his resurrection he lifts EVERYONE who believes in Him on a higher level of victory, life, joy and power.



In his word he does tell us: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." If you put your trust more in God's promises than in your experiences and circumstances, you will be richly blessed with:

RELEASE OF FEAR

"I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." Ps. 34:5 (NIV)

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

2 Tim. 1:7 (NKJV)

SUCCESS

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." Rom. 8:28 (NKJV)

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matt. 6:33 (NIV)

"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

John 15:7 (NIV)

JOY

"They looked to Him and their faces shined with joy." Ps. 34:5 (NLV)

"I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God." Isa. 61:10 (NIV)

"You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand." Ps. 16:11 (NIV)

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Phil. 4:4 (NIV)

FRIENDSHIP

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13 (NIV)

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you.”

Jer. 29:13-14 (NIV)

PEACE

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Phil. 4:7 (NKJV)

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.”

Col. 3:15 (NIV)

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil”

Jer. 29:11 (NKJV)

STRENGTHENING AND REFRESHMENT

“He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.” Isa. 40:29 (NIV)

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matt. 11:28 (NIV)

“But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength” Isa. 40:31 (NKJV)

“I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isa. 41:10 (NIV)

HEALTH

“Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.” Ps. 30:2 (NIV)

“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases” Ps. 103:2-3 (NIV)

“Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Matt. 4:4 (NIV)

FAITH

“For with God nothing will be impossible.” Luke 1:37 (NKJV)

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” Heb. 11:1 (NIV)

“For it is by our faith that we are put right with God; it is by our confession that we are saved.”

Rom. 10:10 (GNT)

HELP

“My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.” Ps. 121:2 (NIV)

“Victory comes from the Lord—may he bless his people. Ps. 3:8 (GNT)

HOPE

“The Lord is near to all who call on him” Ps. 145:18 (NIV)

“Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.” Ps. 62:8 (NIV)

LIFE

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6 (NIV)

“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” John 6:35 (NIV)

“Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.”

1 John 5:12 (NIV)

“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die”

John 11:25 (NIV)

LOVE

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself.” Matt. 22: 37-39 (NIV)

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 (NIV)

“This is love: We love because God first loved us.” 1 John 4:19 (NIV)

PROTECTION

“You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.” Ps. 139:5 (NIV)

“No weapon forged against you will prevail” Isa. 54:17 (NIV)

“For God is present in the company of the righteous.” Ps. 14:5 (NIV)

SAFETY

“The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?” Heb. 13:6 (NKJV)

“In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety” Ps. 4:8 (NIV)

LIFE WITHOUT SORROWS

“Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart.” Phil. 4:6 (GNT)

“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)

“The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.” Ps. 23:1 (NIV)

TRUST

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding” Prov. 3:5 (NIV)

“For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does” Ps. 33:4 (NIV)

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with my eye” Ps. 32:8 (NKJV)

“Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.” Prov. 29:25 (NIV)

CONFIDENCE

“The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?” Ps. 27:1 (NIV)

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.” Ps. 37:5-6 (NIV)

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matt. 28:20 (NIV)

Shouldn't we be rejoicing and cheering and be thankful from the bottom of our hearts for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and His great promises that He is going to keep!

Let us celebrate His birthday and PREPARE ROOM FOR HIM IN OUR HEARTS:

With thanksgiving and blessings on behalf of all staff members in Europe and Africa

Maria L. Preau

Your Maria with Families

Endless wideness – real beauty – pure poverty

K A R A M O J A

The big challenge



The outstanding project of Vision for Africa in this year is the water project in Karamoja, in Northern Uganda. Maria has shared about it at numerous conferences and wrote about it in her newsletters.

At this point we would like to express our thanksgiving towards you for every donation. May God bless you!

But now it's time to invite you on a trip which leads to the northeastern region of Uganda:

In August we went there with a team of 20 people. After a 10hours trip on rough and quite risky roads we arrived in Karamoja. We had no idea how this time was going to give us a new understanding of why we are here in Africa. I felt like being catapulted back into the Old Testament. I met people who, according to my imagination, looked like Moses, Abraham, Jacob etc...

Immediately, they received us in their tribe, gave us new names (mine is Nakiru, which means rain& blessings) and the permission to use their land for whatever God puts on our hearts.

In the beginning of October we managed to build and put into operation the first five water wells with clean water. 10 more wells have been planned to be built by this year; they are finished already! By the end of February the Kindergarten and Administration block shall be completed and set up for the inauguration in March.



They gave us all the land for free. On top of this, the government offered us their huge Military trucks for the transport of cement, iron, wood etc. All for free. There, among the Karamojongs, I was deeply convinced to be at the right place in the right time. Praise God that some of them know English.

Imagine: there are some very high mountains, like the ones in Tirol, with real Alps but barely tapped. They would like to offer me such an area, to build a real Alp with cows with huge cowbells. And with lots of sheep and goats!



There are also many old people who lost all their children because of diseases and war. Now they try to manage life without any provision. It's on our hearts to build some local round houses with grass roofs and enable those old people to raise some chicken and rabbits.

Dear ones, please pray with and for us that we are a blessing in this place according to God's will.

On September 12th we visited Karamoja with a huge Worship Team (big speakers and a generator) to worship and praise God and to declare Karamoja as a gift to the Lord; combined with the request of the revelation of His Kingdom towards the people and the land. We received the promise of Isa. 42:8-12 for the land Karamoja and surely we will keep you up to date.

Here you can see some of the poor Karamojong children. With your support we would like to help them.



Would you like to offer our Lord Jesus Christ a great Christmas gift? For it is HIS BIRTHDAY we are going to celebrate! Then feel free to ask Him whether you should bless a poor child here in Africa with the gift of a school education.

If you enable a child to attend school, you make the whole family happy. Enclosed, you find the application for a sponsor child. If you feel peace and joy in your heart, fill it out and send it to Imst. You are the one deciding how much you are going to pay every month.

For I am sure that through this, the heart of Jesus and many other hearts here in Uganda will be richly blessed and it will help to revive the real meaning of Christmas.

Vision Choir – We’re coming!

From April up to June 2017 our African Children’s Choir will be travelling in Europe to win the hearts of the audience through songs and the message of Jesus Christ. We are still looking for organizations that are willing to provide an accommodation (all children in one place) and catering, and who are willing to do the coordination of the concerts in this region.

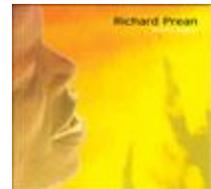
If you are interested in inviting the Choir to your church, please contact: kinderchor@vision-fuer-afrika.com



Gift ideas for Christmas

Richard Prean’s CD with 13 original Christian compositions. Melodious, rhythmical solo singing with and without background music, various, very reflective and recommendable!

Order Richard’s CD “Stand again”: info@prean-medien.com



The new **devotion book of Maria Prean** came out in September, accompanied by a well matching **set of postcards** carrying the same title. Order now: info@prean-medien.com



Up to December 27th the **“Family Africa Band”** is touring through Germany, Austria and Switzerland to praise the Lord and strengthen the relationship between Africa and Europe.

For everyone who would like to hear them, there are **2 brand new CDs**:

Vol. 1 “I love the way you fight for me”

Vol. 2 “Jesus Alive”

To order here: info@vision-fuer-afrika.com