

# FLECHSIG - NEWS

February 2011



Commissioning Service



German Visitors in Nairobi



Ferdinand starts to clear

## DEAR FRIENDS,

These are now our last Flechsig-News from Kenya. Our household goods are sold, the bags are packed, and we are now official Mavuno-Berlin-missionaries.

## SENT OUT - NOT TURNED AWAY

Rationally, we are concerned for several weeks with our departure to Germany - the emotional part began just last week: on 6 February, we were sent officially by Mavuno for the church-restart to Berlin. The date is set: Next Sunday, 20 February, we will leave Kenya - not forever, but as a home for now. The closer to the departure, the less we want to go back into the cold Germany. Ferdinand can still splash on the terrace in his bathtub, he will soon get to know winter jacket and gloves. In many areas of life, a great contrast to our Kenyan life is waiting for us. We are realistic and know now that we are not enthusiastic about everything. Nevertheless, we look forward to our new home in Berlin.

## VISITORS FROM THE CAPITAL

While we really inhale and enjoy for the last Sundays, it was a great pleasure to welcome seven guests from the EFG Berlin-Lichterfelde as well as our friends and future team members Rainer & Annegret Müller at Mavuno. For a week they have learned about different areas of the church, met with our leaders several times and witnessed both the services and staff meetings. Our experience of all the guests have been confirmed again this time: Mavuno convinced. Some commented on the week as follows: "You have not exaggerated. It is really great." "That was one of the best weeks of my life." Moved by the love and appreciation towards them, and the excitement for what God is doing through Mavuno in Nairobi, they went back home and are full of anticipation for what God has planned in Berlin. Not only that, the elders have assured us all possible support for Mavuno Berlin to be successful. The Kenyan leadership is doing its utmost so that we don't find ourselves lost.

## HISTORICAL MOMENTS

Especially for our Kenyan friends and colleagues, our commissioning on 6 February was a historic

moment. For the first time in Mavunos history, missionaries were sent out not only to a neighboring country but to a completely different culture and even continent. As Africans, they are no longer those who receive, but ultimately also the givers and sending. We looked into many eyes light up when we were on the Mavuno-stage and were sent by the church leadership. Standing the congregation promised to pray for us and support us after we had made a promise on our part, to be leaders according to biblical standards, and to care for our new church in this sense.

As much as we are aware of our future responsibility and we have great respect for it, we also know that we are supported.

## THE NEXT STEPS

But before we really start with Mavuno Berlin, we want to go down well - in the practical and metaphorical sense. Many small and big things must be clarified.

- Where will we live? - So far we have no idea, just a few ideas and wishes
- How will we move around, apart from using our feet? - Here we are already one step further: we have a family-friendly car in sight.
- Administrative procedures (registration, re-registration, ...)
- Purchases (e.g. we are looking for a working washing machine)
- Final examinations at the tropical doctor
- Evaluation discussions with the Heads of Wiedenest, our mission agency

Of course there are a lot of pent-up demand for family contacts and visits. Our last visits to Germany were mostly business trips and the moments we spent with family and friends, were too short.

### WE LOOK FORWARD TO

- Spring (Nancy is going to by very many tulips)
- Safe nature walks
- Easy access to fast Internet
- Shopping at our favorite grocery shops: Aldi & Co.
- Strolling & Shopping (preferably in Leipzig)

### WE WILL MISS:

- Observing the the animals in the Nariobi National Park park from our terrace at dusk
- No need to worry, what you put on because the weather is almost always the same
- Sweet, juicy mangoes, pineapples, melons, papayas
- Mavuno! The Sunday services, the team, the love

### CITY MISSIONARIES IN BERLIN

We are aware that with our step to Berlin we break new ground in the truest sense of the word. Both the church and we take steps of faith that we see God challenges us to take, and on the other hand, we are dependent on him in terms of the success of this mission.

For us this step of faith involves, that we don't start a new church in which we set the tracks ourselves, but to get involved in a church with all its culture and character. For the brothers and sisters of the church the step of faith is that it swamps the church budget, and that they know the work and the concept of Mavuno more or less only by hearsay. Yet they take the step with the knowledge that their church is transformed completely.

We are probably the first white missionaries who are sent from Africa to Europe to put the lessons in Germany right into ministry. In this sense, we continue our pioneering work. Since we are convinced that God will make a big difference in Berlin, we want you to join us - with prayer and giving. Even if the EFG Berlin-Lichterfelde and Mavuno are involved, we do not expect to be financially independent in this ministry within eight months, as is our daughter church in Kampala (Uganda) has succeeded. It will - realistically - take about two years until the church has grown so much, they can cater for ministry and our livelihood without funding support from the outside.

In the meantime, we - like all the other missionaries - rely on the financial support of our friends and supporters.

That is why we dare you to ask whether your can support this ministry financially for the next two

years. Specifically, that is, until the summer of 2013 (the beginning of our ministry in Berlin is expected to be in July). Please find the banking details in the footer, or ask for Swift details.

If you go behind us, we can focus in Germany on the essence of our calling: to make disciples - and to establish a stable church, that - within two years - is fully able to fund the ministry. Some of our friends and donors have spontaneously agreed to support us further. In their own words, they have experienced how God rewards their sacrifices.

### TO PRAY WITH

We are thankful:

- the blessed time with our guests from Berlin and Dresden, which helped us to get to know each other better
- the great commissioning and the support that we have through Mavuno - even after our relocation
- the commitments by some friend to continue to support our ministry financially.

We need your support. Please pray

- that we will settle well in Germany (Berlin) - especially for our baby boy Ferdinand the change is seriously
- for the re-start of Mavuno Berlin
- for enough financial backing

This is the last time that we send you sunny greetings from the southern hemisphere

**YOURS DANIEL & NANCY WITH FERDINAND**

PS: Until we found a home in Berlin, our postal address as follows:

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