

Jim and Becky White
Missionaries in Germany

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May - June 2018

And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, *and see* how they do. (Acts 15:36)

Pentecost...fifty days after Easter, May 20-21... Although the Sinti have begun their summer travels, many of them will come back to their winter homes for that weekend. We pray and work for a special time of spiritual renewal for the Christians before they return to the campgrounds.

Spiritual Growth for the "Shepherds" who are caring for the Sinti... There is a great annual transition for the ministry during the summer and fall, as many from the congregations depart to working base campgrounds all across Germany and some of the local churches drop to skeletal ministry levels. The campgrounds then become a growth and evangelization opportunity as the Sinti believers and leaders come in contact with Sinti at the camps who are either not believers or have no local gypsy congregation of believers. This can be a significant spiritual growth period, and the large gatherings such as Easter in the spring or the big tent meeting near the end of summer are crucial to this ministry.

To an extent, the campgrounds become a concentration of traveling family members, and we encourage the Sinti Leadership to travel with their family groups. In spite of planning, we cannot anticipate illness, deaths, or other challenges which will undoubtedly arise, so we concentrate on training the leaders in order to prepare for such contingencies.

At the same time as the migration, we work with those in the congregations in Nürnberg, Bamberg, and Bayreuth who will not be traveling. Please pray with us for wisdom for all the Sinti ministry.

Big Tent Meeting...August 10 – 24 in Gernersheim... we are returning to Gernersheim in southwestern Germany. This area is near several communities (Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Kaiserlautern) which have a large population of Sinti who no longer travel.

Bayreuth's second mission to American Military in Grafenwöhr... on June 10th, the Sinti from Bayreuth traveled with me to Grafenwöhr, the primary U.S. Military firing range in Germany. Our choir sang in both the Sunday School hour and the worship service. Three of our members were sufficiently fluent in English to give their testimony without a translator. The others were translated by a young Sinto, son of Spinne. Both churches were blessed and encouraged. The Americans grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for the Sinti, who provided "*bauchfleisch*" (the best cut of bacon) for the Americans. Everybody enjoyed fellowship and food.

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Grandkids

Two grandsons on the way and Becky will be travelling... Our daughter Mary and her husband Roy, are expecting their baby boy at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in August. Becky will be flying to the USA on July 24 and returning to Germany on September 5th in time to help Carrie and her husband, Matt, living here in Germany, who are expecting their son in September.

Bruce and family coming to the USA... It is important to the mission here that our son Bruce and Joanna have more time to invest in the work as he is an integral part of the ministry with responsibility for several works and is an instructor in the Bible Institute. Bruce needs to raise more financial support, and the family is flying to the USA on September 13th to begin deputation. One of his works, the church in Würzburg, has lost its building and has not found another location. Bruce had an operation on his knee and was not able to drive until June, although the doctor assured that it would be sufficiently healed to make the flight. During this time, he is able to stay in touch with everyone via phone calls and social media. Please keep Bruce, his family and the ministry in Würzburg in your prayers!

If you wish for Bruce and Joanna to present their ministry in your church, you may contact them through us or at wsharvest@aol.com.

Thank you for your faithful support!
Jim and Becky White