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Winter is starting to settle in here in Bavaria. As I write this letter, the snow is falling outside, and the temperatures are dropping. The Christmas Season is beautiful here in Germany – I must confess that sometimes we feel a bit spoiled living in such a beautiful place, especially around Christmas time. Much has happened since our last letter. About two months ago one of the men who has been coming to the church since before we came approached me and said he needed to talk. He is a Christian, but had never followed the Lord in believer's baptism. We had talked several times about it, but he has always wanted to wait just a bit longer. We have been praying for years that he would make the next step of obedience. He came to me after a church service, and said he needed to stop procrastinating and take care of it! We had a wonderful baptism service – we actually baptized three that day – another young lady (18 years old) and her younger sister were baptized along with him. All three gave excellent testimonies of how they were saved. Bethany has a friend who was also at the service that day, and as she observed everything, the Lord began to speak to her heart. She approached Julia after the service and asked if she too could be saved! It seems that since then, we have begun to experience real spiritual growth in the church. We have begun the process of incorporating the church, and have seen some of the men begin to take some leadership responsibility.

About two weeks ago, we read an interesting article in the local paper. The building that we are currently using is owned by the city (it is an old school building), and because of its age and condition, they are considering tearing it down. We had a meeting with the mayor of the town last week about this issue, and although we are not sure what the future holds, we know that all is in the Lord's hands! Please pray with us as we seek to make wise and godly decisions about what to do next. The community has another meeting in January, and we will know more then about the future of our meeting place.

We are very much encouraged to know that you are standing behind us and praying for us! The family is doing well – the kids will be out of school for two weeks of Christmas vacation, and I will be a camp counselor in the Winter Teen Camp in Bad Heilbrunn (southern Bavaria). Kaleb will just have turned 13, and will be able to go to his first teen camp. It is truly hard to believe how fast the time goes! Thanks so much for your faithful support and prayer in the past year – we pray for you all as well as you seek to serve the Lord back in the States. From our family to yours, we wish you a blessed Christmas, and a Spirit-filled and prosperous New Year,

Until He comes,
Frohe Weihnachten aus Deutschland!

Keith Klaus

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1 Corinthians 9:16