# "The story of Jesus touches me ..."



### Dear family and friends,

It is about time for a newsletter from Buitenpost. We would like to inform you about the beautiful things that have taken place in both our family and our ministry in the second half of this year.

#### Family

In our previous newsletter we had already reported that our 14th grandchild had been announced. We were able to welcome him on 19 September. Even if it is your 14th grandchild, there is no routine when you see such a little boy where everything is in place. We continue to marvel at the greatness of his Creator.

On August 24, we waved our youngest daughter and her husband goodbye at Schiphol. They have gone on a world trip for a long time. Their journey has started in Argentina and via Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay they ended up in Peru. Besides seeing a lot of nature and sniffing up culture, they also visited their sponsor child from the organization Compassion in Peru. Until now, that was one of the most impressive encounters they've had. Through the modern media we are kept well informed of their journey. We also have regular contact with them through the modern media such as Skype.

Another daughter married on November 8. It was a simple and cozy day. And our 15th grandchild has now also been announced...!



#### **Bible evening**

After the summer we started a Bible evening. With two young couples we go through the Gospel of John once every 14 days. One of the couples we have known for some time. The male partner of the other couple is rediscovering God, the One he grew up with in his youth, whereas his girlfriend had been searching for the meaning of life for some time and looked for answers to the questions that this entails. After we've read and discussed the first chapter, she was impressed by the story of Jesus. "*That story really touches me*", she said.

#### **Prayer Course**

With a few former Alpha participants, we started the Prayer Course in the autumn. It is a course that can help you deepen your prayer life on the base of the Lord's Prayer. As the course progresses, they discover more and more of the perfect prayer and we see a lot of personal deepening and increasing boldness in prayer.

#### Alpha

In the new year we want to start an Alpha again. The PR will start soon. We hope to find enough participants who are looking for answers to their life questions. Do you want to join us to pray for the right participants to find their way to this Alpha?

#### **Open house**

We have Open House every Wednesday afternoon and every second and fourth Sunday afternoon of the month. On the Sundays we will cook and eat together. It is a means for us to combat loneliness by providing a living room environment where everyone feels safe, can be himself and experiences and to experience some coziness.

It is also an opportunity to gradually enter into deeper relationships. Following the success of last year, we will celebrate 'Sinterklaas' on December 5th. (It's a Dutch variant of Santa Claus.)

Many visitors already have a lot of fun because they can bring a gift that they do not know who will get it. The gift is constantly exchanged by owner by means of a dice ... On Boxing Day we hope to welcome a lot of visitors at our Christmas dinner. We especially hope for the presence of one person who told us how happy he is when the loneliness around Christmas is over.



"Our desire in Buitenpost is to get connected to those who are looking for answers to their life questions and for whom the church isn't the first place to look for answers."

#### Refugees

For a long time, Amo has been the language coach of asylum seekers in our village. It often results in friendships with the families where he often comes weekly. For example, one of these asylum seekers is a regular visitor of our Open House. Martha is also going to volunteer with the language course for asylum seekers. We see this as an opportunity to connect with Muslims in particular.



In September, we've followed the Al Massira course. Al Massira is Arabic for "the journey". You could call it an "Alpha course" for people from the Middle East. The Arabic spoken movies of his course have been recorded in that region. Because of the Dutch subtitles they can also be used by us. The Al Massira course wants to show participants who have grown up in an Islamic culture that Isa (Jesus) is much more than just a prophet besides Mohammed.

When this newsletter comes out, the year 2018 is almost over. When we look back on this year, we are and remain amazed about our Father. He





blessed us richly! He always provides everything we need. And we may experience that He is also still molding and kneading us.

What a great God He is! And looking forward to the new year, He still wants to be with us and with you!

We wish you a lot of blessing and His nearness in the coming year!

## Amo en Martha

#### **Prayerpoints:**

- Thank God for the blessing we have experienced over our ministry in the past year;
- Thank God for the Bible evening and the Prayer Course that we were allowed to start and the beautiful discussions that were held. Pray for open hearts for all participants;
- Pray for the good participants in the Alpha that we want to start again in January;
- Pray for protection to Martha and her team when working among the prostitutes in Leeuwarden and that they may be a blessing for these women;
- Pray for sufficient resources so that we can continue this work.

