

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Psalms 23:1,3 ESV



BUTTERFLY &
European Christian Mission
December 2021

Newsletter

AMMO & DRAIJE
MARTHA BUITENPOST

Dear family and friends,

It runs towards the end of 2021, so time for a look back. But also time for an update on our situation and health. And especially for a look to the future: what will the coming year bring us in the field of corona and health? Read more...

Family

The past year has been a tough year for us and our family. We faced a lot of illness. Our oldest daughter and her family got corona and were also confronted with cancer and the associated chemotherapy, with all its consequences. And Amo had a tumor removed from his intestines in March.

Sadness was caused by the failure of our youngest daughter's marriage this spring.

Our second daughter was finally able to have a long-delayed surgery in September, but due to a medical error, she also had to undergo reparative surgery six weeks later.

All in all, tough circumstances that we had to put in the hands of our Father. But in these hands we experienced a lot of strength and courage at the same time.

With our son-in-law, the chemotherapy has done its intended job. After

undergoing another immunotherapy, it looks like the non-Hodgkin has disappeared. He has now recovered to the point where he is almost full time at work. That makes us grateful.

With our second daughter, the recovery after two major surgeries -and the disappointment after the first- continues, things are going in the right direction, both physically and psychologically. That makes us grateful.

Our youngest daughter has been able to pick up the thread of life again. That makes us grateful.

Amo's latest blood test was good. That makes us grateful.

Our other children and grandchildren are doing well. That makes us grateful.

God was, is and will forever be good! For all His goodness we will keep on singing, 10,000+ reasons for our hearts to find. We have experienced on many occasions that He keeps His promise, that He always remains close. Great is His faithfulness!

Open House

The Open House was suspended during the corona crisis. We kept in touch with the participants by regularly inviting them two by two to join us for dinner. In July we held a BBQ in the open air for the first time. In addition to almost all 'regulars', we were even allowed to greet a number of new participants! In September we resumed the Open House in a regular way, with on average more participants than before corona.

At the time of writing this newsletter, the new corona measures in Holland have just come into force again and we had to suspend the Open House again. At the moment we are allowed



God is faithful!

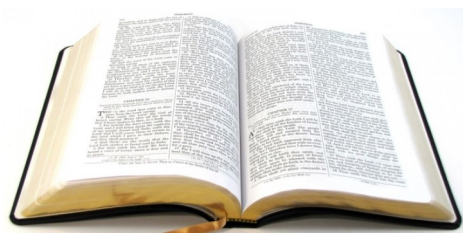
to invite only a small number of participants to come and eat with us! The first invitations are already gone out.

Bible study

After the summer we resumed the Bible study with a young couple. We got to know this couple at a previous Alpha and we went on with this bible study. We notice that the four of us form a beautiful bond and that they grow in faith and their relationship with God.

Weaze

De Weaze in Leeuwarden is known for its brothels. Martha and her team have been visiting the prostitutes working here for years. They try to strike up a conversation with them about their lives and show an interest in them. Sometimes there is room to pray with them.



Biblestudy

Before corona there were five brothels on the Weaze, today there are only three small ones left. And these three are also 'understaffed'. Many women have left, often with unknown destinations. The tendency is that many women continue their work from a private location via 06 numbers (mobile phones).

So fewer visits can be made to the brothels and there is much less to do in this area. It is worrying that prostitution takes place more in the background, out of sight of the local health services, police and other aid agencies.

On to 2022

We can close this year with gratitude and we look forward



The Weaze



Open House BBQ

Prayer and thanks points:

- We have experienced the closeness of God and His Spirit very strongly in recent months. Thank Him for His faithfulness and promises!
- Thank God for the activities we could (temporarily) resume. Pray that the meetings that are now suspended may resume soon.
- Pray for Mary Magdalene, former resident of the Weaze. She returned to (probably) her home country the Dominican Republic last year. During Martha's visits, they taught her the phrase "Jesus gives hope." Pray that she may remember this phrase often.
- Thank God that He will continue to provide adequate health and resources, and pray that we can continue our missionary work.

to 2022 with hope, confidence and desire. We wish you very happy holidays, with the birth of our Savior at the centre of it. And we wish you a very good, grateful and healthy 2022!

Amo en Martha

COLOFON

Amo and Martha Draijer, founders of Butterfly, focus on discipleship and church planting in the Buitenpost area of the Dutch province of Friesland.

Amo and Martha are financially dependent on gifts. You can support them by making a donation to the bankaccount of Stichting ECM-Nederland. IBAN: NL02 INGB 0000254997 (BIC/SWIFT: INGBNL2A) citing "Fund Butterfly"

[butterfly.nu](https://www.butterfly.nu)

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