SERVING THE LORD IN

GERMANY

NEWS FROM PETER WILLIAMS

October 2025

Prayer requests

As many of you now know, my deployment date is set for January 5th. I ask your prayers as I patiently wait for that exciting day.

In addition, I will still be visiting churches, so please keep those in mind as well.

Lastly, my language learning will increase to more intense hours at the end of November, so please pray that God will give me diligence and strength, so I can hit the ground running in January!

Thank for your prayers! They are the greatest support I receive.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

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Time for harvest, at home and abroad

Dear saints in Christ,

What a busy and tremendous month! The Lord has blessed me with more visits to our Synod's many congregations and the added blessing of meeting with Eurasia missionaries in Wittenberg at their first annual Church Planting Conference in Europe.

I wrapped up my time in the Midwest with a presentation at Zion Ev. Luth. Church in Detroit, and then a visit to three congregations in the Chicago area. While in Chicago, I also had the great pleasure of meeting with Pastor Hesham Shehab. He has an incredible story from growing as a Muslim in war-torn Lebanon, and how Christ found him at the right time, bringing him into the light of the Gospel. He now runs a ministry in the Chicago area called Salam Christian Fellowship which has reached numerous ex-Muslims and brought them to the Lutheran Church. Pray for them, and all those sharing the Gospel with Muslims.

Pastor Hesham also insisted that I meet with a family from his congregation. They invited me to their home for dinner (I took a picture of the tea they served, see to the right. Their hospitality was wonderful!) so I could learn their story. They come from Iran where the wife converted to Christianity. Because of persecution, they left and were able to get asylum in the US.

It was moving and encouraging to hear about their faith. Perfect preparation for the Iranian and Afghani refugees I will encounter in Europe!

Picture with (left to right) Pastor Matthew Harrison, myself, Deaconess Intern Anika Slayton, Pastor Martens, and Pastor Christian Tiews (missionary in Hamburg to the Persians).

Vespers at St. Mary's Church in Wittenberg.

In the middle of October, I was invited to attend a conference on church planting and mission work in Wittenberg, Germany. The conference itself was amazing, with truly invaluable insight to practical missionary and evangelistic activity. But in addition, it was fantastic to meet countless pastors and missionaries who are serving the Lord across the wide region of Eurasia.

On the last day of the conference, by sheer coincidence I ran into Pastor Gotfried Martens, a SELK pastor in Berlin where he has led a great effort in receiving Farsi-speaking Christians into Lutheranism, having baptized thousands of ex-Muslims and started an asylum center for Iranian and Afghani Christians in need of help as they work through the immigration process. Not only was I able to meet him and discuss the ministry, but I was also invited back to Berlin to attend a Farsi service. I met with many of the men staying in the center, practiced some Farsi, and shared our love for Christ and His Gospel! It was truly a tremendous to prepare me for what kind of work may lay ahead, God willing. Much work remains in preparation, but the time is approaching quickly! Thank you for your support of the mission in Europe, as part of God's way of building His Church in all places.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THIS WORK?

If you are looking for ways to support the missionary work in Germany, please pray for me!

You may also consider a financial donation. Visit lcms.org/williams to see the options for giving.

Contact me at peter.williams@lcms.org.

(Photo left: Gottesdienst at Trinity Lutheran Church (SELK), Steglitz, Berlin, Germany)