

AUSTRIA

DECEMBER 2016

bread of life bible fellowship

for Jesus

DEAR TEAM,

The Pantons are multiplying! David and Anne Berg just had an addition to their family. Lukas David Berg arrived on October 21, 2016. Monika was so excited to be able to take time off from school to help Anne get adjusted to a new life as a mom.



DANNY, REBECCA, ROBERT

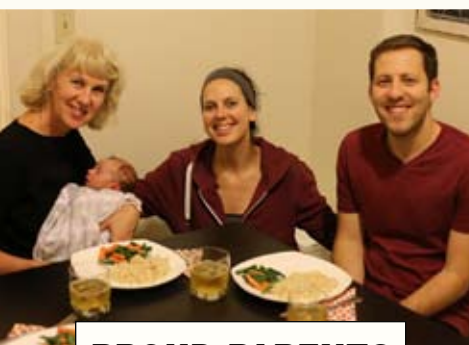
David Panton came for a visit this past summer and proposed to his girlfriend in Paris. He is such a charmer! Christina and David are scheduling their wedding date in 2018 when she finishes her Masters Program in Vienna.

Last but not least, Danny called to announce he is getting married January 7, 2017 to his girlfriend, Rebecca. They have been working together with the refugee ministry in Salzburg.

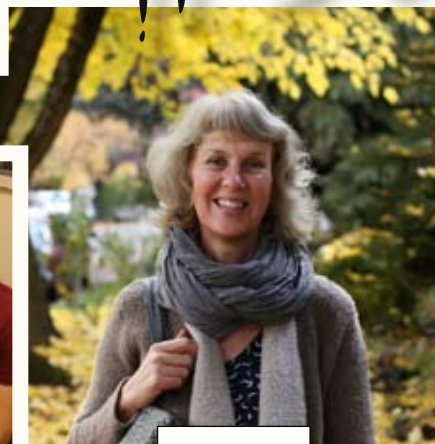
We are excited for all our children.



UNCLE DAVID



PROUD PARENTS



OMI

It's a Boy!



LUKAS

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TESTIMONIAL from an Iraqi Woman

What began as a desire to hang out at a Christian Conference for refugees became a new opportunity to help some very special people. Raafat, the Egyptian evangelist I briefly worked with back in 2005, invited me to help disciple some refugee believers that attend his Arabic church in Vienna. Below is my recollection of a dear sister's testimony.

She is the daughter of a radical Islamic family who lived her entire life behind the veil. Like her parents, she was passionately seeking to convert the world to Islam. Now married and with three children, her family took the opportunity to escape the war in Iraq and move to Austria. Thinking the Austrian government might not let her family stay if they discovered she was a radical, she chose to temporarily remove her veil before leaving the plane. Once in Austria, and free to explore the outside world through the internet, she began discovering things about Islam that were unsettling. She experienced a conviction that something was just not right between her and God. She found an online Bible, and for the first time began reading about Jesus' life. She learned of the miracles He had done and His love for people. Seeking to refute Christianity, reading His story only confused her. She began questioning who God really was. Out of desperation she prayed, "Allah, I don't care who you turn out to be, I just want to know the truth. I don't want to be tricked by people!" She eventually came to the words in John 14:6; Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except through me." Relating to God as a Father was completely foreign to her, but the idea of actually connecting with Him in a personal way was her heart's deepest desire. The light suddenly came on for her, and she gave her heart to Jesus. Today, her family is so full of peace and joy. They are eagerly helping others discover the love and forgiveness that comes from putting our faith in Jesus Christ.

(I have omitted pictures for her protection.)

MINISTRY UPDATE

Friday night & Sunday morning Bible studies continue growing. We finished Luke, Acts, and are about to complete the book Daniel. We have just begun a Saturday night Bible study for the refugees. Our goal is to help them grow and mature, so they can help others in the Arab speaking world. Monika, Daniel, and I are simply amazed at how we ended up on the cutting edge of the political and social revolution in Europe. We are thankful to God to be here as ambassadors for Jesus. Thank you for your love, friendship, prayers and support.

THE PANTON'S CHRISTMAS

Monika and I will be hosting her sister's family for our traditional turkey dinner. Afterwards we will drive to her parent's house, a mere fifteen minutes away.

(Ten if Monika drives.)

Vienna will be filled with locals, as well as tourists, wandering through the streets visiting the many Christmas markets and punch stands. The hot drinks and Christmas music will help keep their hands and hearts warm, because it is usually quite cold this time of year.



Robert & Monika 2016



One of the main shopping streets in the heart of Vienna

Danny and Rebecca will stay in Salzburg, where their church will provide a special Christmas dinner and outreach to the refugees.

Please continue praying for ministry opportunities, our health, and safety.

May you, our friends, have a Christmas full of wonder and joy as we celebrate our Savior's birth.

The Pantons



St. Stephan's Cathedral at the Center of Vienna