

in touch

... with European Nazarene College

Dear Friends of EuNC,

These past few weeks have been filled with the full range of life: excitement, achievement, meeting new friends, and grieving the loss of old friends. In the midst of this fullness, we press forward into new stages of the journey with the hope that we have been given through the Easter resurrection of Christ!

EuNC Campus Students Minister at German Easter Camps

The week after Easter eight students from the EuNC campus attended German district Children's Camp and Teen's Camp to help the district with this week of fun, games, friends, and spiritual challenges and renewal.

These students from the college participated in extensive planning efforts for Teen's Camp and helped at the camp during the week in various capacities: Everything from serving as a group leader, translating services, cleaning up after messy camp games, etc.

After working for weeks in anticipation for this important week for the district, their efforts paid off in a week of fun, fellowship, and time where teens were really able to encounter God in new ways.

Students Signe Bollerup and Debbie Güting went to the German Children's Camp held near Kassel, Germany during this week to be group leaders for groups of about 8 kids each. The camp was held Monday through Sunday, and they had a great turnout with about 150 children attending the camp in total. When asked about her favorite part of the camp, Signe responded without hesitation, "my group of kids. They were so great."



Western Mediterranean Ministry Tour

Over EuNC's spring break, a group of 7 campus students traveled on an adventure in the Western Mediterranean Field via train and experienced a time of fun, excitement, serving, and bonding. After 19 hours of travel, the students first arrived in Barcelona. There they were able to get to know the resident pastor and his wife, Nacho and Litzy Pesado, see the sights in the city, and attend and participate in the Church's youth service on Saturday night.

From Barcelona the group made their way to Madrid, home to four of our students from the Western Mediterranean field currently studying at the EuNC campus. In Madrid the group got the chance to serve in different ways, and the chance to form relationships with many of the members from the Nazarene Church in the area.



The last stop on the journey students were met with generous hospitality by the Pastor and church members of Montpellier Church of the Nazarene in France. Students helped to lead parts of the worship service on Sunday and their efforts were received by a welcoming and appreciative church congregation.

Arriving back on campus in the dark, early morning hours, the students were able to look back on their journey with both laughter and gratitude for their experiences and new friendships.



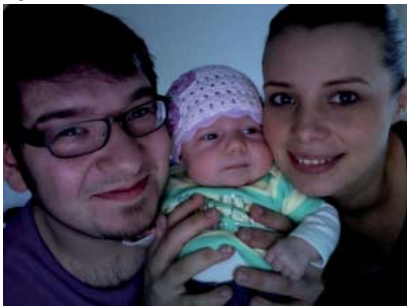
EuNC Alumn Writes Worship Devotional

Dave Schnitter, a EuNC graduate from 2008, authored a devotional book belonging to the series “Feiert Jesus” and they’re selling out fast. After Dave graduated from EuNC, he spent his summer working in the music department of the German Hänssler Publishing House near Stuttgart. This publishing house releases a new songbook every year called “Feiert Jesus,” which includes contemporary worship songs in both English and German. The series is widely used with public audiences, churches, bible studies, and small groups.

Soon after beginning to work for the publishing house Dave’s boss approached him with the idea of creating a book of devotionals based on the popular worship songs out of the “Feiert Jesus” series. The idea from the beginning was to offer a package-deal: the book plus a double CD with all the songs on it.

As Dave puts it, “you can listen to the “song of the day” on the CD or on your iPod and then read the devotion to it at the same time - and all that happening during your morning coffee or in the bus to school.” Each devotion starts with the lyrics of the song, then Dave’s insights are presented, followed by a designated scripture passage, challenging questions, and ending with a prayer.

Dave hopes that the message of the book is very much Scripture-based and that it will be an encouragement to many. The book was released in late January 2009 and by mid-March 2009 the first edition was already sold out, and they’re now in the process of printing a second edition. Dave has also been asked to write a second book, but he is still praying about this opportunity before making a final decision.

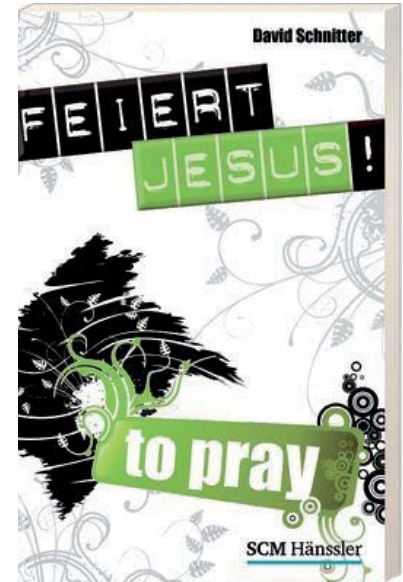


During his time on campus, students as well as faculty perceived Dave as a person with a good mood, spread by his welcoming smile and also his musical gifts: he was the one bringing the guitar to the bonfire, spicing up worship by his self-composed songs or ideas like having the congregation sing two songs at the same time. Now he has begun writing devotionals as well.

Although he declines calling himself an “author” or “anything cool like that”, Dave is excited about where the spirit-wind of God is blowing him, and excited to see where he will be blown next.

Birth Announcement of Megan Joy Smith

Andrew Smith, former IT director for EuNC, recently became a father. Megan Joy arrived on Dec. 8 at 7.1 pounds (3.2kg) and 19 inches (48.3cm). The birth had some complications and both mother and daughter were kept in the hospital for several days. But through the prayer and comfort of loved ones, everyone is now home and healthy. Megan is described as a quiet baby who doesn’t cry much, and the parents are hoping that continues. Welcome Megan!



Dr. Dean Flemming's Commentary on Philippians Published

One of EuNC's professors, Dr. Dean Flemming has recently released a new commentary on Philippians as a part of the "Beacon Hill Bible Commentary". This is a great new resource to study the Biblical texts, and it provides a readable, yet academically thorough treatment of Paul's letter to the Philippians.



The commentary is intended to serve a broad audience of scholars, students, pastors, and laypeople. Although grounded in the Greek text, the commentary does not assume that its readers have studied Greek, making the commentary informed yet accessible to a wide selection of people.

Although the commentary is written out of a Wesleyan, theological perspective, it aims to serve the wider church by including background and rhetorical issues behind the text, verse-by-verse commentary in the text, and implications for the church's theology, Christian formation, and contemporary application from the text.

Not only the academic communities, but also pastors and parishioners are sure to be blessed by the insights and perspectives that this commentary brings to the biblical texts and through the application it holds for the Christian lives of today.

The commentary can be ordered from Beacon Hill Press at www.beaconhillbooks.com.

Mourning and Remembering the Wife of EuNC Founding Rector, Marguerite Helene (Mann) Nielson.

Marguerite Helene (Mann) Nielson, wife of the founding Rector of EuNC (then ENBC), John B. Nielson, passed away this past February at 92 years of age. Marguerite and her husband John came to ENBC in 1965 to begin their work founding the college.

Their first months here were spent in renovating the main building, gathering a faculty, and establishing educational and social guidelines for the Bible College. As this was the first full attempt by the Church of the Nazarene to do intentionally multi-cultural education, there were no books or guidelines on how to work with such diverse cultures and languages in a group. Thus they discovered their path as they progressed.

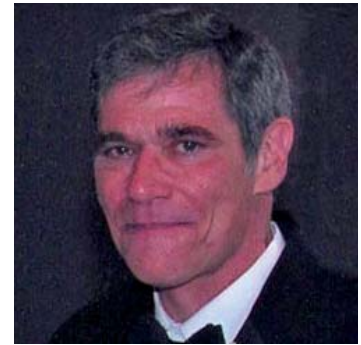
One of Marguerite's sons remembers that their dad used to remark that ENBC would never have existed without what Marguerite did to help the students learn English. She has had a lasting impact on the lives of the students whom she served, and she lived a life worthy of remembrance for her gentle spirit, the twinkle in her eye, her courage, her abiding love, and her deep faith in God.

We remember her today with a loving memory as we can see the legacy of all she's left behind. Please remember to be in prayer for her family during this difficult time.



G.S. Emeritus Family Mourns Loss of Son, Jerry D. Johnson, Jr.

Jerald Johnson Jr. (son of General Superintendent emeritus Jerald D. and Alice Johnson; who have started the work of the Church of the Nazarene in Europe and were instrumental in founding EuNC in 1965; brother to Carla Sunberg who with her husband Chuck started the work of the Church of the Nazarene and the EuNC Learning Centre in the CIS) has passed away. Jerald lived in Germany with his parents in the sixties. Jerry Jr. has been very ill for quite some time. He had received a lung-transplant. His body seemed to have finally rejected it now and that was apparently the cause of death. Let us pray for Jerry's family and all of the Johnson's and lift them to the Lord at this time.



Florence Marion Muth Passes Away

Florence Marion Muth passed away at the age of 96 on December 21, 2008. She and her husband, Duane (who passed away in 1998), taught at European Nazarene College from 1975-1979. Mrs. Muth taught English and played the piano, while her husband taught various courses at the college. We grieve with their daughter Marilyn, her husband Gerry and their family. We are thankful for God's grace in and through Florence's ministry in helping establish EuNC and investing in the lives of many students throughout Europe.

Representatives of The Wesleyan Church in Europe Visit EuNC

On 24-25 March we had two representatives of The Wesleyan Church on our campus in Büsingen. Dr. Kenneth Blake, pastor of The Wesleyan Church in Munich, Germany (founder of the work in Germany and Russia) and his son, Rev. Matthew Blake, Leadership Development Coordinator for his denomination in Europe, visited us to learn about the ministry of European Nazarene College. The Wesleyan Church, a sister denomination in the holiness movement, is actively ministering in 13 countries in Europe (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Kosovo, Macedonia, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom). They do not have a college or seminary for ministerial training in Europe. The meeting we had was a "getting-to-know-each-other" and introduction to EuNC, being "one school in many nations". While here in Büsingen, the Blakes also visited the Regional office and had brief talks with our Regional Director, Dr. Gustavo Crocker, the Regional Education Coordinator, John Haines, and the Regional Literature Coordinator, Nikolaj Sawatzky. We want to pray for our brothers and sisters in The Wesleyan Church and God's continued guidance as we are labouring together in His kingdom.



Wedding of Former EuNC Registrar and Librarian, Jillian Kerr

On 28 February, Jillian Kerr, EuNC's former Registrar and Librarian, married Lloyd Hunt in Brisbane, Australia. In order to maintain Lloyd's business, they have since set up residence in Inverell, a town approximately 250kms inland from the east coast of Australia. We wish the best blessings from the Lord upon them.



EuNC Exhibit at Mission-Net Conference

Mission-Net Conference is a European wide network seeking to promote a missional lifestyle among young people. It is involved in promoting and encouraging new and existing mission movements, as well as providing a network of mission opportunities both locally, nationally and internationally. Over the Easter Holy week, over 2,700 people, representing many countries, gathered together in Oldenburg, Germany to explore what it means to live missionally. Along with 154 other Exhibition booths, EuNC was present at the conference to share our mission with those who seek to prepare for ministry and gain a deeper understanding of God's work in the world. We had the opportunity to meet students from around Europe as well as other mission organizations as together we gathered with the common goal to participate in God's mission around the world.



Greetings from the Rector



We had a special Easter sunrise service at the 1000-year-old Bergkirche of Büsingen. Ministers, representatives, and members of all the Christian churches in Büsingen (Lutheran, Methodist, Roman Catholic, and Nazarene) met at 6:00 am at an open Easter fire in front of the church and lighted the Easter candle. With that candle we walked into the dark sanctuary. After singing songs, reading scripture, and praying, we passed on the light of the Easter candle to all participants. As the light quickly began to illuminate the church, it also seemed to symbolize the light which overcomes death and darkness. At the end

of the service we went to the cemetery just outside of the church. There we read a passage of Scripture and proclaimed the Christian hope of the resurrection over all the graves! We closed our time together with an Easter breakfast in the dining hall of EuNC, and many people came. We had opportunities to share the good news of Easter with people who came for that time of fellowship and food.

The Easter sunrise service is one of the oldest traditions in the Christian church, and to do that in a 1000-year-old church is a special experience. But beyond the experience, the truths we proclaimed were most important: Christ is risen from the dead - He is risen indeed! What a message of hope that we can and must proclaim in our world! We have various opportunities to do that - let us take advantage of each one and "by all means save some!" Jesus Christ is the good news we want to bring to each country in Europe and to the entire world. That is our mission: "To make Christlike disciples in the nations."

Please, continue to pray for European Nazarene College. Thanks for all your support and continue to stay "...in touch" with your school.

Klaus Arnold, Rector

Remember the deadline for the EuNC Vision Tour 2009 is April 30th! For more information go to:
<http://www.eunc.edu/pages/vision-tour-2009.php>

