

"... and He shortens the branches on which grapes grow. Because then more grapes will arrive in the following year. "

John 15: 2



BUTTERFLY &
European Christian Mission
August 2019

Dear family and friends,

It has been a few months since we sent the last newsletter. You will wonder why it took so long. Well, in this newsletter we will talk about that too.

Family

"Generations go, generations will come ...". Elderly people among us will still remember these familiar rules from an old Dutch rhymed version of Psalm 90. It became reality in our family in the recent period.

In our previous newsletter we already reported that our 15th grandchild was announced. After a very exciting birth where everything finally worked out well, we welcomed her on 14 February. Thanks for all this to our Creator!

But someone from the older generation was also allowed to go: Martha's mother met her Lord and Savior. After a period of decreasing forces, she was diagnosed with colon cancer at the beginning of May. She had a longtime desire to go to Jesus, which came suddenly closeby after such a diagnosis. On May 27, in the presence of

her children, her wish was granted. In the days until her funeral, her children had a very beautiful and harmoniously time together.

Seasons

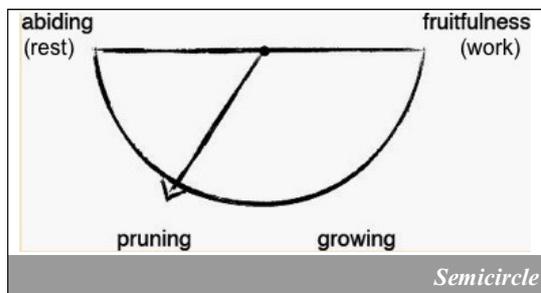
We are affiliated with the network of Nederland Zoekt. We want to perform our mission from discipleship. For this we use a set of "tools" which are called life shapes: mathematical figures (such as triangle, square and circle). Each shape represents a way of life and can be used as a tool for this. One of those life shapes is the semicircle. In this semicircle is a pendulum that goes back and forth. This represents the changing of the seasons that should always be in balance. Alternation between working and resting, between growing and being pruned, between bearing fruit and abiding. It feels like we have been in a period of rest. The Alpha course that we were planning to launch in January was canceled. Amo was asked to assist with a Present foundation nearby for a period of three months this spring for a change of coordinator. But also the Bible evening that we had with two young couples had to be stopped because of pregnancy for both couples. We hope to restart this Bible evening after the Summer.

Alpha

We were asked by Alpha Nederland if we wanted to support an interdenominational group to start an Alpha in their village. It is a beautiful, enthusiastic and compassionate group of people that we would like to help and train. We've had already a very nice first "Alpha night" trial with the group. We would like to start the Alpha again in the new season. The PR will start immediately after the Summer holidays. We hope to find enough participants who are looking for Jesus and who we can help finding answers to their questions of life. Please pray that the right participants may find their way to this Alpha?

Prophetic huddle

In February we started a prophetic huddle at home. Under Martha's guidance, the group is taught to listen to God and perform practical and challenging exercises. It is great to discover how God speaks and how this deepens our personal relationship with Father.



Generations come and go ...

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MARTHA

Prayerpoints:

- Thank God for the blessing we experienced for what we were allowed to do in the past six months.
- Thank God for the prophetic Huddel that we were allowed to start and the wonderful conversations that we had. Pray for opened and listening hearts for all participants.
- Pray for right participants of the Alpha that we hope to start after the summer.
- Pray for protection of Martha and her team whilst working among the prostitutes in Leeuwarden and that they may be a blessing to all women.
- Thank God that He provides sufficient resources and pray that we can continue this work.



NMR - think together about resilience



NMR - enjoying the sun for a moment

Open house

We're organizing Open House every afternoon on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. Since March we are doing this on Wednesdays (also once in a fortnight) in the local community centre. Besides having a lot of fun, on Sundays we cook and eat together, and on Wednesdays we get creative.

The main goal of The Open House is to combat loneliness. We do this by offering a living room environment in which everyone feels safe, can be themselves and experience cosiness. It is also an opportunity to gradually enter into deeper relation-



Whitsun BBQ



Open House walk

ships, through which we can show something of what life with Jesus means for us.

During the crowdly and festive BBQ at Pentecost, everyone could choose a random card with a Bible text on it. When the Bible text was read they could respond to it. We have experienced that God also speaks through this in an impressive way.

NMR

From 13 to 16 May we were at ECM's Netherlands Missionary Retreat. With about 20 fellow missionaries, we dealt with the theme "Resilience". Various speakers, including international speaker Paul Donders, addressed questions such as: How do I guard my boundaries? How do I develop resilience? How do I live purposefully resilient? These were beautiful, constructive days in which the mutual ties could be tightened again.

When you read this newsletter, it is halfway Summer. When we look back at the first half of the year we are and remain surprised about our Father. How He blesses us richly. He always provides everything we need. And we may experience that He is still shaping and molding us. What a great God He is!

And looking forward to the new season, He also wants to be with us and with you! We wish you a lot of blessing and His closeness!

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"

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