



**BODENSEEHOF**  
BIBELSCHULE & CHRISTLICHES JUGENDZENTRUM

# NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2022



# DEAR FRIENDS,



PETER & GABY REID

PETER REID

This past year has been a time of saying good-bye (for now) to some very dear friends and co-workers. One of those who has now “graduated” into the presence of Jesus is our dear Mrs. Shirley Spencer who served as secretary in the front office of Bodenseehof from 1978-1990. She was 93 when she passed into the presence of Jesus on April 4th this year. Her husband, Jack, worked at Dornier in Immenstadt and Mrs. Spencer learned of Bodenseehof when they moved to Fischbach.

She was faithful, humble and loving to all who knew her. She did not just fulfill her responsibilities in the office, but often invited students from the Bible school, as well as staff, to her home. She had a twinkle in her eye and quick Yorkshire wit. Her daughters quoted an old adage, “You

can take the lass out of Yorkshire, but you can’t take the Yorkshire out of the lass!” We thank God for these faithful servants, remembering Christ’s word,

**“I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor.”**  
John 4:38

Warmly in Christ,

*Peter + Gaby*

and the Bodenseehof-Team



Shirley Spencer

# CHRIST LETS WEAK CHRISTIANS DIE



PETER REID

When Christ heard that Lazarus was sick, **“He stayed two days longer in the place where He was.”** He chose to be silent, but He was not deaf; and He remained inactive, but He was by no means indifferent. He always works with the greatest blessing in mind, hence He let a weak man die.

A wise lifeguard will not move immediately to rescue a drowning man, rather he waits until all the man's strength is exhausted before he can save him. Christ must wait until all our efforts to produce godliness are exhausted before He can save us by His indwelling life. While we repeatedly give our best effort to produce godliness, His love holds Him back, allowing us to come to the end of ourselves. *“The greatest blessing God can give to a man is the knowledge of his own destitution.”*

Humanly speaking, Christ came to Lazarus too late. He was already dead. Death is human weakness taken to its greatest degree. Because Christ overcomes death, He can overcome any other weakness we bring to the Christian life. But His love compels Him to wait until our efforts are exhausted and the only thing we can contribute to the Christian life is our own death. But there is

freedom in death: a dead man does not worry if he is able, he knows he's not; a dead man does not compare himself with others ability, he knows he has none to offer; a dead man can be insulted by others, it doesn't hurt him. The gravestone which stands over our buried efforts reads, “R.I.P”. A dead man is at rest.

The greatest discovery Lazarus made in the Christian life took place in his grave. The greatest discovery a Christian will make is in the grave of his own self-effort. Then comes the revelation of God whose word penetrates our hearts, “Christian, come forth!”. At that moment, all the struggle will have been worth it, for we have learned that His life, not ours, is the only thing which counts before God.

Thank God, He lets weak Christian die in order that Christ might live.

HE CRIED OUT WITH A  
LOUD VOICE, “LAZARUS,  
COME FORTH.”

JOHN 11:43

# NEW FSJ

SALOME GÜNTHER

This is our FSJ-Team for the coming year: Silas Elling (maintenance), Niclas Wahl (kitchen), Martin Schmidt (maintenance), Antonia Ziefle (reception), Amelie Freier (housekeeping), and Elin Rittberger (kitchen). Thank you for praying with us for a good start and a quick transition to life at Bodenseehof.



# FAMILY NEWS

KATHARINA AND KILIAN MÜLLER

We are very grateful to welcome our son Korbinian Alexander Müller into the world on June 25, 2022! We greatly appreciate your prayers for him and his parents ;-)



# NEW STAFF BIBLESCHOOL

DANAE HOWSON

Hi! My name is Danae and I'm from British Columbia Canada! I was a student back in 2015-2016, and I am so excited to get to come back to Bodenseehof as an RA (resident assistant) for the next two years of Bible school. I'm looking forward to getting to work with such an incredible team of staff to help guide the students as they learn and grow during their time here at Bodenseehof.





# NEW STAFF OFFICE



KRISTOFFER POOLE

Shalom Bodenseehof Family! After attending Bodenseehof as a student in 2013-14, God opened several doors for me to stay in Germany, first as a summer volunteer and then as a youth worker in northern Bavaria. Then, after operating as a Bodenseehof resident assistant during the school years of 2016-17 and 2017-18, I returned to the United States where I completed my business degree.

Throughout my time back in the States, I felt a deep conviction that God would be directing my steps back to Germany once I completed my degree. I'm now overjoyed to see God answer this prayer. Starting in August, I've been able to return not only to Germany, but to this community which I deeply love. I now have the privilege of re-joining the Bodenseehof team in the capacity of the registrar over the course of this next year. I'm more and more convinced that the Lord truly delights in doing far above what we can ask or imagine – may we ask boldly of Him for His glory, our joy, and for the blessing of others (Ephesians 3:20-21).



*Kristoffer Poole und Jonas Wolf*

# GOODBYE JONAS



JONAS WOLF

When I started working at Bodenseehof at the beginning of 2017, I felt like probably many staff members before me: I didn't really know what I was getting myself into and how long I would stay. It quickly became clear to me that my tasks here would be very varied, which was often challenging, especially in the beginning. However, I really enjoyed the opportunity to get involved in different areas and try things out. I was able to learn more and more new things and gradually take on more responsibility.

After more than five and a half years at Bodenseehof, I handed over this responsibility to Kristoffer in August and have now been devoting myself to a new challenge since September: an apprenticeship as a carpenter.

I am very grateful for the time at Bodenseehof, in which I was able to make new friends, learn a lot about myself and my faith, and experience again and again how Jesus provides and works in us. Many thanks to all who have supported this time in prayer and goodbye, Bodenseehof!

# THANK YOU “REFINED”

CAMERON TATE

Once again, we come to the end of a year-long chapter with our beloved eight students who have been with us since September 2021. They had to say goodbye to all their fellow students in March and stayed with us to do a practical semester with us (Summer Missions Term, or SMT). Since then, we’ve had the privilege of running our Confirmation and Youth, and Family camps alongside these eight students. This year, we had the special privilege to have a very international team (a Dutch, a German, an Austrian, three Canadians, two US-Americans).

They brought many gifts to the team and produced some of the best videos that we’ve ever had made. We send these videos as a “souvenir” with every single young person that comes to Bodensee-hof in the six months that we have camps and retreats. These videos include some footage from the kids themselves, but are also opportunities for the Gospel to be truthfully and boldly proclaimed. If you’d like to see some of one of the videos, scan the QR code that’s on this page!

It’s hard to say goodbye to these students, but we know that the Lord will continue to use them powerfully in the future in their home churches, nations, and worldwide!



Thank you from the bottom of our hearts Matthäus, Nathan, Erik, Toby, Abi, Hannah, Heather and Janneke!



# TANSANIA 2022

CHRISTOPH HILS

As last year, it was again possible to organize a three-week Bible Camp in Tanzania this August. Thank you to all of you who contributed to this. Your prayers made it possible for fellowship and teaching to go well, and with the financial support us staff and more than 30 participants were able to live and learn together for the three weeks.

One third of the participants already attended last year and their testimonies were a special encouragement for us. Hearing how they incorporate and practice in their daily lives what they have learned, how they walk with Jesus and point others to Him, has filled us with great gratitude.

One of the participants shared how he had a much better harvest as a result of the few agricultural sessions we had last year. The people around him asked if he had achieved this by sorcery. He was then able to tell them about the Bible Camp and that he had learned a few helpful agricultural tips to harvest more corn, but that he was ultimately grateful to Jesus.

Another participant shared her gratitude for the prayer support from other Bible Camp participants during a period of illness in her family.

But also the participants who were there for the first time experienced the quiet time in the morning in which they simply read the Bible and prayed as something very special - God speaks very personally into their situation, they were amazed by that.

In terms of organization, God has again given His success to our plans. A group of participants exchanged ideas about how a local initiative can continue and we are excited to see what God will bring about.

# OUTREACHES

- 08 - 09-10-2022 **Kids program, Birkenfeld**  
*Tabea Messner & Team*
- 21 - 23-10-2022 **Bible Teaching, Heubach**  
*Andy MacDonald*
- 30-10-2022 **„All In“ Youth Service, Friedrichshafen**  
*Kilian Müller*
- 01 - 06-11-2022 **English Camp, Frieolzheim**  
*Kilian Müller & Team*
- 12-11-2022 **The Crossing, Bodenseehof, 7:30 pm**  
*Andy MacDonald*
- 14 - 18-11-2022 **Bible Teaching, Eisingen**  
*Andy MacDonald*
- 17 - 20-11-2022 **Church Outreach, Lemgo**  
*Thomas Günter & Team*
- 24 - 27-11-2022 **Church Outreach, Leipzig**  
*Kilian Müller & Team*
- 27-11-2022 **Preaching Engagement, Owingen**  
*Andy MacDonald*
- 10-12-2022 **Advent International Concert, 7:30 pm**  
*Bodenseehof-Bibelschüler und -Mitarbeiter*
- 11-12-2022 **Advent International Concert, 3:30 pm**  
*Bodenseehof-Bibelschüler und -Mitarbeiter*
- 19 - 22-01-2023 **Church Outreach Holzmaden/Dettingen**  
*Andy MacDonald & Team*
- 20 - 22-01-2023 **Confirmation Camp, Pfalzgrafenweiler**  
*Thomas Günter & Team*
- 28-01-2023 **Men's day, Brake**  
*Peter Reid*

Subject to change. Further outreach dates are to follow in our next newsletter in February, 2023.



## REUNION WEEK JULY 01-07, 2024

We're inviting all former students back to Bode! Whether you come by yourself, with your family, or are able to organize a mini-reunion with others from your year, "Bode" is not the only thing you'll have in common!

We want to gather for a time of remembering, reflecting, refreshment and rejoicing – back at the very place where you and so many others encountered Jesus. Although the extent and age-range of childcare is yet to be decided, spouses and children are also welcome! We look forward to seeing you... again!

The program will run in English for all past students. When you register, please indicate when you were a Bible School student at Bodenseehof.

Registration starts October 1st, 2022, at [www.bodenseehof.de](http://www.bodenseehof.de)

### Online Giving:

<http://www.torchbearers.org/donate/ministry>  
(select „Germany – Bodenseehof“)

### Giving by Mail:

Checks payable to:  
Torchbearers USA  
PO Box 280727, Lakewood, CO 80228-0727 USA

Write in memo line the project you would like to support:

**Bodenseehof General**

**Bodenseehof Building Project**

**Bodenseehof Student Funds** (students who cannot finance Bible school)

**Missions** (Bodenseehof mission projects)

Please do not forget to leave us your address so that we can issue a donation receipt.

**\*General Donation :** Donations for general purposes (renovations, cars, ...)  
IBAN: DE35 6905 0001 0020 1189 49

### \*Student Funds:

Donations for foreign students who are not able to finance Bible School.  
IBAN: DE67 6905 0001 0020 1253 57

### \*Torchbearers India:

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### \*Missions:

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All accounts at: Sparkasse Bodensee,  
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Bank routing number: 690 500 01  
SWIFT/BIC Code for all numbers: SOLADES1KNZ



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