

WE ARE ALPHA

Sandra's bi-monthly Ministry Newsletter dedicated to her generous and faithful Mission Partners



Interviewing Robert, Parish Leader

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Watch interview with Robert

One decision, One year & 3 Alpha courses later

CAUGHT BY THE ALPHA CULTURE

I enjoyed being back with Robert celebrating what God has been doing in his parish through Alpha in only one short year. Talking about leadership, faith, growth and invitational culture that creates community yes even family. One decision, One, year later, 3 Alpha courses later. WOW. This is only the beginning. I love love, love serving the church in my role with Alpha.

A year ago Robert tested Alpha in his parish for the first time with his staff and then launched two more Alphas within just one short year. From his point of view as a leader, he reports in detail what has happened in such a short period. He reports how he was able to witness people's lives radically being transformed. He describes how they literally jumped out of the spectator stands and entered the arena, ignited by the Holy Spirit... "We actually played with the thought to take a short Alpha break, but I think we'll continue with our fourth Alpha in the fall", he smiles. "Already at the second Alpha, guests we no longer knew joined. That's mind-blowing. Church members and former Alpha guests are asking when the next Alpha will take place since they want to invite people. We no longer have to advertise." Robert is hopeful that the vibrant community he dreams of will become a reality. "Alpha is more than just a faith course, it is a DNA, a culture that influences people positively in the long term and ignites a fire for Jesus in them."



Alpha Switzerland Team

Alpha IMPACT'22- Praise Report

PRAISE REPORT FROM THE BIGGEST SIMULTANEOUS ALPHA START IN JANUARY 22

The published PR article says:

In January 2022 AlphaLive Switzerland in cooperation with the Alpha offices in Germany and Austria invited to the largest simultaneous Alpha start. We look back with great gratitude. End of April we shared and celebrated Jesus at the virtual IMPACT'22 Praise Party. The stories he wrote in the 665 Alphas in those three countries empowered so many.

AlphaLive Switzerland looks back with immense gratitude. We praise Jesus and say thank you to all 385 Alpha teams in churches, communities, and parishes in Germany, Austria and Switzerland for your passion for Jesus and people. Thanks to the 215 Alpha youth leaders and their teams in our three countries. You make an IMPACT. Thank you to the 280 Alpha hosts who either opened their homes or university premises or served as Alpha online hosts. **Almost 6700 guests experienced Alpha and were touched by Jesus during the largest simultaneous Alpha start** - and that in all Christian denominations.

Thank you also to the international prayer team who met weekly for 11 weeks to pray for the 665 Alpha in German-speaking Europe. Over 200 people took part in our Alpha IMPACT'22 trainings and the guests were between 11 and 88 years old. Our God is a God of generations, a God of miracles, WOW.

The Alpha - Impact '22 campaign was initiated by AlphaLive Switzerland, Alpha Germany and Alpha Austria. The organizations that stand for Alpha in German-speaking countries, serve the churches and dream of a society in which many more people live out of a living relationship with Jesus.

With humility and joy, I look back and say thank you Jesus for having called me to lead this campaign in Switzerland. Working closely with my Alpha teammates from the offices in Austria and Germany was so much fun. One Team One Spirit. UNITY, yeah.

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ALPHA IS MORE THAN JUST A FAITH COURSE, IT IS A DNA, A CULTURE THAT INFLUENCES PEOPLE POSITIVELY IN THE LONG TERM AND IGNITES A FIRE FOR JESUS IN THEM.

Meet Yanira, one of my incredible mentees. She is passionate about Jesus & about becoming the best version of herself in her walk with Jesus.





The power of vulnerability

SUNDAY SERVICE AT A CHURCH IN BASEL

While we as Alphas in Switzerland are honoured and privileged to walk alongside and support a church starting with Alpha in September, the Senior Pastor invited me to share my testimony during one of their Sunday services in April to prepare & inspire his congregation for Alpha. I asked him on the phone how much time I have 3 or 5 minutes? He then replied you have 45 min basically this is your Sunday service.

Well, another first. Let me tell you while prepping, I knew, my assignment is to completely let go and let the Holy Spirit take over. God challenged me to be vulnerable like I'd never dared in public ever. I gave Him my word to let go and let God. "It is not about you Sandra, those stories, YOUR story, is My story through you and your story is here to serve, heal, inspire and restore others."

I finally surrendered, Enrico joined me that morning and let me tell you what God did through my and our obedience and courage as a couple was absolutely transformational. People got physically healed while the Holy Spirit was speaking through me, while prayed for people got restored, chains were broken and most importantly they were touched by the fire of the Holy Spirit and the love of God. They can't wait for Alpha to start in September.

"God turned the shame I felt for my dad being an alcoholic growing up into pure pride to be his daughter. God turned the hurt, anger and guilt I felt for being unwanted by my mother into pure love for her. God is in the restoration and forgiving business and there is where true freedom, peace, love and joy is found!" - Sandra Rechsteiner

UPDATE FROM MY FATHER IN LAW (PHOTO L)

6 months ago we never thought that my father in law will ever be able to have a come back as a passionate singer as part of the men's choir he joined 52 years ago. He was hospitalized followed by a long rehabilitation period. He has been working so hard to get back in shape to be able to go home and to get back to being independent.

On Mother's Day, we surprised him by showing up at the choir's first public concert after a long covid break. When he saw us, he broke down in tears. This moment was so precious so overwhelming. Bringing him joy is all that matters and in moments like this, we just know that being here is the right thing. Thank you so much for all your prayers.

“
GOD TURNED MY SHAME INTO
PRIDE, MY HURT INTO LOVE.”

