EXPLO DAYS with Alpha Canada

FEB 2022 / ISSUE 7



The Lived gospel

EXPLO DAYS IN ZUG

Campus for Christ hosted the Explo Days. The theme: "The lived gospel". A weekend-long conference with 12 speakers, 4 English-speaking quest speakers, yeah. 300+ people attended. I was super excited to have Shaila Visser, National Director of Alpha Canada visiting us and sharing her wisdom and foremost bringing the Holy Spirit with her. (first left top picture) Originally I was supposed to translate English-German and the other way around but I was glad that Campus finally agreed to hire professional simultaneous translators for this event. I was engaged with these crazy cool peeps you see below in the pic representing a Campus product at a booth during all the breaks And I got to share all about Alpha with a delegation from Italy.

Meet Kerstin & Andreas



Meet my Mission Partners

KERSTIN & ANDREAS

Our names are Kerstin and Andreas and we live in Vancouver, Canada. We love to facilitate Alpha at our local church where we have seen so many lives transformed as a result of taking Alpha. In one of our sessions, we had this lovely, quiet and distinguished man dressed in a suit named Enrico, join our Alpha group. This group was diverse in backgrounds and Enrico just added to the incredible personalities that we had the honour of meeting week after week. We had not yet met Sandra but Enrico just said, 'look for the woman with the red hair.' One day in a church service, there she was, the red hair! Her energy was fantastic but more than that there was something that was so beautiful, she had joy, she had encountered Jesus and there was no denying her love for the one who had given her new life. Since that day in church when we first met Sandra, we have had the privilege to spend great and treasured moments together.

When Sandra and Enrico talked about moving back to Switzerland and Sandra possibly working with Alpha, you could see them come alive, there was a fire starting to grow. God was orchestrating a plan for this powerhouse couple to share the Good News of Jesus on the other side of the world, to have people grow in their relationship with God. They have such a deep heart and love for people. We are honoured to serve alongside Sandra by becoming mission partners.

God Did A New Thing

CHRISTMAS EVE FOR EVERYONE!
WE OPENED OUR HEARTS & DOORS
FOR THOSE WHO HAD NOONE TO
CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH

"Hi, my name is Verena and I just passed by to find out if I can join tonight". In the middle of the event set up, I spotted Enrico next to the entrance talking to a friendly lady. She learned about our event from the Newspaper and grew beyond herself by taking all courage together to pass by all by herself. Enrico encouraged her to show up at 6 pm that day (Christmas eve) and she did. When I handed her out our Christmas gifts (homemade soap with a handwritten bible verse note) at the end of the night, tears were running over her cheeks. "I never felt so loved before". Verena has been joining us for every Sunday service since then. Thank you, Lord.

I could tell you story after story. Like George who heard about this event on the local radio. Lorena, in her early twenties, decided to serve this Christmas and got referred to us by the reformed church etc.



"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."

Eph 3:20

Our whole Small Group stepped up and locked arms with us launching this "Christmas for everyone" event and our pastor was all in when we pitched him our vision. This event will take place now every Christmas. It took a strong, talented and passionate team to fulfil God's plan and of course His favour & grace. The vision is that as of next year all 4 local churches in town (1 catholic, 1 reformed, 2 non-denomination) will look arms. We dream of unity and it is a done deal, Our pastor reached out to the three other church leaders and they are open to it.

What I loved most besides the lives changed this Christmas is, that also all the contributors and volunteers have been blessed along the way. The goal was to get as many people involved. We had local businesses handing out flyers, the social welfare workers and care facilities sharing it, Local newspaper and radio were on board, more volunteers praying, homemade gifts created and cookies baked, handwritten bible verse notes designed, And we fundraised over \$5000, God has been so, so, so good to us. The glory is all HIS.

LOKALSPIEGEL

RAPPERSWIL-JONA

Sternsingen

Leider misse auch dieses Jahr da Sternsingen auf dem Hauptplatz core nabedingt abgesagt werden, teilt de Voorstand des Sternsingens mit. Di Plakate habe man sehon vorber dre cken und den Aushang organisiere mitssen. So steht auf den Plakaten, di aus den Kulmerdalien der Statt ause

Plakate habe man schon vorber dircken und den Aushang organisieren missen. So sekt und den Plakaten, die an den Kultursdulen der Staht angebracht sind, dass am Sonntag, 19. Dezembet, mit der Stentsingerzug ausfalle. Nun kann aber auch das Spiel beim Bergunfstieg nicht stattfinden, beisst est weiter in der Mitteilung. (OV)

Naviabre

2022 abgesagt

wests zum Jahresbegum die Bevötte rung zu einem Apiro ein. Aufgrund de aktuellen Covid-19-Situation wird de Neujahrsaphro 2022 abgewagt, heisste ein ein einer Mittellung. Der Verein bedau ert es sehr, dass das beliebte Treffen an Jahresanfang nicht stattfinden kann (ON)

RAPPERSWIL-JONA

«Herbergsuche in Rapperswil»

am Freitag, 17. Dezember ab 19 Uh bei der «Blerbergssche» des Solidan tätsnetzes Ostschweiz durch Rapper wil, um auf die prekker Flüchtlingslag hinzuweisen. Der Weg führt von Bahnhof zum Kapuzinerkloster un von dort zum Engelplatz. (ON)



och «Wi

hr niemand zurückgezogen ienr: Hier gibt es am Heißigbeend im Eventhouse tregrund der Gisbeichnachten für allebeit die, anstatt m grossen runden, festlich eingeskiten Tück im Saal des Eventhouse der Kenneniernen.»

intis ichon einige Tage vor Weihnachten fast griffster ich Verfreude aufs, der Verfreude aufs growe Fed. Gespants wied Sanden Rechnister einem Hilk auf die behovelle Dekenrion. Sie gehört zu den freiwilligun Organisationen des Andias-sos Weishnachten für siller im Representationen der Schriftster und der Schriftster und der Schriftster und der Vertrag der Vertrag

offen für alle «Wir laden alle ein, mit uns zu feiem gangmenti», sagt Sandra Rechsteiner. Für sie sei Wellmachten immer ein Anlass verbunden mit gemischten Gefühlen, aber auch sehr vielen Erinserungen. Dieses Jahr wird es noch spannender, lacht die 46-Jährige.

das muss nicht sein

Weihnachten ganz allein -

Sozialer Status eder familiärer Histergund der Giste sind dabei völlig nebenskhlich, «Wir fingen: Wer bist du, anstatt was bist du? Nue der Name ist wichtig, alles andere ist Kennenlernen.» Und darsuf freue sie sich besondern: auf viele Monsehen aus der Region um den Obersee mit Geschichten.

«An Weihnachten soll niemand allein sein.»

Sie und ühre Misterier bekümment besonders die Einnamkeit vieler Menschen. Ältere, Alleinezriehende, Studenten, Kranke, Pandemie – all die Probleme, die im Menschen im Alltag beschäftigen, sollen im Eventhouse für einen Abend vergessen sein. Am 24. Dezember leitet die Helfer nur ein Gedanke: An Weihnachten soll niemand allein sein.

neinsam statt einsam Heiligabend ab 18 Uhr steht die des Eventhouses all jenen offen,

Wie viele Personen schlussendli kommen werden, weiss sie nie «Platz und Essen haben wir genu Eine Anmeldung ist nicht nötig, al erwünscht. Es besteht Zornifkaspflie.

Voranmeldung erwünscht unter Tel. 043 366 76 76, rappervwilligfich

that as of next year all 4 local churches in that as of next year all 4 local churches in that as of next year all 4 local churches in the catholic, 1 reformed, 2 non-denominal will look arms. We dream of unity and it done deal, Our pastor reached out to the the tother church leaders and they are open to it

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Enrico and his team featured - looking back to eight intense yet fulfilling months after the successful thrift store opening

BROCKI WÄNGI - SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AN ARTICLE FEATURED BY ENRICO

"It's so nice here that I could stay for hours, this is a really great shopping experience". I love such customer feedback, says Enrico, because it is important to me that our visitors feel comfortable with us and that we also go the extra mile when it comes to customer service. Whenever possible we help with loading or unloading, we are available with advice and a lending hand or sometimes even with a screwdriver. Our Brocki (Thrift Store) Wängi should not only be a paradise for collectors and Thrift Store lovers but also especially for people/families living on a smaller budget. I have a fantastic team that supports this idea.

My name is Enrico Rechsteiner. I am 53 years old and joined the team of the Social enterprise Wetterbaum for the opening of Brocki Wängi. I worked in the insurance industry for many years. However, it has not always been easy for me to sit at a desk for hours because I love to be hands-on. When we left for Canada, I was looking for the meaning of life with my wonderful wife, whom I met over 30 years ago. We lived on Vancouver Island and in Vancouver for more than 8 years. We were used to the luxury of Switzerland. Canada is certainly not a poor country, but poverty is universal. Perhaps precisely because everything in Canada was not covered in luxury, we found our faith and as a family, we learned how important it is to stand up for people who live less on the sunny side in life.



Team Brocki Wängi



Enrico with his amazing Team Leader Angie

Back in Switzerland, while looking for a job, I worked as a volunteer in a Thrift Store and was able to live out a long-cherished passion for second-hand and sustainability. Thanks to my many God-given talents, thanks to my life & leadership experience but also thanks to the experiences I was able to gain in my father's furniture business, the work at Brocki was exactly the right thing. I love to improvise and improve. When I saw that the position at the Wetterbaum was primarily about the professional reintegration of employees, I knew that this was my job.

Even if we were short on resources since the opening, the start has been an excellent one. The team has done a great job and I would like to thank every single one of them for the great work. Many thanks to the other Brockis, the house and environment team, and the management for their help. The Brocki feels the support from the town and the surrounding area. The relaxed and friendly atmosphere, which is important to my team leader Angie and me, creates space for all employees to develop, heal and grow. Yes, and important, we love humour and having fun, even in hectic situations. It is important to me that we can continuously improve, that we are economically costeffective, that we use resources carefully and sustainably, and most importantly, that we can give our employees a place & assignment where they feel accepted, valued and encouraged. When one of our employees says to us, "You have become my family", I am very moved. Although the working days are long and my commute (I live in beautiful Rapperswil) is not exactly short, there is no more fulfilling job for me. It's nice to see how our team puts many smiles on our customer's faces (behind the masks) and to see how the employees make progress. Our team is now also growing and we are happy to be able to take on more employees with the goal to lead them back into the marketplace.