

## **“Jesus lives”**

### **Chief Apostle Schneider in Nottingham**

Our Chief Apostle celebrated Easter on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 in Nottingham, UK and ordained District Evangelist Heynes as an additional Apostle for the District Apostle area. He will in future care for the congregations in the UK and Ireland.

The text word used for the sermon of our Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider was taken from Luke 24, 46-48; then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem, and you are witnesses of these things”.

### **Jesus is present**

At the beginning of his sermon Chief Apostle Schneider spoke of the encounters described in the gospels which Jesus had with the people following his resurrection: Jesus appeared to His disciples and followers in very different ways – some of these were spectacular but at other times they didn't even see Him and could only recognise Him through his words and deeds.

In the same way Christians today also experience God, some encounters can be spectacular but often we can only in hindsight, recognise that Jesus lives and is with us in the present. The Chief Apostle made it clear that Jesus is present today and continues to work here as well as in the beyond.

### **Allow the Holy Spirit to be active**

The Holy Spirit enables Jesus to be experienced today and for His doctrine to be understood. Christians who carry the gift of the Holy Spirit within themselves become part of the salvation plan of Jesus. With this the Chief Apostle encouraged the congregation to continue to bear witness to the joyful gospel, so that their faithfulness to Christ can become visible.

The Apostles John Fendt (USA); Jens Lindemann (West Germany) and Wolfgang Zenker (South Germany) accompanied our Chief Apostle to Nottingham.

District Apostle helper Fendt mentioned in his serving that the believers should rejoice in their encounters with Jesus in divine services. These encounters are however linked with taking on responsibility and the commitment to focus on God and to make changes. Apostle Zenker explained that Christians need to take on the presence of Jesus so that He is able to work through the Holy Spirit within society.

Following the sermons, the Chief Apostle celebrated holy communion. The celebration of holy communion for the departed was framed by instrumental and choir music.

## **Ordination of Apostle**

In conclusion our Chief Apostle ordained the District Evangelist Heynes as the seventh Apostle for our District Apostle Ruediger Krause's area. Already in his sermon our Chief Apostle highlighted the meaning of the Apostle ministry: an Apostle is more than a successor, a leader of a church or protector of christian traditions. Above all things, an Apostle stands in the firm belief in Jesus; His works and His promises. In this way his work should always be accompanied by the love of Jesus.

David Heynes will now work full-time for the church. The Apostle Falk who until now has had responsibility for UK and Ireland will be able to concentrate on his area in Germany. He cared for the congregations in the UK and Ireland for seven years. The Chief Apostle thanked him from his heart for his work and efforts.