

Pray for the Murphys

Your Missionaries in Germany



To the Churches and Saints which pray and support us, greetings from Germany on this 4th of June, 2025!

Acts 14:3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Ecc 3:1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

This will be one of the most memorable prayer letters, at least for me, that I have ever written. Time is appointed of God, time is short, we are told so many things about time in the scriptures and I have prayed, that this is the accepted time of the Lord, for me to announce to our supporting friends and churches, that my physical presence in Germany and the work associated with that calling for which I was deputized and sent to do, has also an appointed end and time.

It was this time of the year twenty three years ago, that I left Germany to return to the States to present myself as a missionary desiring to be part of my home church's mission board Bible Baptist Missions Inc. I had prayed and fasted. I was given recommendations of godly men who served in the ministry, and with whom I labored with; at the time, in Germany. I was also given a confirmation, a sovereign nod of God's head, through a devotion which I was reading at the time. So there I stood in my pastor's office, with the deacons and trustees gathered; seeking their approval to the endeavor of raising support to serve the Lord full time; preaching and teaching in the country of Germany.

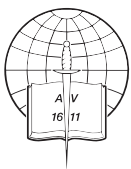
We had just eighteen months prior, left America and my bible school training, due to the fact that my wife had fallen ill of Myasthenia Gravis during bible school. In 2000 we arrived in Germany where she underwent a thymectomy (where they sawed her sternum apart and removed her thymus gland). She received a high dose of prednisone and remained over five months time in the hospital, while I cared for our, then two year old son Justin. Upon her successful therapy I told my wife that the Lord had burdened me with her nation's people and that we were returning to the States to raise support upon recommendation of a Tennessee Temple graduate by the name of Ron Parrot; who then was my pastor, in a military church here in Germany.

My wife and all of her family was very skeptical; with good reason, we were broke, and had been broken of the Lord. We left Germany with \$350.00 to our name and I told the church which I was serving in: I'll be back in eighteen months. Some mocked, many pastors cowardly told me on the phone the first months of deputation: "It'll take you four years to raise support to return to Germany", others refused to entertain my request to present my burden, stating that God was finished with Germany, for what they had done to God's people. Fast forward in time eighteen months after that, and we were fully supported and have gone in the strength of this calling and support from faithful churches and Christians, now for twenty five years.

Heaven's clockwork has once again struck the hour, at such a time as this; and has called me, my wife and daughter back to the United States. Please let me assure you, and for those who have had intimate contact with me over the years, you have known of my passion, my struggles and at times of my despair. Germany has been a fallow ground and my plowing days have at times been almost unbearable; looking for the fruits of righteousness, in a nation of peoples; who have forgotten God days without end. But to say that God is finished with Germany would be easily disproven, for I myself have led dozens to a saving knowledge of Christ over the years.

I have trained five men in a bible institute setting, of whom sadly only one is attempting to lead a small group of believers about two hours South of me. Two others are still in our church here in the Giessen area and will be holding the church together in prayer and teaching; one of which is my son Justin, the other Wolfgang Medick. I want to assure that the church here has been afforded a path forward and is in good hands. I also want to assure you that I am not leaving Germany because of despair or burn out; I am leaving Germany because I have been called out to return to the States in like fashion as I was placed here. I did not place myself in Germany, and I could have never removed myself from this calling; that is God's business!

On the 21st of April, I had learned that Ridge Road Baptist Church had lost its pastor, due to his abrupt resignation. That church is in my home town of Brewton, Alabama and has been over the years a place of refreshment when I would come for a short visit from the work here in Germany. Brother Lee Cadenhead had taken that small Southern Baptist Church about the same time I was finishing up deputation and the Lord knitted our hearts together.



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I was rejoicing as he took the church out of the Union, for it was my intention while in PBI to return to my hometown and start an independent Bible believing church there. He had confided in me that he didn't know how long he'd stay there; seeing his heart was set on becoming a missionary himself. I pleaded with him that Brewton, Alabama is a mission field of sorts and that he would stay. It was my confirmation, that God knew the desires of my heart and that he had simply another man in mind for the task. Brother Lee ended up staying there some seventeen years, if I recollect and Brother Kyle Cinereskii took over that church as Brother Cadenhead was called ultimately to Zimbabwe as a missionary.

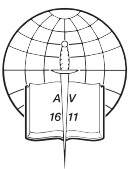
During the time of the Easter holidays here in Germany, I reached out to a young man who had just finished his bible training at PBI and had visited me in Germany just the year prior. He had expressed interest of possibly returning to help me in the ministry here. Brother Matthew said during that call, that the plans had changed, due to the fact that their pastor had recently vacated the office of pastor there, and that he and another brother were filling the pulpit in his absence. I was incensed, that Bro. Kyle would leave that church in that manner and I immediately called him to inquire as to why. He didn't answer, so I called Brother Matt's father, Shannon Smith, to try to get some straight answers. After a time of explaining to me the situation, he said "Brother now that you're on the phone, perhaps you would consider taking the church." I was confused as to how he would come to the conclusion that I would be asking or that I would be interested. Later that day I reached the former pastor and he explained in great detail, why he felt the need to leave under the circumstances in which he did. Then he preceded to tell me "I'd recommend you for the position, but I believe the church would discount you if it came from me." I was now shocked as to how two men were asking to consider leaving the field and my calling to Germany, to return to my home town to pastor that local church.

That night I gathered my family and we wept for Brother Kyle and for Ridge Road Baptist Church. The next morning Brother Shannon called me and officially asked me to come to America to candidate for the pastorate position at Ridge Road Baptist. He said the day before, that two preachers had called him after we had spoken, and had informed him that the best man they knew of, to fill that office at Ridge Road, would be Kenny Murphy; if he'd consider it. I began to fast and pray. My wife was once again concerned with the implications of this calling, for which I was praying. My daughter asked me pointedly; how will you know for sure that God wills that you go or stay? I told her that outside of a 'Macedonian call' I have no idea, but I'll know it if God shows me; and if not I'll not go. After fasting and praying for three days, I left off concerning myself with the carefulness of the matter and went to my office that morning with the peace of God, that I didn't have to know then; if it is God's will or not. The church there will simply have to hear other candidates until I knew whether I should go there or not.

Just as the Lord worked twenty three years before, I picked up a devotional of Martin Luther's called Luther's Breviary, and I began from the day that I had received the news; if perhaps there would be something which spoke to me about the timing of this consideration. Before you count this a small thing, a man in our church reads this devotional daily and had within the last year confirmed my sermons on no less than five occasions, where on that Sunday or Wednesday night, the devotion spoke word for word, from Luther's sayings; confirming to our church that they had heard from God (I do not read devotions so this cannot be my subconscious plotting my own fate, nor my plagiarism of the reformer). Five days of nothing resembling an answer or confirmation and then on that last day; the day where I had peace that I didn't need to know now if it's God's will or not; I turned the page to April the 25th and it had as its scripture for that day: Acts 16:9-10 The Macedonian call which Paul received. Luther said: "This is how God deals with His own: He never lets them stay for long in one place, but drives them hither and thither. This, however, is not just for their sake, so that their faith can be proved, but also that other people can benefit."

Bible Believers Europe and Beyond

My faith was certainly proved! Oh, how I rejoiced at the answer of God. I returned to the States, assuredly gathering that God had called me to go through an open door. The church has on the 1st of June, voted unanimously in favor of me becoming their pastor, after I had preached there two weeks while candidating for that high office.



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This of course begs the question of 2 & 2 Missionaries; Brother Philipp Frei and myself, along with four of our men, had just recently made a trip in February to present to a select few, in way of a test of sorts, whether local churches in America might be willing to support the work which Brother Frei and I had been engaged in since before Covid. Nothing here will change, other than my physical presence. Brother Frei and I had been visiting and confirming the souls of believers throughout Europe long before I got this call. Brother Frei will continue this work and will be visiting the church that I pastored on a regular basis. The men of our church will encourage the body in between those visits. This news of course deeply saddened our church here, but has also been embraced, as they cannot deny that the will of the Lord is being accomplished. I will be commending them to God, and to the word of his grace on the 1st of July next month by the grace the God.

I will do my part as the pastor of Ridge Road Baptist Church, to raise awareness in all churches which will hear my plea, that Europe desperately needs men to minister the words of God's grace to them; as that place remains a very dark continent. Ridge Road supports some fifty independent Baptist missionaries and I plan to further the reach of their faith and giving to parts yet untouched by the gospel. I will also continue to raise awareness of the faithfulness and effectiveness of missionary Philipp Daniel Frei, a true yoke fellow; who is certainly worthy of your support, if you are at all interested in bible believing missions in Germany. I am very aware that men over the last decades have raised support and some still labor on that field; however, as needful as it might be, that the American military be provided with bible believing preachers; the country of Germany still goes largely unscathed from the truth of their efforts. I will pledge and promote Brother Frei who has a zeal for Christ and a burden for the lost souls of Europe and beyond. As Paul did for Onesimus, so I beseech you, if you have counted me a man of my word; this Brother is worthy of your support, and has little time to leave the work there. If you would be interested of knowing more of him, please contact me and I can answer any questions that you might have of him.

Concerning my support, as I stated, I will be returning to the States the first week of July, Lord willing. Our support level is the highest that it has ever been. I assure you I am not seeking a "green lead". The financial step that we are about to make will heavily impact our monthly finances and as stated above, reminds me of my step of faith twenty five years ago; this time as a fifty five year old man and not thirty. At the moment I have a home here, whose mortgage will run until 2032 if it does not sell. I have faith that it will. If you would see fit that our time and tenure as your missionaries in Germany could constitute a special offering, or perhaps three months overlapping support for example; we would be greatly appreciative. This is by no means a final push for money. But if you'll review my twenty five years of our prayer letters, you'll see that money was never a factor and I have literally turned down offers of churches asking me if they could do anything financially for us. I have finished my course here in Germany and have no regrets. I hope this is the way that we will part this partnership; you have done your part and by the grace of God I have done to the best of my ability my part. May the Lord be glorified for our efforts!

I will have to returned to Germany, perhaps in September or October for the selling of our home (hopefully), and to check on the saints (not that I won't be in contact with them through modern communication means); but as stated, my physical presence here will officially end during the first week of July. Any further support would be greatly appreciated, but I cannot know now, having never gone this way before, how long our mission board would be able to receive it. If it would be your desire to help us through the transition, perhaps a one time offering would be best. All other enquiries can be directed either to me personally or to the mission board itself. This of of my prayer letters, I would hope, would generate feedback; please contact me.

Again, thank you greatly for entrusting us with the task and high calling and may God richly bless you for it. God bless you richly for the care of the saints and of myself! Amen and amen!

