

## **Vision Trip**

Last year around this time, we told you we were exploring a partnership with our Central District International Workers (IWs) who are serving the Alliance in Berlin, Germany. You may remember that Juri and Karen visited us in last June and introduced us to their work with Arab speaking refugees in Berlin. Since then, the Outreach team has contacted Jose and Melanie, who work with Spanish speaking people in Berlin, and Erin and Caleb, who work with German and Arabic speaking people, to see about the possibility of sending a team from Living Vine to see the ministries of all three international worker couples. We also contacted the Alliance Central District Missions Mobilizer, Dian Harner, and learned that the District Office would subsidize the cost of the trip as well as send Dian along with our team to help them process what they are learning. There were a few guidelines the Central District asked us to follow when forming the team, so because of that, we felt it was good to select team members by invitation rather than open it up to the whole congregation. If it turns out that this is how God is leading us, there will be other opportunities for you and the church body to go as well.

We are happy to announce that a team has been formed to go visit Berlin in March. The team consists of Pastor Chris Laws, Amy Cervone, Joel Rapp, and Kim Williams. In addition to travelling with Dian Harner, they have the added blessing of going with several members of Akron Alliance Fellowship, including Pastor Gus Brown. This is because we are also thinking about how Living Vine and Akron Alliance can join together to partner with the IW's in Berlin. The two-church team will leave March 11 and return March 21. During their visit, they will learn about the culture and see firsthand the work of the IWs so that they can evaluate the suitability of our partnership with them.

This is an exciting opportunity for Living Vine. Would you please be in prayer concerning this trip and its outcome? Would you please pray for the team as they discern if this is the right partnership for Living Vine? If you would like to help fund this trip, please denote your donation to "Germany Vision Mission Trip".