



March the 20th 2018

Dear readers!

Are you backing out?

Through lent many people are fasting or abstaining from things they use to appreciate: Chocolate, alcohol, meat or other luxury articles. From what do you abstain?

The German Protestant Churches' campaign of this year's Lent, called „7 weeks wkthout“, has the motto „Show yourself! Seven weeks without backing out!“ – meaning without hiding, without being silenced, but standing up, having confidence, being courageous ...

We, who are hard of hearing, as well as other impaired people can and should stand up for our disability. We don't need to hide away; we don't need to back out, neither to be silenced when facing healthy people who don't have a clue of what it is all about. They have to be shown or told what we, the hearing impaired need, how to deal with us.

Why do we find it so difficult to tell others what we need, how we really do? Don't we dare? Why do we keep silent? Don't we have the courage?

Perhaps can the IVSS Churchear Conference in Strasbourg this year help us and you to overcome the fear of other people.

A week ago we had a board meeting outside Strasbourg, making some last preparations, going through a number of important issues. We had the pleasure even to review the conference site, a very suitable place.

We have good reason for looking forward to the conference. We are looking forward to meeting you, to meeting many old friends, hoping to make new ones, to lectures, workshops and talking with each other.

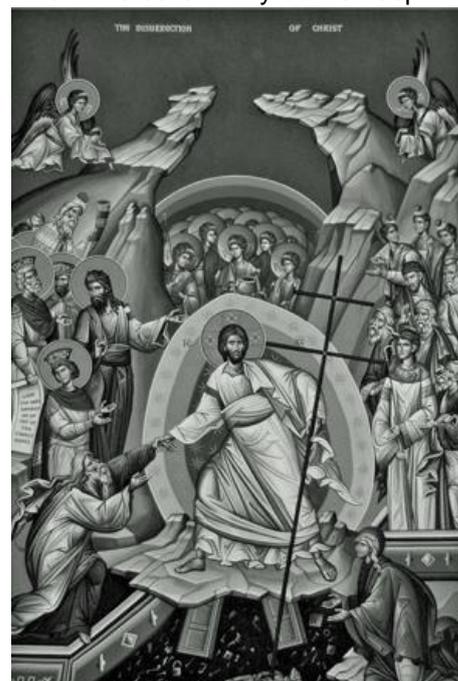
We hope you show courage and register.

Don't back out!

I wish you, whether fasting or not fasting, a blessed Lent, and then a joyful Easter celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

With the very best greetings,

your *Katharina Nitschke*



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