



What's Happening with Hannah?

July 8, 2026



We'd been in both a heatwave and drought. It caused several plans to be altered, cancelled, or rescheduled. As we are at the end of the academic school year, many of these events included student parties, unfortunately.

However, the final international student group meeting for ÖSM was very special. Despite the stress of ongoing projects and final exams to study for, many students made sure to show up, and it was a special night. This year, we studied through the entire Gospel of John.

We altered the schedule a bit but still had a wonderful outdoor gathering for the end of iCafe. The conversation flowed in German, English, and a bit of Spanish, and the fellowship was sweet. We took a moment to study Psalm 117 and share what we were praising God for from this past year.



My new language class began in the middle of June. Usually, classes go back-to-back. However, the summer

schedule is a bit different. This meant that I had time to take a trip between the end of one class and the beginning of my current one.

I first traveled to the west side of Austria to the city of Innsbruck and then came back quite close to Vienna, to the town of Herzogenburg and then the city of St. Pölten. Some highlights of the trip were the Hofburg in Innsbruck and a monastery in Herzogenburg. I went on a guided tour in German of the monastery, and I was encouraged by how much of it I understood.

Actually, the entire week felt like a big "language win." I only used English within the Airbnb app. After this trip, I could really see how much I have progressed in my language learning. There were a few times when I knew I royally messed up the German sentence structure. One waiter very kindly corrected me a couple times. And once a train passenger laughed but then gave me a thumbs up for my efforts. I got a glimpse into how different the people inside and outside Vienna act. This is something I've been told, but now I have experienced it for myself.

To see pictures from my trip, go to: <https://mailchi.mp/2907978a106c/trip-pictures>



These two woman have become some of my closest friends at church. This summer, the one on the right, Kotoe, moves back to her home country. I am going to miss her. On the first Sunday of July, she and I planned and led an after-church event. This meant that we had to inform the church how it would be working. There wasn't a lot to share, but it was the first time I was speaking German in a more public way. However, it went well. The event also was good.

Happy 250th birthday America and...

...the Albertina! This snooty art museum in Vienna also turned two and a half centuries old on July 4 (sorta). The building was refurbished into a palace in 1774 and later became a museum in 1805. Despite none of the math actually checking out, they were throwing a 250-year birthday bash by offering free entry and pulling out some rarely seen art from storage. A friend and I went together and had a lot of fun.

How you can be praying for me:

- The summer language school schedule is different than the rest of the calendar year. I will have a break in August. Please pray that I will be diligent to continue to learn and study by myself. Also please pray that I will know how to do this. I have a few different options.
- Please pray that I will continue to deepen relationships. I am beginning to make friends. However, a few of those whom I consider closer friends are moving away.
- Please pray for my landlady and new neighbors. I have been getting along quite well with my landlady recently. In the past, our relationship has been a bit unpredictable and rocky. If you've seen that my WorldVenture profile picture was updated, it was actually my landlady who took the photo. I'm sitting in her garden. Please pray that I can be a light here for however long this apartment is my home.

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