

Randy & Cristy Shearer TWR Europe & CAMENA

## **Email/Skype**

rshearer2364@yahoo.com Skype: rshearer2364 cristyshearer@gmail.com Skype: clshearer



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# **TWR Europe Office**

(large envelopes/boxes)
Wolfholzgasse 2
2345 Brunn
AUSTRIA—EUROPE
www.twreurope.org



### **TWR USA Office**

PO Box 8700, Cary, NC 27512 919.460.3700 www.twr.org

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Proverbs 19:21

**Summer 2017** 

# Shearer Sharings

## **Answered Prayer**

After two months of many phone calls, conversations, explanations and requests by our dear office manager, Christine, the Austrian authorities decided to make an exception and grant us our visas, without the requirement for additional insurance! What an answer to prayer!! We are so grateful to the Lord—and to you for praying about this.

Now we can travel without worry. Our registration is good until the end of February 2018. But . . . change is coming!

## Go to the land I will show you.

Having you alongside us on this journey of mission work while based in Austria the past nine years means more than we can say. Now, we invite you to (mentally) pack your bags with us as our mutual journey takes us to another country.

For anyone who does not know, at the end of March we were told our Vienna office will need to be closed by September next year due to the increasing costs of operating here and the increasing difficulty of access for foreign workers (i.e., our visa situation). Since then, extensive research and analysis has been done to choose the location for a new office where our Austria-based US missionaries could live and work.

Finally this week, on June 27th, the decision was announced. We are moving to Cyprus! And very soon. Since we don't have school-age children and have a flexible timeframe, we have volunteered to be part of the advance team, along with Daryl and Gaynelle Renshaw. This means we will be the ones to locate and set up the new office (thankfully Daryl has done this before) and prepare the way for the arrival of other colleagues during the next year. We are hoping another couple, the McGurks, will come to Vienna from the US very soon to join our advance team.

There are many questions to be answered and decisions to be made, but it looks like our move will be September/October...this year!

We won't sugarcoat it—moving to a new place where we are the ones to help set the ground work and responsible for preparing for others' arrivals—is a tiny bit scary, but a whole lot exciting!

Would you please join with us in praying for clear direction to know when to leave, all the tasks encompassing moving to another country, and for a deep trust in an all-knowing God for all the unknowns that lay ahead?



### What we do know

- Cyprus is a very safe, secure place.
- Due to British administration since 1878, English is widely spoken and used on road signs, etc., but Greek and Turkish are the official languages.
- British plugs/outlets; driving is on the left, so unable to take our car. So sad!
- Since our work is mostly done remotely anyway, changing locations should not greatly affect it.
- The new office location will be in or near Limassol, on the southern coast.
- Average temp (Fahrenheit) in Jan: 63°/47°;
   Aug: 91°/74°
- Average sunshine: 2,700-3,500 hours/year; at least 1,000 more hours than Austria!





Relative humidity: between 60% and 80% in winter; between 40% and 60% in summer.

#### Transfer Fund

As this move is a TWR corporate decision, the costs of transferring us to the new location will be mostly covered by the mission. Cost analyses are still being done so we cannot give a definite amount of what this move will cost for us. But, as always, donations are appreciated.

If you want to give to help offset the cost of our move to Cyprus, please click <u>here</u> to go to our donate page on the twr.org web site and enter the amount next to 'Transfer Fund Randy and Cristy Shearer'.

The next three months will probably be a whirlwind of activity, but we will try to keep you up-to-date with our plans as they develop. We value your prayers during this transition.

Just as we invite you to travel with us on our journey, we hope you will invite us to be part of yours. If you have things, circumstances, people that we can take before the Throne of Grace alongside you, please do let us know.

Praying we may each grasp how wide, long, high and deep the love of Christ is, and know this love that surpasses knowledge, that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

With Much Love,

Randy and Cristy