



# Musick Notes

August 2009  
Liftoff!

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My beloved family and friends,

I have arrived in Germany! My plane left on July 27<sup>th</sup> 2009 and landed in Basel, Switzerland on 28. Juli 2009.

Thank you all for supporting me through prayer, encouraging words, and financial gifts! You are a great blessing to me!

## My New Home

I live in "The Green House" in Kandern. This is not just a nickname; it is actually a green house!



My address:  
Ziegelstrasse 40  
79400 Kandern  
GERMANY

My roommate is Rachel Bertschi. She is at BFA to teach middle school math and science. We have a similar sense of

humor, and I am looking forward to spending this year with her!

## New Church

The past three Sundays, I have attended the German church up the road. Though I only understand some of the words, the power point and Bible references have allowed me to determine the overall meaning of the sermons and songs. I am eager to learn more German so I can be involved in the German community.

## Life in Germany

Living in a new country means making many minor adjustments to daily life. There are different ways of grocery shopping (Aldi-style), banking (all bills withdrawn automatically), interacting with strangers (say, "Hallo" to everyone you pass), and waste disposal (it would probably take 2 pages to explain the garbage & recycling system here!). It has been challenging and fun to adapt myself to a new place.

I made my office my own space by bringing a papier-mâché man (found next to a dumpster) and a chair. I found the chair on the street during Sperrmüll – Large Garbage Disposal – a part of the German waste disposal system in which

everyone puts unwanted furniture on the street, people pick through it as they walk by, and a company comes and removes the leftover items.



### Life at BFA

Black Forest Academy has a unique culture of its own. Thankfully, we have had three weeks of orientation to prepare us for this transition. The first week was German language/culture orientation; the second week was new staff orientation and teacher preparation, and the third was our all-staff conference.

On the final day of all-staff conference, the entire BFA staff stood in a circle. The director told us to imagine that all of our supporters were physically standing behind each of us. It was an overwhelming picture in my mind; a crowd of encouraging people surrounded us. You are part of that crowd. I thank you again for standing behind me in this ministry.

### What's Up Ahead

Classes start on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. For the first week, we will be auditioning students for private lessons. Orchestra will meet every day. During first semester it will be 3<sup>rd</sup> period (10:50-11:40am).

Starting an orchestra here will also be a challenge. Due to scheduling conflicts, there are very few students who can actually fit orchestra into their schedules. We are trying to find solutions for the students, but it can be discouraging to see so many obstacles. I will pour myself into the students I do have, no matter how small the orchestra.

On September 4, I will be back to the US for my brother Erich's wedding. He will be getting married on the 5<sup>th</sup>, and I am glad I will be able to be there for this special event!

### I ask that you pray for the following:

- **Pray** that I would be at peace in this time of transition into German culture and into my first teaching position, and that I would develop supportive friendships to help me through.
- **Pray** that scheduling issues would not prevent the orchestra from flourishing here at BFA
- **Pray** that God would bring the rest of the dorm staff to Germany. There is one set of dorm parents who are not yet here (due to lack of support) and two male RA positions that are not filled.
- **Praise** God for bringing in my financial support. I am at 97%, but a couple commitments have not shown up yet, so after they register I should be fully funded!

God bless you all!

~Jill Musick

