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My beloved family and friends,

For all the stories of my day-to-day life, be sure to read my blog at: <http://musickfamily.net/jill/blog/> - this newsletter cannot cover everything that has happened in the last month!

Violin at Church

I have become more involved in FeG – Freie evangelische Gemeinde (the German evangelical church). As soon as the music leaders found out I played violin, they asked me to play for a Sunday service! I have played twice now, and will be playing 1-2 times each month. It is a blessing to be able to worship God in another language. I am reminded of the vision in Revelation of “a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, . . . and crying out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God and to the Lamb!’”

Private Lessons

Each student is unique, so it takes some time to know how to work with each one. I have to push some students to get them to practice, but I have to actually remind one particular student to do his homework *before* he practices violin! He walks around his

dorm playing his two favorite pieces. It can be a challenge to keep him focused in lessons because he just wants to play whatever he feels like playing at the moment, but I am learning to effectively direct his energy to the right places.

Music Recital

The music department gives a couple recitals each semester so students have an opportunity to perform in the auditorium. The orchestra performed 3 pieces on the October 23 recital. They did quite well, smiling throughout the whole performance, even when they made a little mistake! They were thinking about the stories we had created for the pieces we performed.



Field Trip

On Sunday, October 25 I took the orchestra girls to a concert by the Basel Chamber Orchestra. The cello soloist was particularly inspiring to my cello student. Both girls were impressed with the excitement with which the players performed. We ate at McDonald's and Starbucks after the concert. The girls are getting excited about being in orchestra. They are thrilled to be a part of the group even though it is small right now. This is an answer to prayer – if they can be excited with only two members of the orchestra, the orchestra has a very good chance of growth!

Birthday

Though it was my first birthday away from home, everyone made it a wonderful day. Throughout the day, students and teachers gave me cards and chocolate and sang or played "Happy Birthday." After school, all students and staff went to Basel for Herbstmesse, the annual fall fair. I spent over an hour riding bumper cars with students and other teachers!



Study Hall

I have had several very good opportunities to interact with the students in my study hall. Conversation topics have included

prayer, tree houses, music, witnessing, movies, and philosophy. These students are starting to open up to me. I see 3 of the boys every other Monday at their dorm, so they do not only see me in the teacher role. I invest my time, energy, and prayer into these students, and God is at work in their lives.

What's Up Ahead

I leave today (Oct. 30) for London with several other girls from BFA. We will be spending the weekend sightseeing there.

I am having all of the string players play the orchestra music for the Christmas concert, so this requires extra rehearsals outside of class throughout the month of November. This could be an opportunity to get the other kids excited about joining orchestra.

I ask that you pray for the following:

- **Pray** that the string students would get excited about joining orchestra and that a solution would be found to get as many of them in as possible
- **Pray** that God would speak through me as I invest in students in study hall and the dorms.
- **Pray** that BFA would reach out to the German community in whatever ways are possible
- **Praise** God for the friends and family that make even birthdays away from home special!

God bless you all!
~Jill Musick

