

the spiritual landscape

The former East Germany is one of the most atheistic places on earth. The 2008 University of Chicago study “Beliefs about God across Time and Countries” revealed that 75% of those under the age of 50 who grew up in the former East Germany have never believed in the existence of God.

the Moravians & Herrnhut

In the 1720s Count Zinzendorf established a pietistic community called Herrnhut in present-day Saxony. Its residents experienced a dramatic revival and Herrnhut became the center of a major movement for Christian renewal and mission during the 18th century. Among other things, the Moravians ...

- ✳ set up a continuous prayer watch that ran 24 hours a day for 100 years.
- ✳ were the first Protestant church body to send out missionaries. Within 30 years of the founding of Herrnhut, the community had sent out hundreds of lay missionaries to many parts of the world.

just imagine ...

history repeating itself, Saxony experiencing a dramatic revival and once again becoming a center for Christian renewal and mission. Pray for the Ingrams, the FeG Dresden (its “Golden Lamb” ministry center is pictured) and for the Christians in Saxony, because with God, all things are possible!



the church planters

Jeff & Anne Ingram

Jeff is an army brat, who grew up on the move and graduated from an American high school in Germany. He made a commitment to serve the Lord overseas while studying mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech in the early 1980s.

Anne is a preacher's kid, who grew up in a missions-minded family in upstate New York. Until she met Jeff at Columbia Biblical Seminary in South Carolina, she had been intending to use her training as a dietitian in medical missions in Africa.



Jeff & Anne were married in 1987, have three college-age kids, and have been serving as church planters with TEAM in Europe for the past 20 years—seven in Poland and 13 in Germany. In Germany, they helped establish the Evangelical Free Church (FeG) of Kaiserslautern and led the German team that started and established the FeG Ramstein. Both churches are now led by German pastors.

After completing their home assignment in September 2013, the Ingrams plan to move to Dresden, a city of 520,000 and the capital of the German state of Saxony. They will spearhead the FeG Dresden's efforts to start new FeGs.

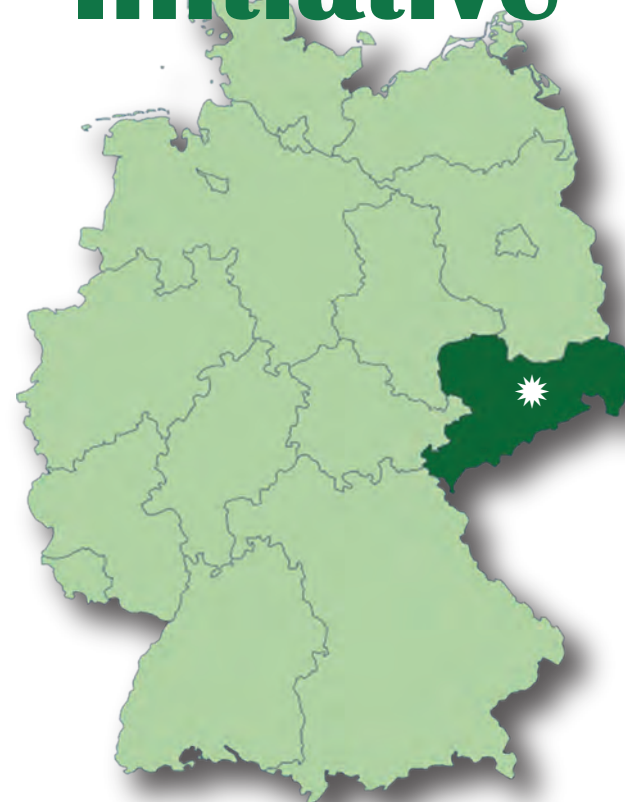
“I have but one passion: It is He, it is He alone. The world is the field and the field is the world; and henceforth that country shall be my home where I can be most used in winning souls for Christ.”

— Count Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf



Dresden

the Initiative



- **sharing** the good news about Jesus Christ with German atheists
- **teaching** new believers to walk with Christ daily and serve others in his name
- **establishing new churches** in and around Dresden, in the German state of Saxony
- **a joint venture** between TEAM Germany and the Evangelical Free Church of Dresden

a short history

The Allied bombing of **Dresden** (aftermath pictured) on Feb. 13, 1945, destroyed the city. Many churches had members killed in the raid; their ministry centers were gutted. In 1949 the Soviet-controlled German Democratic Republic (East Germany) was formed; the new Communist government was hostile to the Christian faith. Remaining faithful to Jesus Christ in former East Germany required sacrifice,

"Turning people away from God was the Communists' sole and evidently lasting success." – German journalist

and many of those who did not flee to the west turned their backs on the church.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, Christians began mission work in the East. The ground, though, was hard and the harvest sparse.



the umbrella organizations

❖ **TEAM**, or **The Evangelical Alliance Mission**, is an



evangelical non-denominational organization based near Chicago. Its 550+ missionaries work in 35 countries. TEAM missionaries seek

to be and build the Body of Christ wherever the most people have the greatest need. Because TEAM wants the churches it plants to have a high degree of cultural relevance, it collaborates with existing churches when possible.

❖ **The German Association of Evangelical Free Churches (FeG)** and TEAM Germany have partnered together for many years. Both are motivated deeply by the truth that lost people matter to God. Thanks to its strong emphasis on church planting, the FeG is one of the few denominations in the country which is growing. It is solidly evangelical, innovative, and well on its way to realizing its vision of planting 100 new FeGs by 2015. Over the years, TEAM Germany missionaries have contributed significantly to and benefited greatly from their fruitful partnership with the FeG.



the German partner FeG Dresden

In May 2012, the Ingrams traveled to Dresden on a trip to survey possible locations for future church plants. They spent four days with the leaders of the **FeG Dresden**, learned of their desire to start new churches and of their need for help. As a result, the FeG Dresden invited them to, **"Come over and help us!"**

The FeG Dresden pastor, **Ulrich Mann** (right), wrote the Ingrams: "In the 20 years since the Berlin Wall fell, we have succeeded, by God's grace, in establishing evangelistically active churches in most, but not all, of the major cities in the east. It's time to move out into the areas around these cities, establishing churches in the smaller cities and towns. This is a long-term project that I expect will take 30 years or longer.



Jeff Ingram baptizes a new German believer.



Grab the rope & pull your weight in the Dresden Initiative by ...



praying regularly. Mission work is spiritual warfare. Our only weapons are prayer and the timely application of God's word. Sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit and perseverance are essential qualities for this important work.

giving faithfully. TEAM is a non-denominational faith mission. Its missionaries trust the Lord to provide for their material needs through interested believers and churches. These partners share in the expansion of God's kingdom by investing in a particular missionary's ministry. Financial partners commit to investing a specific amount at regular intervals, as the Lord enables them, or they donate occasionally for special needs, or both. Donations to TEAM are tax-deductible.

Due to the effects of the economic downturn, the weak dollar and the rising costs of living and working overseas, the Ingrams need approximately \$2000 in additional monthly support in order to return to Germany fully funded. Would you consider partnering with them and investing in their ministry to reach German atheists for Christ? More detailed financial information is available by request.

joining the team. Do you have ESL training? Can you start a business? Can you build relationships? Are you willing to learn German? Contact TEAM or the Ingrams about the possibility of using your skills in the **Dresden Initiative**.



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