



Gemeinschaft Evangelischer Kirchen in Europa (GEKE)
Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE)
Communion d'Eglises Protestantes en Europe (CEPE)

Thanks for your solidarity in times of corona

Dear Sir/Madam,

During Lent, the CPCE launched an appeal for an Easter collection to consider and help those particularly at risk from the pandemic on the outskirts of Europe. We consciously targeted two projects in the appeal – for the people struggling to hold on in the conflict zone of Aleppo and the refugees stranded in extremely cramped conditions on the island of Lesbos.

I thank you very much indeed for contributing to the Easter collection and thus helping people in need!

With the assistance of the Swiss **Guido Fluri Foundation**, the CPCE boosted medical aid to the Greek **island of Lesbos**, supplying Vostanio hospital in Mytilini with medical equipment such as sterilisation boxes, respirators, including one for infants, corona tests and protective gear. We are pleased that **donations ensured sufficient tests could be performed and the few corona infections on Lesbos quickly identified and treated in isolation.**

The CPCE supported Bethel Polyclinic in Aleppo, run by the Union of Armenian Protestant Community, in **Syria** via the **Gustav Adolf Foundation (GAW)**. Funds were used, for example, to buy protective equipment, cleaning and hygienic products, medication and food for people isolated in their homes. As the state of conflict there means hardly anyone is currently travelling to Syria, the country has not yet been affected that harshly by the pandemic. However, the prices for medical products and food have risen by more than 200 per cent. Until now, a total of approx. 95,000 euros has been donated to the two appeal funds, the majority stemming from the "Fondation du Protestantisme" in France. I find it highly encouraging how many small churches and individuals donated to the Easter appeal.

I thank you very much for your donation. You have made a great difference right on the spot.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Mario Fischer

General Secretary

Vienna, 17 July 2020

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