

# INSPIRE NEWS

## Life in Lockdown



### 1. Challenges

How do you touch people, when you are not allowed to touch people?

This has been just one of the challenges that INSPIRE has faced in the past year in which the covid-19 pandemic has played havoc with the world. Table fellowship and community building are at the heart of what INSPIRE is all about - almost all of our ministries, events and services are based around this. But the pandemic has meant that we had to cancel most activities. No Music Mondays. No Bring and Share brunches. No English lessons for senior citizens. No improv-comedy. No whiskey-tastings. No team prayer breakfasts. No special events.

Touching people when you can't. Watch the video [here](#)

There was a brief window of opportunity when we were able to run a support group for those affected by divorce and separation. This [course](#) was deeply appreciated by the 10 people who attended. We hope to finish the course, when the circumstances allow again. And [InspireKids](#) continued to be innovative and creative in finding ways to connect with the kids from the neighbourhood during lockdown.

Like the rest of the world, we were forced to try things online. We had an online Easter service with holy communion. We produced 8 'More Than Music Monday' hour long [videos](#) of interviews with local people from the Brühl. And our online-whiskey tastings were a great success.

INSPIRE has also become a collection point for donations for the homeless in Chemnitz. See the [video](#).

## 2. Changes

The past year has also led to a number of changes at INSPIRE. The lockdown has impacted our finances. We have continued to pay our rent and overheads every month, without having the events that usually help us financially. We are self-funded, and if it were not for the monthly financial donations of our team members, and a small circle of friends who also make donations, our monthly losses would be significantly worse. Another 6 months at this rate, and things will become critical. (NB - if you would like to support our work, please get in touch. All donations are tax-deductible).

INSPIRE is a collection point for gifts for the homeless.



## ”Another 6 months at this rate, and things will become critical”

There have also been some changes to our core team and our team of volunteers, with people moving on due to other work and life commitments. We wish these dear friends all the best for the future and thank them for serving with us at INSPIRE. We are also delighted to welcome two new co-workers who will support our existing Music Monday program, and also start new games' and quiz events.

## 3. Chances

The future is uncertain. Covid has taught us that. But even though we may not be able to plan things exactly as we would wish, we are certain that INSPIRE's place at the heart of the Brühl is still where we are meant to be. Touching hearts. Moving people. And breathing life into the Brühl. That is why, in spite of all the challenges and changes, we look forward to a new chapter with new chances to serve our neighbourhood. Here are some of the things we are currently working

on: games / quiz nights (also online), sewing club, ukulele jam sessions, discussion groups, coffee chats, and various live-streaming events.

We are also using this time of lockdown to carry out some renovations to our rooms. We are giving the place a lick of paint, and making a few creative changes to the decor, so that our guests continue to be 'inspired' when they are able to visit us again.

## Help us Write a New Chapter at INSPIRE

Since the beginning of INSPIRE in 2014, we have continually adapted to our surroundings, developing things on the go. The Brühl is a totally different place today in comparison to when we started. We give thanks for this, and for being able to play our own small part in shaping the neighbourhood. The world has also changed - covid has left us with a new way of doing life. In one sense it is no surprise then that the INSPIRE team and circle of friends has had to develop and adapt throughout the past 6 years. We thank God for the amazing adventure we have been on!

As we look to the future, **we invite you** to help us to write the next chapter at INSPIRE. Come journey with us! Help us work towards and play a part leading up to Chemnitz European City of Culture 2025. Think about serving as one of our volunteers. Consider making a financial donation to support our ministry. If you are the praying type, please pray for our work. And if you're not, don't worry - just send us some love and good vibes :-)

Hang in there, people! The best way to get through the challenges that we face is to do it together. And, if you're in the neighbourhood and are struggling with life during the pandemic, do reach out to us at [info@inspire-chemnitz.de](mailto:info@inspire-chemnitz.de) . We love to help where we can.

God bless,

Team INSPIRE



A sign on the wall in INSPIRE

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Email: [info@inspire-chemnitz.de](mailto:info@inspire-chemnitz.de)

[www.inspire-chemnitz.de](http://www.inspire-chemnitz.de)

<https://www.facebook.com/inspire.chemnitz>

Film: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkZgcKVO4as](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkZgcKVO4as)

Bank: Volksbank Laichinger Alb

Account holder: Ev.-meth. Kirche

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