

Thank you, all of you who support us financially so we still can be on the spot and make a difference. And thank you all, both individuals and organizations, who come with food and clothes and other items. *Accept the gratitude we encounter, from anyone who receives something.* We do not mention anyone specifically, but hope that donations will continue to flow in, so we can send several more deliveries to those whose dreams went up in smoke.



Newcomers in Portugal say sometimes: We don't see refugees, as in other EU countries. Indeed, we have only got a few. Of the 1,511 that came, just 783 stayed. The refugees get €150 a month to cover food and travel. Monthly passes for a couple to go to language training cost € 70 and often the teacher will not show up. Portugal expects another 1,400 in October. It is always so few.

Those who really need emergency help today are all vulnerable and exposed to the fires.

A big thanks to Mirjan Ericsson, who responded to our need for assistance with our accounts and has in 2014, 15, 16 and also 2017 done a very honorable job. When she is no longer able, someone is needed. Contact; styrelsen@maj-lis.org

Find previous newsletters at **www.maj-lis.org**



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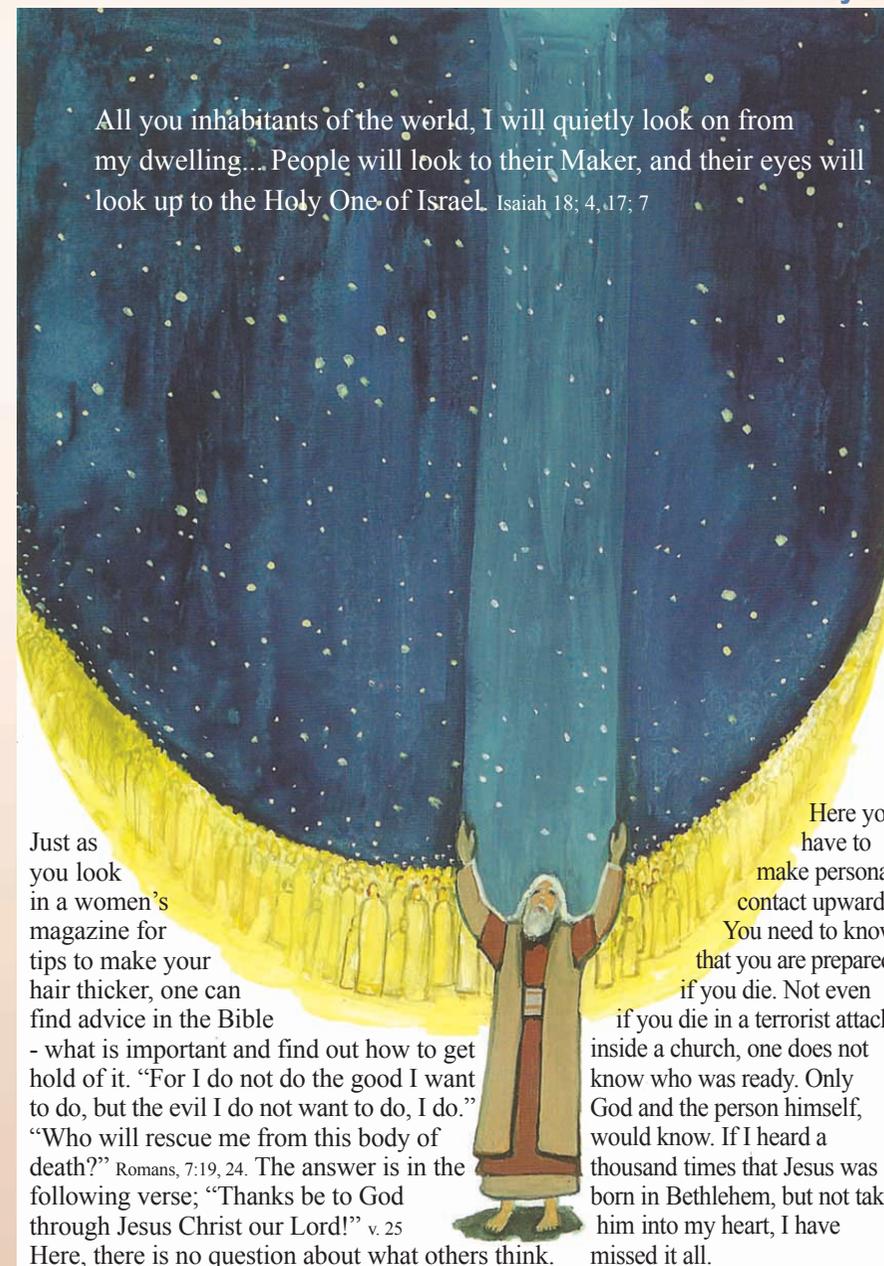


A Hope in the Dark

Newsletter

Maj-Lis Philanthropic Foundation

December 2017 – February 2018



All you inhabitants of the world, I will quietly look on from my dwelling... People will look to their Maker, and their eyes will look up to the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 18; 4, 17; 7

Just as you look in a women's magazine for tips to make your hair thicker, one can find advice in the Bible - what is important and find out how to get hold of it. "For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do, I do." "Who will rescue me from this body of death?" Romans, 7:19, 24. The answer is in the following verse; "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" v. 25 Here, there is no question about what others think.

Here you have to make personal contact upwards. You need to know that you are prepared, if you die. Not even if you die in a terrorist attack inside a church, one does not know who was ready. Only God and the person himself, would know. If I heard a thousand times that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, but not take him into my heart, I have missed it all.

Dear friends!

Christmas letter November 2017

Christmas is coming. The Christmas message for over two thousand years ago, was that ONE should die for all, that the Lord of the Universe, God YEHOVA, repeatedly said through prophets, during the four thousand years before Jesus the Son of man came, that he would send a Messiah Saviour. When he came, he said what God wanted him to say, that at the end of time, all will arise and the humanity is divided in two groups, the just and the unjust, to eternal life or eternal judgment. And it will be Jesus who is going to judge. If he does not know you, he will say: I know you not.

In which of the crowds are you going to stand on that day = in the crowd you are standing in today? The side you are on today is where you are going. In Moses' final speech, he says what God has put in his heart: See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. **Choose such a life** that you and your descendants may live. Deut 30: 15, 19

The sons of Johansson and families send their Christmas greetings

So do our coworkers also.



Mikael & Ida, with Ester



Daniel with Oscar and Oliver



Samuel & Karin, with Lucas and Isabella



One of the Summer Camps

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News from Portugal



It is common in Portugal to have half the year without rain and with forest fires, but this year it is extreme. Not for over a hundred years, has it been like this. Farmers are forced to find water for their animals wherever they can. During the last four months we have had two rounds of fires, in which more than 500 animals have died and hundreds of people lost their lives with many more seriously injured.

In just one day, 15 of July, in the Oliveira do Hospital and Seia area, where we are sending emergency aid, 523 fires burned at the same time within about a 100 km area and around 45 people died. The people receiving the help say that there may have been criminal intent. It could have been attacks against the Government and against the rich, they say.

All around me right now, have lost everything they owned. "We survived, but we didn't have time to get anything more than the clothes on our body. That's all." Not a chair to sit on, I thought, and how will they be able to eat from the tinned food they receive, without even owning a spoon. One of the men asks gently, almost shyly, if we have any bed? His father is 91 and would like to come along. He has built and worked and saved and everything, as well as the notes under the mattress, disappeared. Some have an insurance, but if it proves to be partly the Government's fault, nothing or only a part will be paid, they say.



Today when I read the newspaper ZAP aeiou, I got the facts. The fires on October 15 were much worse than the one two months earlier. They burned in several locations and in two of them, each burned more than 60,000 hectares. An international expert from the University of Aveiro said that it spread so fast that for him, it seemed incredible: 100 km in just 6 hours. Carlos Fonseca said that for such unnatural fires, it was understandable that it was insufficient prepared. As an example, where many trees grow high up and within the electricity cables, the fight is taken up against the electricity company, but they respond with 250 pages in their defense.



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