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<https://www.familycare.org/network/family-care-eduvison>

Regd. No: E22293 (Mumbai)

AUGUST 2014

“Working with the community for the community.”



Elixir Mime did a mime and storytelling activity for ta special day out for 30 children of the NGO Stoff Wechsel, in Dresden, Germany. This NGO focuses on helping children from broken homes to have opportunity to learn and play in a safe environment.

We used hats to portray various international characters and at the end sang, “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” in German. We did various activities to teach basic acting and pantomime skills, like having a tug of war game with a real rope and then miming it.

The children had a lot of fun with the activities . The director mentioned that he wants to develop our program together in the coming year. “Role play and such story telling activities are important for children to communicate well.”

You can see more of the Stoff Wechsel activities at the web site: <http://www.stoffwechsel.com/>

Please let us know if you would like to help in any way with our community projects. Thank you very much! Please contact us at e-mail: new2mailbox@yahoo.com

Street Theatre Ministry

by Peter van Gorder

Through a series of open doors, we were led to the hip city of Dresden, in former East Germany to do street mime theatre. Well, it's not on the street only, as we found a Christian club to work with that is open on the weekends.



This city has a lot of young people milling about taking in the atmosphere and looking for something to turn them on. Several local churches chip in to rent a place which is right in the thick of the action where they offer free or cheap food and drinks while listening to Christian music.

Josiah Lorenzo, a long-time friend, who regularly performs music at this Christian club, introduced me to the pastor to talk about the possibility of forming an acting group and doing regular mime performances. The pastor was ready for new ideas and was open to give it a go. I told him it was a pilot performance and not to judge the first show too harshly as we had only been in the city for three days and hadn't much time to prepare. It once again showed me that it always helps to have a few good tricks to pull out of your bag.

The "trick" I pulled out, was the *8 Ages of Man*, a story which can be performed with just one person and without any props. This story is based on a monologue from Shakespeare's play *As You Like It*. It goes through the 7 ages of man from baby, school boy, lover, soldier, judge, old man, and death. Sadly, Shakespeare ends "this sad story" there, but we take it one step further. We have a light shining that represents the Lord and the person awakening in heaven. Finally, there is happy dancing in the street.

After the performance, the pastor came and gave a short application of the skit that he likes to call his "input." People were very moved by it and one girl poked her boyfriend in the ribs and told him, "This is so true!" as if to say, *I hope you are getting this*. It sparked an attraction in this crowd who wouldn't usually be so interested in such a spiritual message and it was a springboard for further interactions.

Everyone in the club was really excited about the possibilities of doing regular performances and the pastor arranged for us to do a new show twice a week and announce it with a poster. The pastor kept hugging me and telling me that God had sent me to bring a new light into their club. I agreed that it was a miracle.

