



Why Christusgemeinde Markkleeberg?

[Christusgemeinde Markkleeberg](#) (CM) is a German-speaking church on the outskirts of Leipzig, a university city of about 620,000 located in former communist East Germany. After decades of state-sponsored atheism, most people in the region today have no Christian heritage and need to hear the good news of Jesus. CM has been going independently since 2024 and was first started as a German-speaking service within Leipzig English Church, to provide a gospel-proclaiming church for German speakers who make up the majority of people living in the area. CM is led by Klaus Hickel who is a German national ordained with the [Anglican Convocation in Europe](#). Germany is in need of faithful Bible teaching as its churches have suffered from decades of departing from the truth in liberal theology. Many Germans who consider themselves to be Christian do not have access to any local church where the Bible is taught as the revealed word of God.

What will Ralf & Marie-Christine Wenz be doing at Christusgemeinde Markkleeberg?

Ralf will be taking on the role of Assistant Minister and seeking to expand small group Bible studies alongside preaching. His goal is to equip everyone in the church to make more disciples of Jesus and grow in their love and knowledge of the Lord and his word. Ralf is a German national who holds a PhD from Imperial College in neuroimmunology. He left science specifically with the goal of going back to Germany to share the good news of Jesus with his compatriots. He has been trained for the past six years through the Proclamation Trust's Cornhill Training Course, alongside being part of the staff team at St Helen's Bishopsgate with a particular focus on men's ministry. Marie-Christine is a French-speaking Canadian who moved to London in 2017 and has been working with student and professional women in churches in the city ever since. She will initially dedicate herself to improving her German language skills. Ralf and Marie-Christine have three children, Ansgar (3), Rosie (2) and Heidi (2).

Why invest in the work of Christusgemeinde Markkleeberg?

CM is a small but growing church of people who want to reach their local community with the good news of Jesus. It's currently made up of 35-45 adults and 20 children, and people from across the region are being drawn in and wanting to know God better as they hear his word faithfully explained. Ralf and Marie-Christine hope to help equip them to reach out even more confidently, and are excited to bring the light of the gospel to one of the darkest places on earth (where less than 1% of people are evangelical Christians).