

REARMEMENT MORAL · CAUX

Centre de Rencontres Internationales

TÉL. 021/9634821
TÉLÉFAX 021/9635260
TÉLÉGRAMME CAUXVAUD

MOUNTAIN HOUSE
RUE DU PANORAMA
CH-1824 CAUX

16th March, 1989

Dear friends,

Last month, as you may have heard, we met for a week's retreat in Delémont with all our Swiss full-time team. We met with a sense of great need, for ourselves, for our world, and for our work, with empty hands and questing hearts. Of course, Caux and its needs were high on the agenda, but foremost we all felt the need to seek the God-given life in each of us without which we cannot transmit new life to others, see clearly what we should drop or change, and breathe new vigour into the structures and habits we inherit and are meant to preserve.

We felt the first stirrings of this new life; and as with nature, time, care and the right dose of water and light will be needed for growth into maturity. Spring is touching us and our world again, and all around new life is thrusting up. As we met in Caux the other day, it was snowing, yet the daffodils, primroses and crocuses are all in flower. We look forward with a great sense of expectancy and adventure to the future that God holds in store for Caux and through Caux for many people and countries.

We have set up an informal 'Caux study group', who will meet once a month from now until the summer, to look at the needs of the centre in between conferences, and during the summer sessions. This group includes some of those now living in Caux, and others from Bern, Luzern, Geneva, Evilard and La-Tour-de-Peilz... In mid-April, the members of the Foundation have their regular Easter meeting in Luzern, and are going to prolong it with two days of reflection along the same lines. We look forward to seeing many of you in Caux this summer, and getting all your thoughts and convictions and questions. But please don't wait until then to start a dialogue.

The greatest need that we see is for many more people who will be responsible for Caux, and for some of the more specialised parts of its life - even for a week or two. People who will ask once, 'How can I help?' and then will learn enough to put other 'helpers' to work. People who will take on to learn the telephone, the reception desk, the welcome/security in the front hall, the housekeeping, the accommodation, travel, the kitchen, service, economat, vegetables, films and videos, laundry, gardens, flowers, secretariat, translation, post office, book shop, press-office/public relations, night-watch, theatre/sound, repairs and maintenance, music, kindergarten, infirmary, teas, baking, wash-up, evening drinks, sports. Now please read it again, and let us know if you feel left out!!

We will welcome with open arms any who have the conviction to come for the whole summer. There may also be some friends in jobs who could do this by taking unpaid leave for two months. Should we plan for more people to come for shorter spells - but for at least several consecutive years, to make the best use of the investment in learning.

We have been greatly encouraged and touched by the feeling that many around the world are carrying this search with us. While we were meeting, we heard that a group was gathered in London, to consider amongst other things the needs of Caux. We felt that it was a sign from God.

It is also heartening to know that various groups of friends are working on the agenda of next summer and we look forward to sending definite news about it before too long.

Warmest greetings,

Ulrike Bickeböller
Marie-Claude Borel
Regula Borel
Margrit Duckert
Werner and Rita Fankhauser
Jean and Maya Fiaux

Christoph Keller
Konrad von Orelli
Jacqueline Piguet
Christoph and Marianne Spreng
Andrew Stallybrass