
Newsletter December 2022

Dear Members

I would like to report to you on the outcome of the extraordinary general assembly, which took place on 15.12.22 in Biel-Benken. Despite the freezing cold, the snow and black ice, it was so gratifyingly well attended that we had to fetch more chairs. The change to the bylaws was adopted so that from 1.1.23 all members who need voluntary assisted deliverance (VAD) will receive a credit of CHF700.- for every year they have been members towards the cost of VAD. The minutes of the general assembly will be posted to the website in the next few days so please read them for further details.

As we expected, stopping admission to new members led to some desperate emails and telephone calls. However, our secretaries were able to help everyone by recommending other good organisations in Switzerland to them. Personally I am looking forward to assisting the nearly 1700 current members with even more loving care.

On 8.12.22 I was honoured to receive the Arthur-Köstler-Preis in Berlin. It was awarded by the DGHS, the German Society for Humane Dying <https://www.dghs.de> and the last recipient was the theologian and priest, Hans Küng, nine years ago. I particularly appreciate receiving this honour because not only do I value Hans Küng's books and achievements highly, he was also a friend of my father. There were musical interludes during the evening and Prof. Robert Rossbruch gave a long tribute speech. Prof. Rossbruch and I fought against Paragraph 217, which made VAD illegal, before the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe, Germany. You can read about the prizegiving and our success on the DGHS website.

With this "happy news" I wish you all a beautiful Christmas celebration and all the very, very best for 2023!

May a light shine for each of you whenever you encounter dark times



Erika Preisig, GP and
President of the lifecircle association