SCOTT & FIONA CUSTER

International Church Leadership
• Kandern, Germany •

Our Story

We, Scott and Fiona, grew up as missionary kids in Europe, meeting as high school students at Black Forest Academy in Kandern, Germany.

After serving in pastoral ministry in Hawai'i for the past ten years, the Lord has called us to the mission field.

God is leading us back to the place we met! Scott has been invited to **join the pastoral staff at Black Forest Christian Fellowship**, the same church we attended as teenagers over twenty years ago.

As former students, we appreciate the unique place, culture, and kingdom impact that life and ministry in Kandern provides.

Our Next Ministry

BFCF is a special faith family, positioned to influence Christianity world-wide!

It's an International, English-speaking church that serves the students, staff, and faculty of BFA from dozens of countries - as well as other internationals, immigrants, and indigenous Germans in the area.

This church is located in the heart of Europe, and offers strategic connections for global ministry opportunities!



Our 'Ohana (Family)

Scott & Fiona married Feb 3, 2007 in Melbourne, Australia

They have four wonderful daughters: Olivia (15), Megan (13), Emmalyn (11), and Audrey (9)

Get Involved

- Pray!
- Subscribe to our Newsletter: custers.epistle.org
- Give a one-time donation toward our Launch Fund
- Become a monthly partner in our ministry!

Giving Link
worldventure.com/sfcuster

Contact Scott
s.custer@worldventure.com

Contact Fiona
f.custer@worldventure.com

WORLD VENTURE



MEET THE CUSTERS

Scottland • Fiona • Olivia • Megan • Emmalyn • Audrey

Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land.

~ Genesis 28:15 ~



Scott was born and raised in southern **Austria** where his parents were church planters with WorldVenture.



When Fiona was twelve, her family left **Australia** to serve the Lord in **Russia.**

In 2002, we both left home to attend Black Forest Academy, a boarding school in Kandern, **Germany**.



Being at BFA was a great experience for both of us, thanks to the committed missionaries who lovingly served there.

Sundays, we attended a healthy, gospel-preaching local church called **Black Forest Christian Fellowship.**



We became good friends at BFA, but didn't date during our three years together.



We kept in touch after Scott's graduation in 2005 and realized it was a relationship we wanted to pursue more seriously.



In 2006, Fiona graduated and returned to **Australia**. Scott followed. With our family's blessing, we married in 2007, aged 19.



We relocated to **Florida**, where Scott graduated from the University of Tampa in Dec 2008. Olivia was born there.



We moved to **Colorado** to attend seminary in 2011. Megan and Emma joined the family. Fiona worked as a birth doula.



In Jan 2016, we moved to **Hawai'i** to lead a church. Audrey was born. Fiona worked in TV & Film, and released two songs.



Now, we are following God's call to become missionaries in **Germany!** We're excited to live in Kandern and serve at BFCF.



Olivia
Age 15
10th grade

When Liv is not playing volleyball, studying for school, listening to music, or singing loudly, you'll find her laughing and connecting with friends.



Megan
Age 13
7th grade

Meg is involved in a choir and musical performance club. She's often reading books, writing stories, listening to music, and enjoying performing arts.



Emmalyn
Age 11
5th grade

Emma loves to be active and moving. She plays volleyball, enjoys running around school with friends, and has a passion for air travel.



Audrey
Age 9
4th grade

Audrey splits her sports passion between soccer and basketball. She enjoys designing inventions, building towers, singing, and making people laugh.

BLACK FOREST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Kandern, Germany



Scott preaching at BFCF

About BFCF

Black Forest Christian Fellowship (BFCF) is an ethnically and denominationally diverse gathering of brothers and sisters that together strive to make the gospel of Jesus Christ visible by adoring the revealed person and character of the God of the Scriptures, reaching out locally and globally with the love and life of Jesus Christ, elevating others above ourselves, and following the example of Jesus.

History of BFCF

BFCF has been part of the English-language community of Kandern for over 30 years. It began as a way for Black Forest Academy (BFA) to provide Sunday morning fellowship and worship for the staff and students, representing over 70 nations!

As time went on, other English-speaking families living in the Kandern area began to take part in the services as well. In recent years a number of other English-speaking internationals from the surrounding region of the Black Forest, Basel, Switzerland, and the French Alsace have made BFCF their church home.

BFCF is also connected with a network of International churches throughout Europe for mutual encouragement.

www.bfcf.de

BLACK FOREST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



BFCF meets in BFA's auditorium

20 years after attending BFCF as teenagers, we are excited to be going back to minister there! Scott will serve with Pastor Joe Batluck on pastoral staff.

Scott will share in the preaching, shepherding, and leading of this special flock - half of whom are teens. His fluency in German will hopefully present opportunities for gospel impact in the community and ministry partnerships among German churches. In addition to managing the family, Fiona plans to offer her heart and skills to the worship and women's ministry.

Pastor Joe & Heike Batluck





GET TO KNOW KANDERN



Located in the scenic Baden-Württemberg region of Germany, Kandern is a charming town that is rich in history and natural beauty. Situated twenty minutes from the borders of Switzerland and France, Kandern offers a unique blend of German, Swiss, and French influences, making it a truly diverse and captivating town for its 8,000 inhabitants.

Like most German cities, 2% of Kandern's local population is Evangelical. Most are nominal Lutherans or Catholics, or non-religious. Throughout the country, Islam's numbers are growing through immigration and birthrate. While beautiful, the Black Forest region is a spiritually needy place.

Due to its central location on the European continent and the presence of an excellent International school, Kandern has become a central hub for numerous mission organizations and Christian networks. From here, **the kingdom impact is truly global!**











WORLDVENTURE

Founded by local churches to fulfill the Great Commission



It began with prayer in 1943!



History of WorldVenture

In the mid-20th century, many churches turned toward theological "liberalism," questioning the essential beliefs of Christianity, others sought to "conserve" the truth of the Bible.

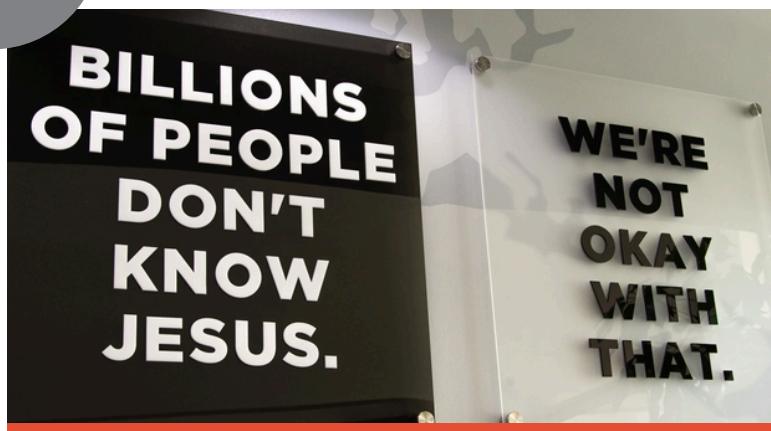
It was in this historical context, wrestling with historical questions of faith, that 50+ concerned Christian leaders met May 24, 1943 to discuss their options, and to pray.

On their knees in prayer, they took a step of faith! The Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society was born, incorporated seven months later, to assist churches in sending, funding, and caring for missionaries. In time, the organization came to be known as CBInternational, and now, WorldVenture.

The Vision • 360 Missions

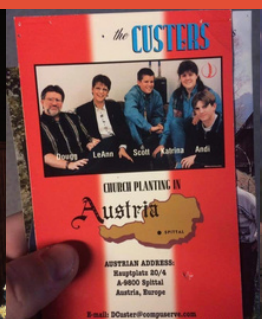
WorldVenture is committed to seeing the way God can use a person's passion to meet the deep needs of the world and share the good news at that point of confluence.

WV has identified **eight societal inroads for influence**: the arts, media, education, church outreach, family and medicine, science and agriculture, business, and government. From this framework, they strategize how to engage these areas with Christ's love. It requires a wide range of skills and talents from missionaries.



Scott grew up as a WorldVenture missionary kid. His parents, Dougg & LeAnn Custer, were appointed with the WV in 1979 and served with the mission agency until retirement in 2023.







WORLD VENTURE

ECFA

www.worldventure.com

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About Germany

Capital: Berlin
Population: 83.2 Million
Language German
Scott is already fluent!

#3 Economy in the world
Government spending accounts for 49.5% of GDP

Cost of Living is more expensive than 88% of the world

Though it is the home of Martin Luther and the origin of the Reformation, Germany is spiritually needy today!

Only 2% Evangelicals

Most are non-religious, or non-practicing of a nominal faith

Islam's numbers are growing through immigration and birth

WORLD VENTURE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Crafting the Budget

WorldVenture explained to us that heading to the mission field is like starting a small business or running a church.

It's not just our salary we are raising, but ministry expenses, health insurance, retirement, organizational overhead, kids' schooling, travel to and from the field, emergency savings, home assignments costs, and more. Though the budget figures may be big, we trust our God is BIGGER!

- 25% **Salary & Retirement**
- 25% **Housing & Ministry Funds**
- 25% **Insurance & Kids' Education**
- 25% **Taxes & Fees**

Launch Fund

In addition to the crucial monthly support, WorldVenture requires missionaries to raise a sufficient Launch Fund of one-time expenses to move overseas.

This covers various expected and unexpected costs, such as: travel, shipping household goods, customs, visas, vaccines, vehicle purchase, cross-cultural training, language acquisition training, emergency evacuation funds, etc.

Why do we need to fundraise to pastor?

All BFCF staff raise their support. It may seem like an unusual setup, but there are reasons why it fits this unique context. Half the congregants are teenagers, and the majority of the adults are missionaries. Since almost all of them have raised funds to be overseas, they want a pastor who has done the same.
BFCF commits its budget to missions, ministry, facility rental, and stipends for staff.

WILL YOU PARTNER WITH US?

Giving Link

worldventure.com/sfcuster