

The Church as a Coffee Shop



Imagine a church where the doors are open as frequently as your favorite coffee shop. This is the dream God placed on Anemone's heart, the city pastor of Offenbach, even before the Good Coffee Offenbach opened its doors a year ago.

The Good Coffee, in the center of downtown Offenbach, is on a street filled with dozens of restaurants. Prior to signing the contract and renovating the building, Anemone built relationships with the regulars of the prior coffee shop and the other restaurant owners.

"I see the other owners on a daily basis, and as manager of the coffee shop, I have a whole other level of connection with them. We are colleagues and friends. I know this kind of work is difficult for them, impacting their families and relationships. I know the struggles they go through, and this allows me to be a pastor to them, my neighbors." - Anemone

This industry is very competitive, but instead of competition, on this street, there is community. Stories are shared and burdens are carried by the friendships built between the Offenbach team and the other restaurant owners.



Anemone Butt

"Before we started the coffee shop, the question that kept coming to me was 'what happens with people who work in the restaurant and coffee shop industry when the church only has gatherings in the evenings and on the weekends?' The traditional rhythm of the church never reaches this group of people who are in deep need of community and pastoring."

Ali

“Ali, a nephew of the owner of the burger joint two doors down, had just moved from Iran to Offenbach and was working for his uncle. One day his uncle asked me if I knew of a church that Ali could attend because Ali is the only Christian believer in his family. I invited him to the Charity run, an event where he could meet other Iranian people who have a Muslim background but are now Christians.” - Anemone

Since that day Ali has attended every Sunday night service, serves and translates at the Eppertshausen Refugee Home, and wants to be baptized at Kirche in Aktion’s New Year’s Retreat.



Bea

“The day we signed the contract we went down by the river to celebrate. There we met a woman in a wheelchair named Bea, selling cakes. People would come from miles around just to buy these cakes. She came over to us saying that she heard we were opening a coffee shop and that she’d always dreamed of opening a bakery.

Bea is now our baker. We built the whole kitchen to be wheelchair accessible. She is a mother to our Barista’s and to our customers. And not only is she able to bake for us, but her other dream was to teach kindergarten again, and so now she serves in the kids program as well.” - Anemone

They Can Belong Before They Believe

For many customers the coffee shop has become a living room. Much like the woman at the well, they can go to encounter Jesus, even if they don’t know who Jesus is yet.