

Presentation of a project for refugees and migrants by
the Austrian CLC-**Working Group Migration**

Start: May 2016

Objectives: Raising awareness of both – the needs of
refugees and the fears of a welfare-society

Title:

**„It is your turn to give them
something to eat“**



We are invited to understand the challenges and „frontiers“ which we have to face and to get involved with them – with respect, openness and kindness.

Final document of CLC World meeting 2013 in Lebanon

Pontifex – the builder of bridges



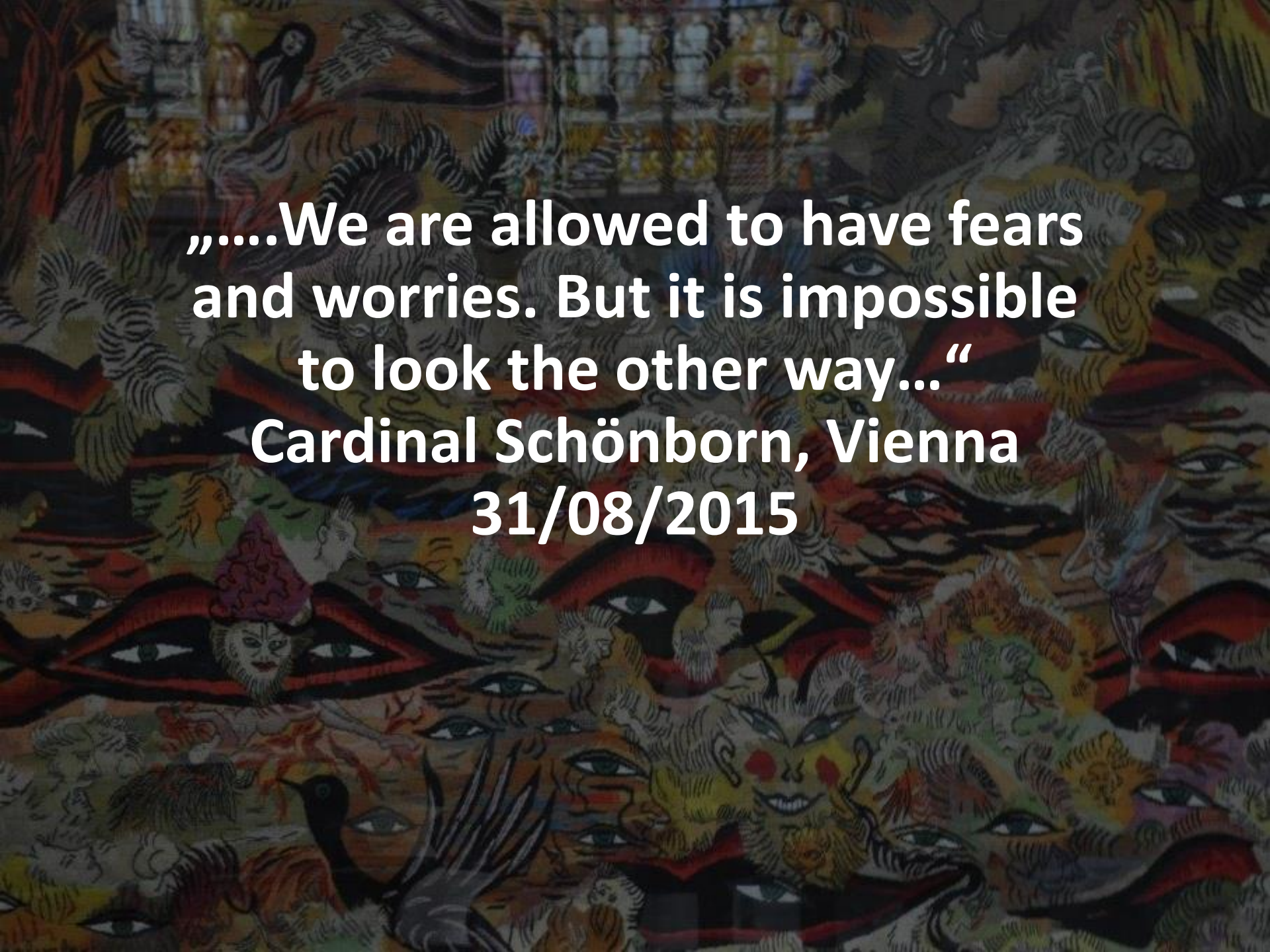
A person who only thinks of building walls instead of bridges – wherever these may be – is not a Christian

Pope Francis 17/02/2016

In Austria, the EU states and America politicians are in favour of fences at the borders, stricter law enforcement for asylum seekers and deportation of humans.

Forced Migration Project CLC Europe since 1999

- ❖ Justice for forced migrants**
- ❖ Cooperation concerning refugees with Jesuits**
- ❖ To enable encounters**
- ❖ Networking**



**„....We are allowed to have fears
and worries. But it is impossible
to look the other way...”**

**Cardinal Schönborn, Vienna
31/08/2015**



Cardinal Schönborn 11/03/2016

**The
„holy right“
of asylum“**

**„a lack of European
solidarity“**

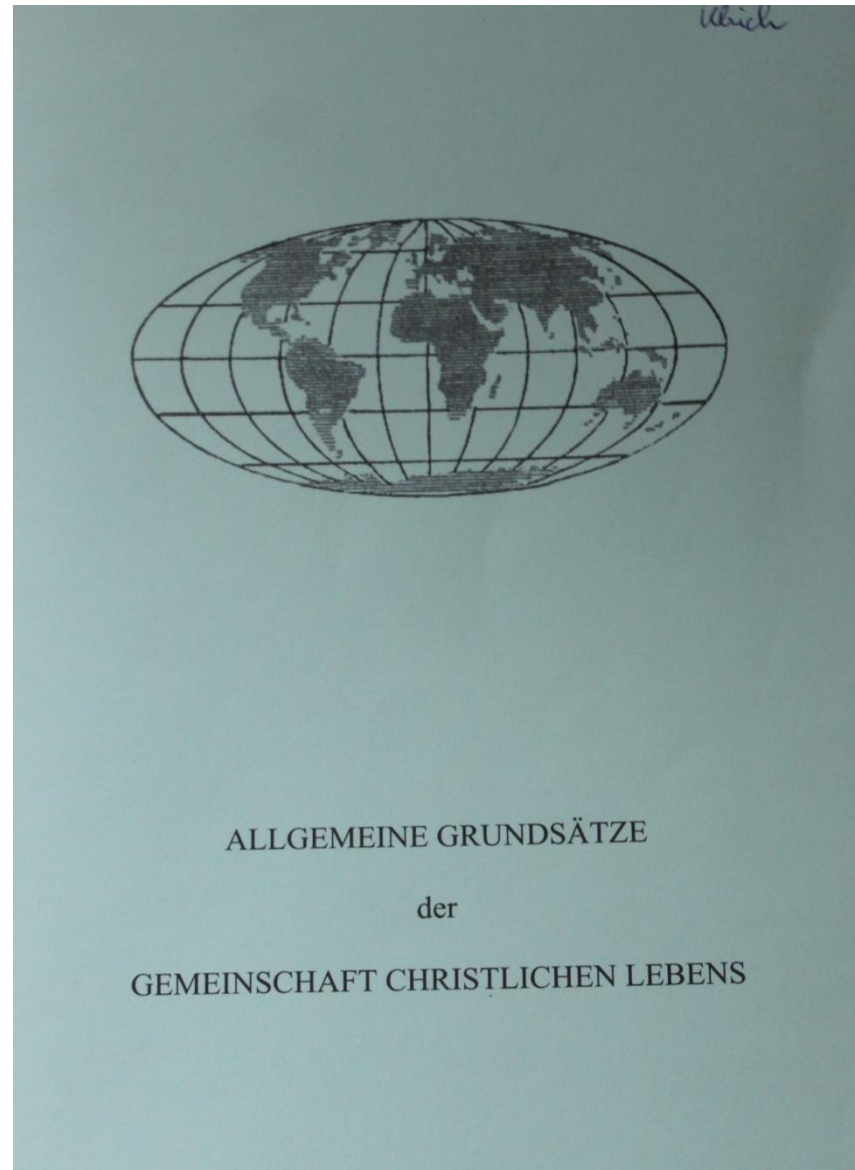
Our charism

...We aim to become committed Christians in

**bearing witness to those
human and Gospel
values**

within the church and society which affect the
dignity of the person, the welfare of the family as
well as the whole human community and the
integrity of creation...

General Principles of CLC



Lord, what do you want us to do?

1

- Discern/ decide

2

- Send

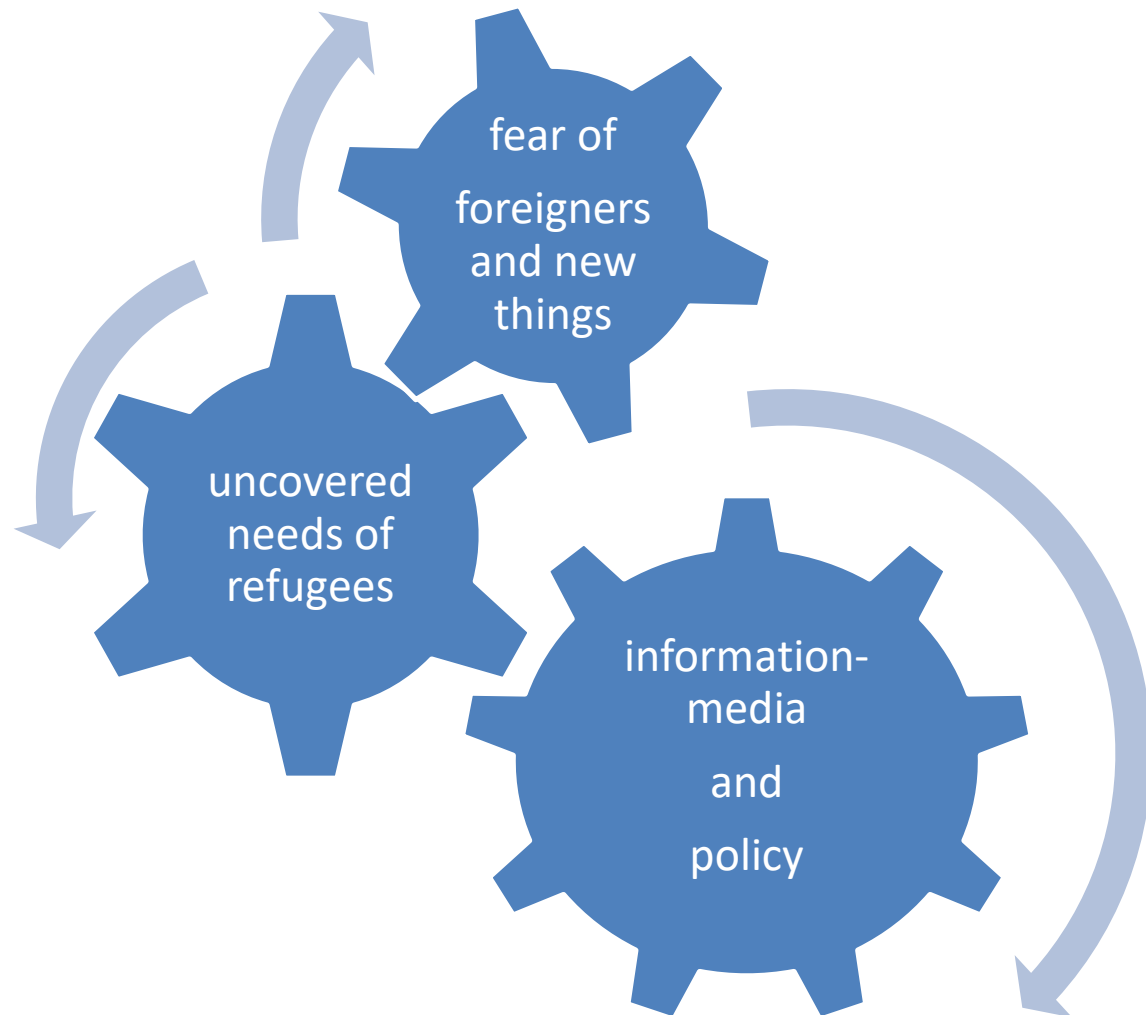
3

- Support

4

- Evaluate

Identifying three needs



Dealing with fear respectfully

- When feeling fear certain parts of our brain are disconnected
- The normally linked thinking becomes one-sided

Right half of the brain:
first perception, overall
impressions, emotion

Left half of the brain:
second perception, thinking,
language, time, place, images

THE BRIDGE

It is the connection and place of exchange between the right
and left halves of the brain

THE INTERBRAIN

our „old“ brain

BRAIN STEM

it is the center where is selected what will be transferred

DANGER-> reflex, battle, flight, pretend to be dead

SOMETHING INTERESTING/ TRIFLING -> learning

THREE LEVELS OF FEAR

first level of fear:

BREAKING DOWN OF THE BRIDGE

when the bridge breaks down, only the preferred half of the brain works, according to the type of person, either the emotional or the factual one.

second level of fear:

SWITCHING OFF OF THE CEREBRAL CORTEX

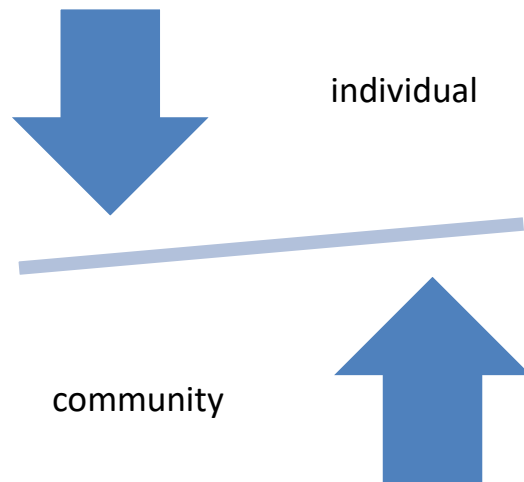
the interbrain goes into the lead, and emergency programs are called up that have been learned and are applied

third level of fear:

BRAIN STEM TAKES OVER

even learned patterns fail: reflex and instinct lead to combat, flight and pretending to be dead

As regards the „crisis of refugees“ we are at least at level one of fear, we no longer react with all parts of the brain. If not all parts of the brain are involved learning /integration is not possible.



There is a tension between the needs of the individual and the community.

The challenges of experiencing FEAR, STRESS and PAIN to find the respective middle is a permanent task of our life.

Group meetings:

**spirituality as a source
of my personal indepen-
dance – listening deeply
into ourselves**

becoming aware of the fears in the group





Sharing of ideas on a local/regional jour fixe

Weaving a web of support at a networking meeting?



MISSION

The language as a possibility
of mutual understanding

A foreign place of living needs
to be understood



**-> helpers with
learning**

-> culture-companion

MISSION

- Being a voice for ...
(petitions, discussions,...)



**-> chance of
humanity**

- Being able to overcome
sufferings by talking



-> being listened to

MISSION

- Help by dealing with the hurdles of bureaucracy: application forms
- Help refugees get out of their dependence



**-> a companion to
bureaucracy**



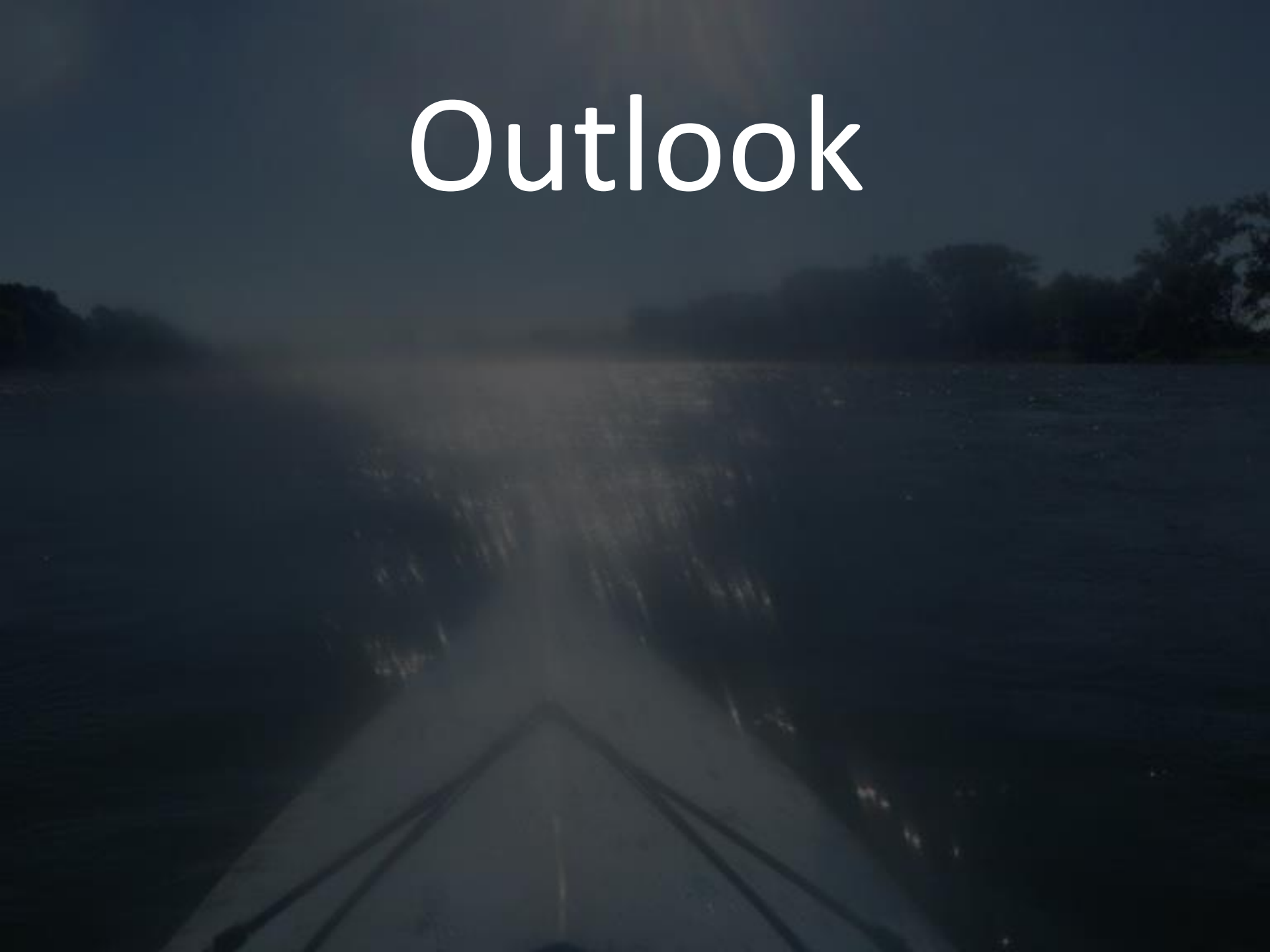
**-> model of „time-
sharing-bank“**

Work group:

helps with organizing, arranging necessary things,
visits, moves...



Outlook



Networking meeting

„We, too, give them something to eat“

