



GOODNEWSletter

*Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe
February 2016*

Apart from God Nothing Is Good



Psalm 16:2

*2 I said to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."*

God has blessed me with a wonderful wife. I met her in high school. We began dating our senior year. We were married 5 July 1997. This summer, Lord willing, we will celebrate 19 years of marriage.

God has blessed Katie and I with four children. Allison, Lucas, Madelyn, and Charlotte have been baptized. The Holy Spirit brought them to faith and has since, by the grace of God, kept them in the faith. They each have their own gifts and abilities, strengths and weaknesses. Each one of our children is truly a blessing from God.

God has graciously allowed me to serve two wonderful congregations, Abiding Savior in Killeen, Texas and this congregation spread throughout Western Europe. We have met such wonderful people. And the chance to use the Word of God to serve those who serve us in the military is truly a blessing.

I could go on and on and fill pages with each and every way that God has blessed me. The truth is, you could too. Don't think you can't. You can. God has been so good to all of us.

So part of me, when I hear this verse of Psalm 16, wants to say, "What can this possibly mean? Of course, I have good things. God, you gave me a wife, children, a wonderful job, and wonderful people to serve. How can those not be good things?"

But God's truth remains. Without him I have no good thing. God could give me all the most wonderful things in the world, an even better relationship with my wife, more children, enough money to fill a giant vault. Yet, if I don't believe in God, if I do not believe in Jesus as my Lord, then what do I really have? What good do any of those things do? They can't make me forgiven. They can't be offered as reasons why I should be let into heaven.

Without God there is truly no good thing. But with the God there is. With him is grace and forgiveness. With him and through faith in him is the righteousness that comes from Christ. With God is heaven. And with him is an even deeper appreciation for those other things in life with which God has blessed you. Always look first to the Lord and what he has done for you. Then, in faith, appreciate all of the good things he has lavished upon you.

Have a great February!

February Worship Schedule

Northwood, England – contact Pastor Martin
for location details

February 7

Worship at 13:00 followed by Bible study
and fellowship.

Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt Area) –
contact Pastor Martin for location details

February 14 and 28

Worship is at 11:00 followed by fellowship,
Bible study and Sunday school.

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany–
at the Southside Chapel

February 14 and 28

Worship is at 16:00 followed by Bible study,
Sunday school, and fellowship.

Vilseck, Germany – in the small chapel next to
building #205 on the Vilseck Army Base

February 20

Worship is at 10:30 followed by Bible study,
Sunday school, and fellowship.

Zurich, Switzerland area– contact Pastor
Martin for location details

February 21

Worship is at 11:00 followed by fellowship
and Bible study.

Munich – contact Pastor Martin for location
details

February 11

Worship is at 18:30 followed by going out to
eat.

Ede, Netherlands – contact Pastor Martin for
location details

contact pastor for date, has yet to be set

Worship is at 18:00.

Chili Cook-off

We had 22 in attendance for the Chili cook-
off. The winners this year were Dave and
Le Andrus. Thank you everyone for a

fantastic evening of good food and
wonderful Christian fellowship.

Offerings

Local offerings for the month were €3,227.
Thank you for your offerings. God bless the
generous and humble gifts of his people.

Easter Retreat

When: March 24-27, 2016

Where: Walchensee

contact Pastor Martin for location details

Prices: 35.00Euro per adult per night. This
includes all meals at the youth
hostel. Children 3-14 are half price and
children 0-2 are free.

Sample Schedule:

Thursday, March 24

Check in after 16:00

18:00 -Dinner at youth hostel

19:00 -Maundy Thursday worship

Friday, March 25

6:30 Breakfast at youth hostel

9:00 Bible study for children and adults

10:30 Choir practice

12:15 Lunch at youth hostel

13:00 Women's Bible study

14:00 Free time

17:30 Dinner at the youth hostel

18:30 Choir practice

19:15 Good Friday worship

20:30 Free time, Fellowship

Saturday, March 26

6:30 Breakfast at youth hostel

9:00 Bible study for children and adults

10:30 Choir practice

12:15 Lunch at youth hostel

13:00 free time

17:30 Out to eat for dinner (optional)

19:00 Free time, Fellowship

Sunday, March 27

6:30 Breakfast at youth hostel, room check-out
8:30 Choir practice
9:00 Easter Sunday worship
10:00 Group picture and Easter egg hunt

Women's Bible Study

When: Friday, February 19. Location and time to be determined.

Reformation Retreat

October 21-23, 2016 - Bad Homburg, Germany

Contact Us

If you have need of pastoral assistance or just want to talk, please make contact. Your e-mails, phone calls, & letters are welcomed.

Pastor Joshua and Katie Martin
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WELS Civilian Chaplaincy on Facebook

Check out our new page on Facebook. Like the WELS Civilian Chaplaincy page and stay connected to the ministry's events here in Europe.

Prayer Chain

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened unto you. (Matthew 7:7)

God in His Word encourages Christians to pray continually. It is such an important gift that our loving God has given us in which we can communicate with him and he blesses us. As a Christian congregation that is spread out across an entire continent, we may often find it difficult to know what is going on in the lives of our brother and sisters in Christ in order that we may offer prayers of thanksgiving and supplication for each other. In an effort to keep us united in prayer to our loving God, we have a weekly prayer chain. At the beginning of each week, you will be sent an email asking if you have any special prayer requests for yourself or a loved one. At the end of the week, the prayers received will be sent out to all those who subscribed to the email list. Please feel free to submit all prayer requests to Pastor Martin or directly to Melinda Gribble at rmgribble@aol.com. If you do not have an email address but would like to add a prayer request, please don't hesitate to call Pastor Martin directly.

Sermons on the Web

Video of the sermons is available at the church web site (www.welseurope.net). I pray this can be another tool for you to use to feed yourself with the Word. If there are any problems, please let me know. Thank you to the volunteers who take the time out of their busy schedules to make this possible.