



# GOODNEWSletter

*Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe*



*January – 2020*

## **The Greatest Miracle of All Is the Gift of God's Son**

I would like you to pretend, for a moment, that you are an angel. (Now, I know those closest to you might find that hard to believe, but, remember, this is just pretend.)

You're an angel living in heaven before the time Jesus was born. You've been given an assignment by God. The Lord asked you to serve on a special committee. He asks the committee to pick out one miracle to be done on earth and gives the following instructions: "I want something special. It needs to convey my love for the people of the world. It needs to be unforgettable and something that will help everyone."

After some discussion, one angel says, "How about raising someone from the dead? Or maybe raising a whole cemetery? That will get their attention." God says, "Not big enough." Another angel says, "Make enough food to feed the whole world." "No." God says, "I'm already doing that. Another angel says, "How about curing every one of their illnesses and diseases?" "That would help a lot of people." God says, "But, it wouldn't be long and they would forget what I had done. I've seen that sort of thing happen too many times."

Then an angel says, "How about sending your Son into the world to save the world from sin. He could become one of them. He could suffer and die for them so they might believe in him and have eternal life."

We know that the angels didn't come up with the plan of salvation. God devised it or set it up long before the world was created or Adam and Eve had fallen into sin. Nor was the birth of God's Son the first miracle that God ever performed.

God has done some great miracles in the past. He created the earth and universe in which we live. He caused the great flood of Noah's day which wiped a rebellious people from the earth. He delivered the Israelites from Egypt with ten amazing plagues and then he divided the Red Sea so Israel could cross safely and closed it up on the pursuing armies of the Egyptians.

But, let us never forget that the greatest miracle God has done. It was the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ as our Savior. God came into the flesh, to be one of us, to save us from our sins. God, the maker and ruler of the universe, left the glories of heaven to become one of us, to live with us, and to die for us. Then he rose from dead and ascended into heaven. He has promised to come back on Judgment Day to judge the living and the dead. "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. He that believes not shall be damned." (Mk 16:16.)

God has the power to do as many miracles as he wants. But, what miracle could be greater than the gift of his own Son as our Savior. It proclaims his love for us. The angels message to the shepherds and the star sent to the Wise Men, proclaim he is the Savior of all. To God be the glory!

## **WORSHIP INFORMATION**

### **Northwood, England**

**January 5th - Sunday**

Worship at the Northwood Methodist Church  
Oaklands Gate, Northwood, Middlesex H46 3AA  
Worship at 1:00 p.m. followed by Bible study,  
Sunday School, fellowship & potluck Dinner.

### **Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt area)**

**January 12th – Sunday**

Meeting in at the Evangelische  
Gemeindehaus (Friedenstraße 13, Flörsheim  
am Main, Wicker). Worship is at 11:00 AM  
followed by fellowship and Bible study.

### **Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany**

**January 12th – Sunday**

Worship is held at 4:00 p.m. Bible Study,  
Sunday School and a potluck dinner will  
follow the service. Contact Pastor for more  
information.

### **Munich, Germany**

**January 16th – Thursday**

Worship is at 6:30 p.m.. We worship at the  
home of Mike Kube. His address is  
Pressburger Strasse 65, Munich.

### **Vilseck, Germany**

**January 18<sup>th</sup> – Saturday** Worship is at 11:00.  
Contact Pastor for more information.

### **Zurich, Switzerland area**

**January 19th - Sunday**

Worship time and place to be determined.

### **Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt area)**

**January 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunday**

Meeting in at the Evangelische  
Gemeindehaus (Friedenstraße 13, Flörsheim  
am Main, Wicker). Worship is at 11:00 AM  
followed by fellowship and Bible study.

### **Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany**

**January 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunday**

Worship is held at 4:00 p.m. Bible Study,  
Sunday School and a meal at the Exchange  
follow. Contact Pastor for more information.

### **Northwood, England**

**February 2nd - Sunday**

Worship at the Northwood Methodist Church  
Oaklands Gate, Northwood, Middlesex H46 3AA  
Worship at 1:00 p.m. followed by Bible study,  
Sunday School, fellowship & potluck Dinner.

## **LOOKING AHEAD - RETREAT SCHEDULE**

**9-12 April – 2020 - Würzburg**

**6-08 November- 2020 – Augsburg**

**1-4 April – 2021 –Heidelberg**

### **OFFERINGS**

On November 30th our bank account balance was €53.440,60. The balance in the church account on December 31<sup>st</sup> was €55.312,00. During last month, we received worship service offerings of €4.514,89. We also received gifts of €930,00 in direct bank deposits. We praise the Lord for moving the hearts of his people to make these generous gifts for the work of the church.

### **Easter Retreat – Würzburg - April 9-12**

It's time to make plans to attend the Easter retreat in Würzburg, Bayern. Contact Pastor for more information.

What a blessing these retreats are to the spiritual growth of our members and the WELS fellowship we enjoy here in Europe. Talk to anyone who has been there. We plan a good balance between Bible study, worship, fellowship and time to see sites in the area. We pray you will be able to come.

The retreat is a bit more expensive than our Wittenberg retreat since this one is three days rather than two. The cost will be 180€ for adults. Children 3 and under are free. Four through fifteen will run 60€.

Please note!!!! Monday – February 10<sup>th</sup> – is the deadline for registration. We lock into our contract a couple days later. That means we must pay for the rooms and meals we sign up for. Refunds can only be given if they can rent the room. Money for rooms will be collected at the retreat as usual. If cost is a problem, please contact Pastor Stuppy.

### **RETIREMENT**

My wife, Marge and I, have served in Europe for close to three years. Family obligations and other factors have led me to announce my retirement as of this coming summer. It has been a privilege to serve God's people in this unique ministry. What a joy it has been to serve here. My plans are to serve until summer and then return to the States.

If you know of any names of those who might be interested in serving here as a full-time chaplain or in serving during the vacancy (if needed), please contact Pastor Stuppy.

## **Confessional Lutheran Christian Ministry**

Pastor Donald Stuppy

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Web Page: [www.welseurope.net](http://www.welseurope.net)

## **Direct Deposit Information**

Designate: WELS European Chaplaincy

IBAN: DE98 5519 0000 0938 6260 25

BIC: MVBMD55

## **Sunday School**

Sunday School materials are now available ONLY for those who are part of our European church.

The copy masters and teacher's guides can be found at the available links at Dropbox. Contact Pastor Stuppy if items are needed.

## **THINGS TO KNOW – SYNOD WEB SITES**

### **ONLINE REFERRAL – SPECIAL MINISTRIES**

**Special Ministries** can supply devotions and other spiritual help to members of the military, prison inmates, and special needs individuals.

Click on link to make an online referral or subscribe. [wels.net/refer](http://wels.net/refer)

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO DEVOTIONS, INF, AND MORE!**

If you don't receive any emails, devotions, etc., from WELS, go to [wels.net/subscribe](http://wels.net/subscribe) and choose all the communications that interest you.

If you already get those emails, choose "[Update your subscription preferences.](#)"

Here are three communications I strongly recommend:

**Together** - *The official WELS email newsletter and video featuring synod news and ministry updates. Twice a month*

**His Hands** - *A email newsletter from the WELS Commission on Special Ministries, highlighting several areas of compassion ministries. This site includes information on the chaplaincy work done in the US and in Europe.*

**E-Bulletin Board** *A monthly email update detailing available WELS resources and events.*

### **WELS SPECIAL MINISTRIES (INC. MILITARY)**

Check out the Special Ministries area of the WELS website – [wels.net/special-ministries](http://wels.net/special-ministries). If you scroll down to "Who We Serve" you will

see a host of links that take you to many different WELS ministries.

### **WELS CHURCH LOCATOR, LIVE STREAMING**

Use the following link to obtain information on WELS workers, congregations, schools, and the live streaming of worship services.

<https://yearbook.wels.net/>

- **People** - All active and retired WELS called workers and synod employees
- **Organizations** - All WELS churches, schools, and related organizations
- **Livestreaming** - All WELS churches who offer live internet broadcasts of their worship service

### **MILITARY DEVOTIONS** – by Rev. P. Ziemer

- <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/military-devotions/> -

### **COMFORTER MINISTRY**

Susanne Hanson, mother of Reid Hanson, oversees a ministry of Christian love for women who have been diagnosed with cancer. It is a quilt ministry. Please notify her if you know of someone in that situation. Like to help? Go to the web site:

[www.comforterministry.com](http://www.comforterministry.com)