



GOODNEWSletter

*Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe
May 2015*



A few months ago I bought a book from Runner's World. (Have I ever mentioned that I enjoy running?) The title of the book is "1001 Running Tips." One of the sections of the book that caught my attention was called "88 must-do moves to injury-proof your body" (Runner's World 2011).

I don't buy into the idea that any list of exercises can absolutely prevent injury. Nor, do I think they were making the claim that you could avoid every single injury ever. But since age is not on my side, I thought it might be good to have few ways to keep myself healthy when it comes to running. Maybe some of the exercises would help.

What got me was that there were eighty-eight ways? Did I need eighty-eight of them? Eighty-eight tips? That is a lot to remember. It is a lot to do. I remember thinking, "Will I have time to do eighty-eight things to prevent running injuries?" I also remember thinking that eighty tips seemed like so much in order to prevent injury. Why couldn't they come up with something easier, something with fewer steps?

The book has been on my desk throughout the Easter season. Every day I see the claim that those eighty-eight steps will help to injury-proof my body. Looking at the

book every day is a joyful reminder to me that something far more important is achieved in a much simpler manner.

Jesus talks about the gift of eternal salvation when he says, "²⁵ I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; ²⁶ and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26).

Eternal life, going to heaven, living with the joy of forgiveness, and every other good blessing from God comes to you in the most simple of ways. It is given to you through faith in Jesus as your crucified and risen Savior.

God makes no demands of you. He charges you no money. He doesn't give you eighty-eight steps to follow. His "command" or "step" is simple. "Believe in the risen Savior and you will go to heaven." That one thing gives you everything good. Through faith in Jesus your soul is injury-proofed for eternity.

I have a hard time imaging that God could have made it any easier. But I suppose we don't need to wonder about that. All we need is to trust in his grace and love. All we need is to believe that in the risen Savior you have forgiveness and the joy of knowing that in in Him you will one day be in heaven.

Happy Easter season and a blessed May to all of you!

May Worship Schedule

There will be no worship at the Wicker location or Ramstein location on May 10. For more details see the section for Mother's Day.

Northwood, England – contact Pastor Martin for location details

May 3

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

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

May 24

May 24 - Worship is at 11:00 followed by fellowship, Bible study and Sunday school.

May 10 – there will not be worship in Wicker. Worship will be at Pulaski Park for the Mothers' Day picnic. See details below.

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany – at the Southside Chapel

May 24

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

May 10 – there will not be worship at the Ramstein South Chapel. Worship will be at Pulaski Park for the Mothers' Day picnic. See details below.

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

May 16

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

Zurich, Switzerland area – contact Pastor Martin for location details

May 17

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

Munich – contact Pastor Martin for location details

To be announced

Worship is at 18:30.

Offerings

Local offerings for the month were €27,087. Thank you for your offerings. God bless the generous and humble gifts of his people.

Mother's Day Picnic

We have our annual worship and Mother's Day picnic on 10 May. Worship will be at 11:00 followed by a cook-out potluck. You can bring a dish to pass. Meat will be provided. There is a link below to sign up. If you could let me know how many from your family will be attending that would be great (I need an approximate amount of meat to buy).

<http://www.perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=UKAP0217>

Keep in mind that the 11:00 service at Wicker and the 16:00 service at the Ramstein south chapel will be cancelled on 10 May.

The location will be at Pulaski Park (on the Pulaski Barracks/Vogelweh Army Base near Kaiserslautern). We have the lower portion of the park. This park is on a United States military base. That means if you are not in the military, you will have to be signed on by someone who is in the military. All people attending who don't have a military ID should meet at the McDonald's near Vogelweh Army Base at 10:15 (see directions below). You will need your passport. People will be there to sign you on. Please make sure you let me know ahead of time if you need to be signed in so we can be sure to have enough military members there to assist. Here are the directions to the McDonald's: *If you are heading A6 direction Saarbruecken you will take the Kaiserslautern West/Lauterecken/Opel exit.*

You will head toward Pirmasens/Waldfishbach (B270). After about 1 kilometer you will take an exit right to the B40 direction Landstuhl/Einsiedlerhof. You will see the base on your left hand side. The first stop light leads to the base, but you cannot enter the base there. You will need to take the next road to your left and McDonalds should be immediately on your right. Address for GPS: Im Haderwald 17, 67661 KL-Einsiedlerhof

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Women's Bible Study

To be determined. Watch your email for information.

Women's Weekends in 2015

It is time to begin planning for another women's weekend. This time we are planning to head to Venice, Italy (and the Vicenza area). In order to proceed with the planning, I would like a little input from you.

First, would you be interested in joining us for a women's weekend?

If yes, which weekend would be better for you? Friday, 9/25-Monday 9/28/2015 or Friday 10/9- Monday 10/12/2015?

Secondly, would you rather drive or fly?

The cost of flights on Ryan air would be approximately \$65-80 per person (not including any baggage of course). There is only one flight out on Friday and one back on Monday, so the flight times would stay the same regardless of the weekend we decide to go. We would need to rent a car at the airport for an additional \$50 per person for the weekend (this should include gas as well). I haven't started looking at hotels yet, but we can keep the prices low by sharing rooms.

If we decide to drive, it takes about 8-9 hours from Spiesheim to Vicenza. The cost of renting a seven passenger van would be about 55 Euros per person and that doesn't include gas. If the decision is to drive, I feel we would also need to extend the trip by a day so that we have more time.

Here would be a sample itinerary for flying:
Thursday night : stay at a hotel Frankfurt Hahn airport and overnight.

Friday: Depart Frankfurt Hahn at 6:55 a.m. and arrive in Venice at 8:10. Tour Venice

Saturday: Worship service in the Vicenza area, tour area, and fellowship dinner together.

Sunday: Tour Sirmione on Lake Garda, Verona, or Bologna

Monday: Depart Venice Treviso at 8:40 a.m. Arrive back in Frankfurt at 10:00 a.m.

Congratulations Mabry!

Mabry Sams was baptized on April 8th near Vicenza, Italy. Mary is the daughter of Kellan and Magen Sams. We are happy for you and ask that God keep Mabry in her baptismal grace.

Easter Retreat



58 attended the Easter retreat in Magdeburg. Thank you for taking the time and making the effort to attend. Thank you to everyone who helped with worship, music, Sunday school, and everything else. Your help and service was much appreciated.

Future Retreats

October 23-25, 2015 – Reformation retreat

March 24-27, 2016 – Easter retreat

October 21-23, 2016 - Reformation retreat

For location information please contact
Pastor Martin

Summer Vacation Bible School

We are planning to have a mini vacation Bible school for the whole family on Saturday, June 27. Things will begin at 15:00 at the parsonage. We will have an opening devotion followed by Sunday school, adult Bible study, and then a potluck grillfest in the evening. The ministry will provide the meat. Please bring a salad or dessert to pass. We look forward to this opportunity to grow in God's grace!

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 Martin

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Email: WELSchaplain@gmail.com

www.welseurope.net

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.

Monthly Bible Readings

The readings will hopefully be back next month. Apologies for any inconvenience.