



GOODNEWSle

***Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ
throughout Europe
July/August 2016***

DIVINE CALL

Many of us have been kept abreast of the latest information regarding the Divine Call for a replacement of Pastor Martin. Three calls have been issued to this point each one in turn returned (the pastor wasn't led by the Spirit to come and serve in the kingdom of God here in Europe.) Another call will probably already be issued by the time you read this.

We speak of it as a Divine Call to serve here in Europe. The Bible talks about Jesus being the Lord of the Church and as such he is in control of all things. Through the Holy Spirit he guides and leads people within his Church. We hear and see examples of that very activity in Scripture. In the book of Acts we read, "While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabus and Saul for the work to which I have called them. So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.'" Acts 13:2-3.

Notice it was the Holy Spirit that called Barnabus and Saul to begin the missionary journeys. Notice also how the Spirit worked through the assembled believers.

Throughout the New Testament we hear how the Holy Spirit was guiding and directing his church. We also read in Acts 20:28, as Paul encourages the spiritual leaders of the church in Ephesus, "Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers." Again we hear of the Holy

Spirit guiding the Church in the leaders being selected.

That same Lord is guiding and directing his Church still today. He is guiding the calling process so that the right person is here at the right time to share God's Word with us. Sometimes vacancies take longer to fill and sometimes they get filled very quickly. The Lord always has his purposes, perhaps for the vacant group and sometimes for the congregation whose pastor has a call to consider.

The Lord hasn't forgotten his people here in Europe. He will continue to guide and will bring a shepherd here. It has probably taken longer than many expected but then we have to adjust our expectations to God's will.

Continue to pray that the Lord lead a shepherd to share the Word here in Europe with the many scattered followers of Jesus. He will answer that prayer in his time and season. Trust in your Lord.

July/August Worship Schedule

Northwood, England – contact Pastor for location details

July 3 and Aug. 7

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

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

July 10,24 and August 14 (?), 28

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

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany - at the Southside Chapel

July 10, 24 and Aug 14 (?), 28

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

Vilseck, Germany – contact Pastor for location details

July 16, August 20

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

Zurich, Switzerland area – contact Pastor for location details

July 21, August 17

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

Munich – contact Pastor for location details

July 21 at 6:30 pm

Offerings

Local offerings for the period were €3,485. Thank you for your offerings. It is used to bring God's Word to Europe. God bless the generous and humble gifts of his people.

Vacancy Pastors

Pastor Ken Kratz and his wife Diane arrived in Europe on May 12 to temporarily serve in the absence of a fulltime pastor. We have enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many delightful and God centered people in the various worship locations. Obviously the vacancy has continued onward in time and now we are approaching the end of our 3 month window to be in Europe serving God's people. Because of some family commitments we will be returning in early August. We will actually do the service in London (Aug. 7) and then fly back from there.

Pastor Ron Ash and his wife Renate will be coming to serve for several months if the vacancy lasts that long. Some of you will remember them as they served here during some of Pastor Martin's furloughs. Their arrival will be in week of August 15. They will immediately start worship services that next weekend.

For those of you watching the calendar closely, you realize that means the weekend of Aug. 10, there will not be a pastor here to lead worship. Both Wicker and Ramstein groups seem to be willing to have a lay led worship service. Keep your eyes open for the latest updates sent via the weekly worship reminders.

Reformation Retreat

October 21-23, 2016 - Bad Homburg, Germany

Tentative itinerary:

<u>21. October 2016</u>
16:00 - 18:00 Check-in
18:00- Dinner at youth hostel
19:15 Devotion
<u>22. October 2016</u>
7:00 - Breakfast at youth hostel
9:00 Bible study for children and adults
10:30 - Choir practice

12:00 - Lunch at the youth hostel
14:00 - Free time
17:00 - Dinner at local restaurant
20:00 - Free time, fellowship at youth hostel
23. October 2016
7:00 - Breakfast at youth hostel
8:30 Choir practice
9:30 Worship
10:30 - Group picture

The retreats will continue even if there is a vacancy. Various lay people are stepping up to organize and gather registrations for both England and Germany.

Both retreats provide an excellent opportunity to study God's Word together, worship together and form and renew bonds of friendship with others throughout Europe. While we call them the England and German Retreats that is simply identifying the country where they are not the people that can come to them.

Pastor Ash will be leading the England Retreat.

England Retreat

September 30 - October 3

Cost: 90 English Pounds for 2 or 3 nights
Please contact Pastor for location details or to confirm your attendance by emailing.

Fri. Sept. 30

4:00 PM Registration begins

7:00 PM Evening meal

8:15 PM Devotion

Sat. Oct. 1

8:00 AM Breakfast

9:00 Bible Study for children and adults

10:30 Choir practice

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Free time

6:00 Dinner

Sun. Oct 2

8:00 AM breakfast

8:45 Choir practice

9:30 Worship

10:30 Pictures

10:45 Clean up

The rest of Sunday afternoon and evening are available to stay and enjoy the time with others.

Please note there may be some adjustments to the schedule but this provides the broad scope of this exciting weekend.

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. The contact information will not change with the vacancy pastors.

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