



# GOODNEWSletter

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

Taken Care of in the New Year



## Psalm 3

A psalm of David. When he fled from his son Absalom.

*<sup>1</sup> O Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! <sup>2</sup> Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him." <sup>3</sup> But you are a shield around me, O Lord; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. <sup>4</sup> To the Lord I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill. <sup>5</sup> I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. <sup>6</sup> I will not fear the tens of thousands drawn up against me on every side. <sup>7</sup> Arise, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God! Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked. <sup>8</sup> From the Lord comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people.*

Can you imagine someone in your own family wanting you dead? I hope you can't. It was a reality for King David. His son, Absalom, wanted him dead. Absalom desired to be king in place of his father David. He gained a strong group of followers. David's life was in real danger. His enemies were many, real, and powerful.

David was in a terrible situation. Yet, he knew exactly what to do in such a crisis. He did not panic. He did not curse God. He did not fall into depression or despair. He did not get angry. (Yes, I know he asks God to break the teeth of his enemies, but he seems to leave that to God's discretion). Instead, he places his trust in God.

David trusted that God would take care of the situation. He knew that God would take care of him. God would carry out justice. If teeth and jaws needed to be broken, God would see to it. Whatever needed to be done for God's will to be carried out, David trusted that it would be done.

More importantly, he knew that no matter what God would sustain him. God sustained him with the Gospel. He sustained David with the promise of a Savior and forgiveness through faith in the Savior. He sustained him with the promise of eternal life in a heaven where there would be no more rebellion, war, or any other sin. So no matter how bad things got, David was sustained and delivered by God's promises.

You may not have a son who wants you dead. Yet, you do have your own problems. You have our own sins and demons, so to say, that wage war against your Christian conscience. You also live in a world where there can be people who make your life very difficult.

As you live in this world and deal with the sin around you and the sin in you, you can have the same calmness and comfort of David. You can sleep knowing that you have all of the same Gospel promises. You can know that just like God sustained David with his promises, he will sustain you. You can enter 2016 knowing that like David, God is taking care of you. Happy New Year to you all!

### **January Worship Schedule**

Northwood, England – contact Pastor Martin  
for location details

#### **January 3**

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

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

#### **January 10 and 24**

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

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany-  
at the Southside Chapel

#### **January 10 and 24**

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

#### **January 16**

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

Zurich, Switzerland area- contact Pastor  
Martin for location details

#### **January 17**

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

Munich – contact Pastor Martin for location  
details

#### **Contact pastor for date, has yet to be set**

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.

### **Christmas Eve Worship**

We had 52 in attendance for the Christmas  
Ever service. Thank you to the children,  
teens, and teachers for all of the work they  
put into the service. Thank you to everyone

who cooked and helped out with the meal  
and clean up after worship. It was a  
wonderful time. Thank you most  
importantly for the gift of our Savior.

### **Offerings**

Local offerings for the month were €3,136.  
Thank you for your offerings. God bless the  
generous and humble gifts of his people.

### **Chili Cook-off**

In late January or February we would like to  
have our annual chili cook-off. I will send  
an email to help us choose the best  
Saturday. Watch your inboxes. As usual  
we will meet in Spiesheim at 16:30. Get  
your chili recipe out and your chef hat on  
and join us for a night of fun and fellowship.  
If you don't have a favorite chili recipe, we  
will also need people willing to bring bread,  
sides and desserts to round out the meal.  
Drinks will be provided.

### **Future Retreats**

When: March 24-27, 2016

Where: Walchensee

contact Pastor Martin for location details

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**

Women's Bible study will be on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup>. Time and location will be announced.

**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  
Telephone: (+49) 6732-600-3933  
Pastor's handy: (+49) 173-4199572  
Katie's handy: (+49) 173-4199580  
Email: [WELSchaplain@gmail.com](mailto:WELSchaplain@gmail.com)  
[www.welseurope.net](http://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](mailto: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](http://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.