



GOODNEWSletter

Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe
April 2016

Love One Another



The Kratz family will be here soon. As mentioned below, he will serve the vacancy until a pastor accepts the call. He will arrive with his wife, Diane, on 12 May. Some of you may see his arrival as a kind of end. Others will see it as a beginning. Some may be sad and others may be happy. And others may go back and forth and not know exactly what how they feel about things.

Regardless of how you feel about the arrival of Pastor Kratz, I pray that, Lord willing, all of you will take to heart Paul's words to the Romans in Romans 13:8, "*Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.*"

A way to serve your Lord and the ministry over here is to welcome Pastor Kratz and his wife in the same way you welcomed me and my family. (Yes, I did talk about this at the Easter retreat, but it bears repeating for the entire group). In fact, give them an even greater welcome. Put on display the love of Christ that dwells in you.

They will need help with many things. They'll need help setting up for worship. They may miss some things from home. They will need help with the language barrier. They might even need help getting residency permits if they need to be here longer than three months. Look for ways to

help them. Look for ways to show them Christian love and concern. Maybe you can offer to get them something they miss from the States. Maybe you can be the one who knows enough German to help them get their residency permits, if needed.

This is what we do as members of the body of Christ. We look out for one another and care for one another. This is a part of fulfilling the continuing debt to love one another. So, please, love the Kratz family just as you have loved and cared for us. I say this not as a parent trying to scold or shame children. I mean this to be a friendly reminder. If it sounds anything other than that, please forgive me. That is not my intent.

And don't forget why we love one another and take care of one another. In 1 John 4 we are told, "*We love because he first loved us.*" We remember the love shown to us by a Savior who died for us. We remember the promise of our resurrection that he attaches to his resurrection. Because he lives all who believe in Him will live. This is why we love. He loved us first. He showed us how to love. May he help us to show his love to others.

Happy April!

April Worship Schedule

Northwood, England – contact Pastor Martin for location details

April 3

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

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

April 10 and 24

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

On the 24th worship in Wicker will begin at 12:00. There will be no Bible study or Sunday school. This is due to an event being held by the local German congregation.

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany – at the Southside Chapel

April 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

April 16

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

Zurich, Switzerland area – contact Pastor Martin for location details

April 17

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

Munich – contact Pastor Martin for location details

April 21

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

Ede, Netherlands – contact Pastor Martin for location details

April 12

Worship is at 18:00.

Offerings

Local offerings for the month were €23,127. Thank you for your offerings. God bless the generous and humble gifts of his people.

Vacancy and Fulltime pasors

Pastor Ken Kratz and his wife, Diane, will arrive in Germany on 12 May. He will stay, Lord willing, until a permanent call is accepted.

Pastor Richard Miller has been extended the call to be the full time pastor. His wife is Astrid and they have three children (9,6,2). Pastor Miller currently serves at Our Savior in Hart, Michigan. As of today, he has not issued a decision regarding the call.

Easter Retreat

As always, the Lord richly blessed us as we gathered together in His name for the Easter retreat. We were 53 strong for worship on Easter Sunday.

Thank you to everyone for singing, teaching, playing instruments, ushering, and helping in so many other ways. And thank you most importantly to our gracious Lord who so kindly granted us the chance to worship and rejoice in our Risen Savior! I'm really going to miss the retreats and being there with all of you.

Women's Bible Study

When: date and time to be announced

Where:

contact Pastor Martin for location details

Mother's Day Picnic

We have our annual worship and Mother's Day picnic on 8 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=CCDT0702&welcome=1>

Keep in mind that the 11:00 service at Wicker and the 16:00 service at the Ramstein south chapel will be cancelled on 8 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.

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
19:15 Devotion
<u>22. October 2016</u>
7:00 - Breakfast
9:00 Bible study for children and adults
10:30 - Choir practice
12:00 - Lunch
14:00 - Free time
17:00 - Dinner
20:00 - Free time, fellowship at youth hostel
<u>23. October 2016</u>
7:00 - Breakfast
8:30 Choir practice
9:30 Worship
10:30 - Group picture

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
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www.welseurope.net

WELS Civilian Chaplaincy on Facebook

Check out our 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.