



# GOODNEWSletter

*Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe*



## DECEMBER 2017

### **“He knows if you’ve been naughty or nice.”**

“You’d better be good or Santa won’t bring you anything for Christmas!” Many a parent has used these words to warn a child that Santa sees all and knows all. It’s usually used by parents to get their excited children to behave in the days and weeks prior to Santa’s arrival. According to the Christmas song, Santa “knows if you are sleeping. He knows when you’re awake. He knows if you’ve been bad or good; so be good for goodness sake.”

How would you feel if someone really knew everything about you? What if they knew your strengths and weaknesses; your troubles; your most private thoughts? That might trouble us if the one who knew all this was not our friend. If it were someone who liked us, it would not bother us as much. What if the person who knew everything about you was someone who loved you with all their heart; someone who cared about you deeply and could help you in any way needed?

Christmas announces the arrival of someone who can do all this and more. Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, God’s dear Son. Because Jesus is God, he knows when you’ve been “bad or good” – “naughty or nice.” Jesus knows when you’re tired and frustrated, excited or disappointed. He knows and understands everything that is going on in your life. He knows you better than you know yourself.

Are you facing problems? Jesus understands. He was born in poverty and

had to flee from King Herod, who was trying to kill him. Are you being treated unfairly? Is a friend turning against you? Jesus was betrayed and forsaken by his own disciples. He was denied by Peter and betrayed by Judas. He was beaten and put to death by those whom he came to save. God is not oblivious to our problems. Jesus knows what’s going on in the world and what’s going on in our lives.

“Santa knows.” These words might bring fear to the heart of a naughty child hoping to get gifts at Christmas. “Jesus knows.” These words bring comfort and courage to those who believe in him. They bring comfort because God loves us whether we have been naughty or nice. He doesn’t like it when we do wrong. He hates the sins we commit. But, God loves the sinner. He showed that at the cross. God knows and has the ability to do something about our situations. He can remove our problems, or he can help us cope with them. Even sin and death are no match for Jesus.

Merry Christmas! Through Christ that’s more than a hollow wish. We can have a merry Christmas because God is on the job. He gives us the best of presents also, his own Son.

### **Christmas Eve Service – Spiesheim**

A Christmas Eve service will be held at Sanger Halle in the town of Spiesheim (That’s where the parsonage is located. The service will be held at 7:00 p.m. A potluck dinner will be held after. It would be helpful to know if you’re planning to attend. If arriving by train, Worrstadt would be the best place to pick you up. There is plenty of parking near the Hall. The address is Niederstrae 4 55288 Spiesheim Alzey-Worms - Rheinland-Pfalz - Germany

## **December Worship Schedule**

### **Northwood, England**

**December 3** - Sunday

Contact Pastor Stuppy for location details. Worship at 1:00 PM followed by Bible study, Sunday School, fellowship & potluck Dinner.

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

**December 10** – Sunday

Contact Pastor Stuppy for location details. Worship is at 11:00 AM followed by fellowship and Bible study.

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

**December 10** – Sunday

Contact Pastor Stuppy for location details. Worship is at 4:00 PM (16:00) followed by Bible study, Sunday School, and potluck.

### **Munich, Germany**

**December 14** - Thursday

Worship is at 6:30 PM. We worship at the home of Mike Kube. Contact Pastor Stuppy for location details.

### **Vilseck, Germany**

**December 16** - Saturday

Worship is at 11:00  
Contact Pastor Stuppy for location details.  
Contact [WELSchaplain@googlemail.com](mailto:WELSchaplain@googlemail.com) for location

### **Zurich, Switzerland area**

**December 17** – Sunday

Worship is at 11:00 AM followed by food and Bible study. - at the Bachmann home  
Waldstrasse 41 Adliswil

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

**No Service on December 24th**

at the Evangelische Gemeindehaus  
Worship is at 11:00 AM followed by fellowship and Bible study.

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

**No Service on December 24th**

Contact Pastor Stuppy for location details. Worship is at 4:00 PM (16:00) followed by Bible study, Sunday School, and meal at the Exchange.  
Contact [WELSchaplain@gmail.com](mailto:WELSchaplain@gmail.com) for more information.

## **Sunday School 2017-2018**

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. If you need files sent to you, please let us know.

GRADE PreK-K

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/e579x1q1k9fIn0e/AAAWGks9sIN5PRzKhI9wHr\\_Ha?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/e579x1q1k9fIn0e/AAAWGks9sIN5PRzKhI9wHr_Ha?dl=0)

GRADE 1-2

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sfquf1u8ewmkv2d/AABpsGCrFPqPGWqOkW5IIS1Ca?dl=0>

GRADE 3-4

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/epp5vo3q74vb55j/AADAYGHjJ3sAum-F7AUPOYHa?dl=0>

GRADE 5-6

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zxkpskfilebm7os7/AAAdk6VtoViaO-JeMDeoadGga?dl=0>

Student lessons will be ordered as needed. Contact Pastor Stuppy or Marge Stuppy ([mastuppy@gmail.com](mailto:mastuppy@gmail.com)) if you need anything or have questions.

## **OFFERINGS**

As of November 1<sup>st</sup> the balance in the church account was €50.959.30. On November 30<sup>th</sup> our balance was €55.883.13. During November we received direct worship service offering equivalent of \$1,988.82. We also received gifts of €1.218,00 in direct bank deposits. We thank the Lord for moving the hearts of his people to make these generous gifts in support of this ministry.

## **Confessional Lutheran Christian Ministry**

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

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

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

**WELS CHURCH LOCATOR**

Use when on vacation, business trips, relocation.

<http://welslocator.locatorsearch.com/>

**ONLINE REFERRAL – SPECIAL MINISTRIES**

**Special Ministries** can supply devotions and other spiritual help and teaching tools to members of the military, prison inmates, and special needs individuals. Click on link below to submit an online referral for someone who can benefit from Special Ministries' materials.  
[wels.net/refer](http://wels.net/refer)