



GOOD NEWSletter

Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe

January 2017

CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY

The lowly birth of the Savior in the manger did not and was not meant to happen in a vacuum. Soon after His birth, angels were sent to shepherds in the fields outside Bethlehem to announce the great event with wonderful songs of praise to the Lord. The shepherds came, saw, and copied the angels in singing praise. Simeon and Anna in the Temple rejoiced to see the child and praised God for Him. Sometime before this a star was placed into the skies to lead Magi to His home, where they worshipped and gave gifts. Yet, it would not be until Jesus was baptized by John that He began to reveal Himself as the Son of God.

So we slip from Christmas into Epiphany focused on the Child of Bethlehem who grew up to be the Light of the World. While the outward, human trappings of the Savior hide His awesome divinity, during His public ministry we're given many a glimpse of the attributes which proclaim Him to be God in the flesh, and during this season we look at the evidence recorded in His Word. The miracles that show His power over nature, illness, the devil, and death itself proclaim this is the Christ. We call this time the season of light, because Jesus is manifested as the Light to lighten the Gentiles as well as the people of Israel.

The Light He brings to the sin-darkened world is not just relief from natural disasters, illnesses or pain. He brings the Good News that God is gracious to us poor sinners. Instead of condemning us because

of our sins and bringing down on us the full weight of His eternal judgment, He comes to us as one of us, and gently invites, "Come to me, and I will give you rest." His holy life, His bitter sufferings and death, and His triumphant resurrection shine forth as His plan, set into motion in the Garden of Eden and brought to completion when He accepted the sacrifice of His Son as payment for the sins of the whole world.

Like John the Baptist, we too must confess that we are unworthy to untie His shoestrings, and we must decrease while He must increase. But what a gracious God we have in Him, who tells us that our sins are forgiven and we have peace with the heavenly Father. Now He has a task for us: to proclaim the Good News so that the Light of nations shines to the ends of the end. May His light guide and keep you all your days.

January Worship Schedule

Northwood, England -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

January 1

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

Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt Area) -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

January 8

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

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany -
at the Southside Chapel

January 8

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

Munich, Germany -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location
details

January 19

Worship is at 18:30

Vilseck, Germany -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

January 14

Worship is at 10:30

Zurich, Switzerland area -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

January 15

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

Offerings

Local offerings for the period were €4,309.86. 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.

THE LORD IS GRACIOUS

Pastor Donald Stuppy was born in Benton Harbor, Michigan, and went to Northwestern College in Watertown and then to the Seminary in Mequon. He took one year off while at the seminary. That year, he fell in love with Marge whom he met on a blind date and married in 1973. On assignment day in 1975, Pastor Stuppy was assigned to Our Savior Lutheran Church in San Antonio, TX, where he served for ten years. During his stay a Christian Elementary school was started as

well as a mission in NE San Antonio and in Fredricksburg, TX. While there he served personnel at five bases in San Antonio and one in Del Rio.

In 1985, he moved with his wife and four Texan children, to Newport News, VA to start a new mission. A fifth child was born in keeping with the state motto – "Virginia is for lovers." A church and parsonage were built in neighboring Yorktown and he served the area of Hampton Roads which included military at Langley AFB, Ft. Monroe, Ft. Eustis, Camp Perry in Williamsburg, coast guard in YTHNKorktown, and navy personnel assigned to ships at Newport News Shipbuilding.

Pastor Stuppy served Our Redeemer for 32 years. A baby boy he baptized years ago and performed his wedding is now president of the congregation. About half of the congregation is tied to the military and many of the others have been members for years.

Marge grew up in Muskego, Wisconsin. After high school she attended Milwaukee County General Hospital School of Nursing for her registered nurse training. She worked in critical care most of her RN career. While raising their 5 children she pursued her bachelor degree in nursing. Ten years ago, after all of the children left home she went back to school, and got her degree as a nurse practitioner. Her focus has been in cardiology.

Their children include Michael (Kristin) with grandchildren Zane (8) and Maya (4); Sarah (Ian) with grandchildren Finnigan (4), Kathryn (2) and Sebastian (1 month); David (Annie) with grandchildren Quincy (12) and Jameson (3); John and Rachel. They live in Vermont, Massachusetts, Alexandria, Richmond, and Williamsburg, Virginia. Several of them are already making plans to visit Papa and Meme in Germany.

The call to Europe opens up a new and exciting chapter in our lives. Both of us are excited about serving the Lord in this new field and getting to know those we will be serving.

CONTACT US

If you have need of pastoral assistance or just want to talk, please make contact. Your e-mails, phone calls, and letters are welcomed. The contact information does not change.

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EASTER RETREAT

This year's Easter Retreat will be at Rothenberg ODT, April 13-16, 2017. At this point we need to get a head count. If you are planning to come, please indicate so by email to Pastor Stuppy or Desiree Moser. More information is coming! Cost will be about €30.00-€35.00 per evening per person, depending upon how many sign up.

THANK YOU

I wish to express my gratitude to all of you for the warm welcome and support you have given me. It has been a joyful experience. - *Pastor Wes Bruss*