



GOOD NEWSletter

Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe

May 2017

EASTER MAKES US SMILE!

I heard a story that I would like to share with you. It goes like this - Three friends had just attended a funeral and it got them thinking about their own funeral and what people would say about them. One of them asked: "What would you like people to say about you at your funeral?"

The first of the friends said: I would like them to say, he was a great humanitarian, who cared about and did a lot for his community. The second said: I hope they say, "He was a great husband and father, who set an example for others to follow." The third friend was asked, "What do you hope they say about you when you are lying in your coffin in front of the church?" His reply: "I would like them to say, 'Look, he's moving!'"

This story made me smile and I wanted to share it with you. Many things in life make us smile. We smile when we see a close friend we haven't seen in a while. We smile when people surprise us with a gift. We smile when we get a raise at work or that promotion we wanted. Mom and Dad smile when their son or daughter comes home from school. These are just a few of the things that bring a smile to our lips.

Can you imagine how the followers of Jesus must have felt when they first saw Jesus and realized that he was alive? They must have been grinning from ear to ear. Tears of joy streamed down their face. Gladness filled their hearts. Excitedly they went to tell others the good news. "Jesus is risen. He is risen, indeed!"

During the Lenten season our focus is on the cross. We are reminded of how much Jesus suffered on our behalf. We are reminded that it was our sins for which Jesus died. We hear again how he endured the wrath of his Father and the pain and torment of hell in our place. Sorrow fills our heart when we hear these things. We know we are the cause of his suffering. We know that we should be punished – not him.

Yet, we are so grateful that Jesus did suffer and die in our place. We rejoice in the love that led Jesus to make such a sacrifice for us, for the whole world.

While the Lenten season brings us face to face with our sin, Easter brings us face to face with our salvation. While we dare not ignore Good Friday, we rejoice that Sunday came. We rejoice over Easter.

Easter is the day our precious Lord rose from the dead. It's the day he proved to all that the sacrifice for sin was complete, the payment for sin was made in full. It proclaims that the salvation of the world has been secured. It is also the day that assures us of our resurrection from the dead. We have the promise of Jesus, "Because I live, you will live also!"

Remember the story I told at the beginning? On Judgment Day, when Jesus calls all the dead from the grave, those who are alive on earth will say of those who are in the grave, "Look, they're moving!" We will move not because we never died. We will move because the command of Jesus gave us life. Now, that should put a smile on your lips. For the believer the grave is simply a time to rest before we rise and pass through the door to eternal life.

Because Jesus rose, because the grave is empty, because our sins are forgiven, because the debt has been paid, all who believe in Jesus will be saved and have eternal life. Thank you, Jesus!

Mother's Day Picnic

Our annual picnic is planned for Sunday, May 14th, at 11 a.m. We will be meeting at the parsonage in Spiesheim. Please contact us for more details.

Also, please note that the REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES AT RAMSTEIN AND WICKER WILL BE CANCELLED ON MAY 14TH in lieu of the picnic and service.

Retreat Wrap Up - Rothenberg odT

What a great time we had! Plenty of time of worship, Bible study, and fellowship. It was a lot more work than I anticipated but could not have done it without the help of so many. Thank you ALL. BLESS YOU!

We broke even on the costs and our offering came to 1600 €.

Fall Retreat - Nurnburg

Many hours have gone in to searching for a sight for this October. With the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, prices are high and things in Luther Land hard to get. We've ended up back in Nurnburg and back on the last weekend of October. Oct 27-29. Friday night through Sunday morning. We have two meetings rooms but they are smaller than what we had.

May Worship Schedule

Northwood, England -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

May 7

Worship at 13:00 followed by Bible study, Sunday School, fellowship and potluck dinner.

Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt Area) -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

May 28

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

Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany -
at the Southside Chapel

May 28

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

There are no worship services at Wicker and Ramstein on May 14th due to the Mother's Day Picnic!

Munich, Germany -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

May 18

Worship is at 18:30.

Vilseck, Germany -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

May 20

Worship is at 11:00.

Zurich (Sitzerland Area) -

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

May 21

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

Offerings

April offerings, including the retreat, came to \$2,938.81 in US dollars. Our account balance at the end of April 42,531 €. 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

Pastor Don Stuppy

Telephone: (+49) 6732-600-3933

Pastor's handy: (+49) 173-4199572

Margaret's handy: (+49) 173-4199580

Email: WELSchaplain@gmail.com

www.welseurope.net