



# GOOD NEWSletter

*Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe*

*August 2017*

**BLESSED ARE THEY WHO HEAR THE  
WORD OF GOD AND KEEP IT!**

A church had lost its minister and was in the process of looking for a replacement. As was their custom, they brought prospective pastors in and had them preach a trial sermon. After listening to several and finding none that they liked, a young preacher made his debut. His sermon was so powerful that they hired him on the spot. When Wednesday night service came along, they were eager to hear him preach again. To their amazement, he preached the same sermon. They didn't know what to do. They figured it was due to nervousness and being so young.

When Sunday came around, he preached the same sermon again. This time the deacons felt compelled to say something. "Pastor," they said, "that sure is a fine sermon you've been preaching, but when are you going to preach something new?" The young minister quickly replied, "As soon as I see some changes in your life, I'll know then that you have really listened and I'll go on to something new." (Adapted from a story by Rev. John Hamby)

As a preacher I enjoyed this story. As someone who has sat in a pew and heard many a sermon, I also know it strikes close to home. It's not hard to hear a sermon, be struck by its message; then leave without it making a bit of difference in your life.

God tells us of the importance of worship and hearing the Word regularly, but our attendance at church continues to drop off. We hear God's warnings about not letting the pursuit of the world and the things in it become a priority in our lives and yet we are

the first ones to sign up for overtime hours to pay for the nicer things in life, things we just can't live without.

We hear about showing love and forgiveness, even to our enemies, but refuse to drop the grudge we have with our neighbor or to forgive someone who has hurt our feelings. God tells us how to treat our spouse but we never change. And so it goes. We hear the sermon, read the Word, but it goes in one ear and out the other. It never gets put into practice in our lives.

We need to repent! We need to ask God for forgiveness. We need to plead to him for help, to do better next time. That's not how we get to heaven – by doing better. Jesus secured heaven for us when he died on the cross for our sins. We seek to do better because we are God's children and that's how we want to live. We do it because we want to please the Lord who loves us and saved us. We do it because it brings us his blessings!

Jesus doesn't say, "Blessed are they who hear the Word of God." He says, "Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it. (Luke 11:28)" The next time you hear a sermon, don't just listen. Live it. Let it make a change in the way you think, how you feel and how you live.

## August Worship Schedule

*Northwood, England -*

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

August 6

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

*Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt Area) -*

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

August 13 and August 27

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

*Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany -*  
at the Southside Chapel

August 13 and August 27

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

*Munich, Germany -*

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

August 31

Worship is at 18:30.

*Vilseck, Germany -*

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

August 19

Worship is at 11:00.

*Zurich (Switzerland Area) -*

contact Pastor Stuppy for location details

August 20

**- Service time is yet to be determined;  
please contact Pastor Stuppy for details -**

## Fall Retreat – Nurnburg

### **Brief overview of hostel and setting**

Ancient vaults, thick walls - sleep in a real castle and enjoy the best Youth Hostel standards at Nuremberg Youth Hostel! You can look forward to staying in a fully refurbished Hostel in the imperial stables (Kaiserstallung) of the 500 year-old castle. At the heart of Nuremberg's landmark, in the city centre and centre of Franconia. Excellent amenities and audio-visual systems, 93 ultra-

modern rooms, all with en-suite shower and toilet, bar, bistro and state-of-the art equipment in the conference rooms.

**Nuernberg: Friday Oct 27-Sunday Oct 29**

- If arriving after 1800 hours (6 p.m.) you must call the hostel between 0800-1800 hours at 0911 2309 360 on Sunday. Their e-mail is: [nuernberg@jugendherberge.de](mailto:nuernberg@jugendherberge.de).
- Requested rooms for 45 people (5 rooms for 2 people each, 2 rooms for 6 people each, 7 rooms for 4 people each).
- Check in after 1530 on Friday.
- Come celebrate Reformation 500 with Service, Bible Class, Sunday School and Christian Fellowship.
- Please register with Pastor. Please give him your name(s) and children with ages and rooms wanted. First come, first.... Sooner the better.

## Sunday School 2017-2018

Starting in September, Sunday School material will be placed on a shared computer drive for members of WELS European Chaplaincy. This will ensure access for teachers and parents to the Teacher's Guide (CD) for 3 semesters of stories. The individual student lessons (hard copy) would be ordered as needed.

This decision was made after much discussion with Becky Horn, MLC graduate and WELS teacher (Pastor Horn's wife) expertise and discussing with Northwestern Publishing Company.

Please contact Pastor with ages of your children and request for grade level material.

## Women's Bible Class Ramstein Area

Marge is willing to lead a women's Bible class this Fall in the Ramstein area. Topic: Mirror, Mirror (Susan Senechal), a focus on looking at ourselves as God sees us. Interested? If so what time and day would work for you?

## **Fall Retreat – London** **(from Sandy Parker)**

We are planning the England retreat for the first weekend in November this year (Nov. 3-6).

The Cotswold Manor Estate where we have gone the last two years appears to have availability again this year, but I want to get a count of who will attend before I book so I can select the slightly smaller venue, if appropriate.

So, please, by the time of our August church service, can you let me know how many from your family will attend (or not) and whether you would like to stay Friday to Sunday or Friday to Monday.

We need to have at least 20 people staying to make the weekend viable, so if we don't get enough interest, we will just not have an England retreat this year.

If you would prefer an alternative venue this time, please let me know that, too, and we can work to try to find an alternative.

Price is likely to be about £80-£100 per person for the weekend.

## **Offerings**

As of July 30, 2017 the balance in the church account is €38.151,90. During July we received direct offering equivalent of \$1,039.39. We also received gifts of €1.385,00 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.

## **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, special needs individuals. Click on the link below to submit an online referral for someone who can benefit from Special Ministries' materials.

<https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/special-ministries/online-referral/>

**Confessional Lutheran Christian Ministry**

Pastor Donald Stuppy

Telephone: (+49) 6732-600-3933

Cell: (+49) 173-4199572

E-mail: [WELSchaplain@gmail.com](mailto:WELSchaplain@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.welseurope.net](http://www.welseurope.net)